

THE CAMBRIDGE STATISTICS DISCUSSION GROUP

Monday 26th November 2012 7:15 for 7:45

Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics,
Centre for Mathematical Sciences,
Wilberforce Road,
Cambridge, CB3 0WB

Should we screen the population for type 2 diabetes?

Simon Griffin

MRC Epidemiology Unit & CEDAR

Abstract: The topic of screening evokes passionate debate as demonstrated by the ongoing media interest in mammographic screening for breast cancer. While some are convinced that earlier detection and treatment saves lives, others are concerned about over-diagnosis, pseudo-disease and false reassurance. Type 2 diabetes meets many of the criteria for suitability for screening. It is common and is associated with a considerable burden of preventable morbidity, mortality and health service costs. Furthermore, the condition may be present for several years before it is detected and at diagnosis up to 50% of patients exhibit signs of complications of the disease. However, whether screening for type 2 diabetes is associated with net benefit and is an efficient use of scarce health service resources remains uncertain. In spite of this the NHS has initiated the 'Health Checks' programme in which individuals aged 40 to 74 years are invited to attend their local general practice for assessment of their risk of diabetes, cardiovascular and renal disease. I will describe a programme of research in which my colleagues and I attempted to overcome some of the methodological challenges related to evaluation of screening programmes (for example lead and length time bias and clustering) in order to resolve the key uncertainties concerning screening for diabetes.

Speaker: Simon Griffin is Assistant Director of the Medical Research Council Epidemiology Unit (www.mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk), Deputy Director of CEDAR (the UKCRC Public Health Centre of Excellence for Diet and Activity Research, <http://www.cedar.iph.cam.ac.uk/>), an Honorary Consultant at Addenbrooke's Hospital and NHS Cambridgeshire, primary care lead for the Eastern Region Diabetes Research Network and an assistant General Practitioner at Lensfield Medical Practice. He qualified from the London Hospital Medical College in 1986 and trained in Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Southampton and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine prior to his appointment to the University of Cambridge. He leads a research programme which contributes to efforts aimed at preventing the growing burden of diabetes, obesity and related metabolic disorders by translating epidemiological knowledge into preventive action, and evaluating the effectiveness of different preventive approaches in clinical trials. He has been awarded over £36M in extramural research grants and authored over 170 publications. Away from work Simon plays soccer and surfs.

Directions: The main entrance is reached from Clarkson Road by going along the footpath to the right of the Newton Institute, and turning left through the gatehouse towards the main building (Pavilion A), which has a glass front and a curved grassed roof. The main entrance is in the middle of the glass front. Free Parking is available after 5pm on Clarkson and Wilberforce Roads and by entering the site off Wilberforce Road. Admittance may be difficult after 7:45.

Provisional Next Meetings (2013):

4th February 2013 – Vern Farewell (MRC Biostatistics).

5th March – Peter Treasure (Eastern Cancer Registry and Information Centre & Department of Public Health and Primary Care).

March – Stephen Kaptoge (Cardiovascular Epidemiology Unit).

25th April – David Greenberg (Eastern Cancer Registration & Information Centre).

Supper: Some members eat regularly in the University Centre before each meeting at **6pm**. Feel free to join them.

Subscriptions: of 1 pound are now due for attending the 2012-2013 session.

Secretary: Peter Watson, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 7EF; telephone 01223 355294 Extension 801; E-mail peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk.

Take a look at our website: <http://www.mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk/people/peter.watson/csdg.html>

Approved Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2010-2011

The Annual General Meeting for the year 2010-2011 was held at the Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit on 11th October 2011. Present: Ted Harding (in chair), Suzanne Bradnum, Andrew Conlan, Margaret Corbett, Mary Garratt, Mark Hill, Haidee Philpott, Jayantha Ratnayake, Peter Rothery, Helen Tate, Jamie Tunks, Adam Wagner, Peter Watson. **Apologies:** Martin Gibson, Clive Moncrieff, Pamela Morris, Ian Nimmo-Smith, Huawen Zhu. The **minutes** of the previous A.G.M. were circulated and approved. The secretary reported another good total attendance of 88 for the 2010-2011 session. He also invited anyone with suggestions for speakers or venues or anyone interested in joining the committee to please contact a committee member.

Treasurer's Accounts and Report 2010-2011:

The CSDG started the year in October 2010 with £32.21 cash in addition to £200 in the Cambridge building Society (plus ~£6.00 interest). The table below shows the financial activity during the current year (Oct10 to Sept11).

Expenditure		Income	
Speakers' expenses	£26.00	Balance at Oct 2010	£32.21
		Subscriptions	£30.00

Cash balance at October 2010 £32.21, cash remaining 1st October 2011 £36.21.

There remains £200.00 (plus interest) in a Community account at the Cambridge Building Society.

The account holders are Ted Harding (current chairman), Peter Watson (current secretary) and Helen Tate (current treasurer). These names can be changed on application. The principle holder is the treasurer. Any of the three account holders can deposit and withdraw money. It is suggested subscriptions stay at £1 for the 2011-2012 session.

Election of officers and committee: Helen Tate retired as treasurer and was thanked for her efforts in returning the group's finances to good health and setting up the bank account. She is succeeded by Adam Wagner. Committee for 2011-2012: *chair* Ted Harding; *secretary* Peter Watson; *treasurer* Adam Wagner; *officio* Dave Andrews; *ordinary* Margaret Corbett, Pamela Morris, Haidee Philpott.

Any Other Business: None.

Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2011-2012

The Annual General Meeting for the year 2011-2012 was held at the Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit on 9th October 2012. Present: Ted Harding (in chair), Susana Conde, Polyxeni Dimitropoulou, Tim Drye, Julia Forman, Mary Garratt, Bob Haining, Mark Hill, Pamela Morris, Haidee Philpott, Mike Streather, Adam Wagner, Peter Watson, Yu-Tzu Wu. **Apologies:** Sheila Bird, Carol Brayne, Margaret Corbett, Martin Gibson, Ian Nimmo-Smith, Jayantha Ratnayake, Helen Tate. The **minutes** of the previous A.G.M. were circulated and approved. The secretary reported another good total attendance of 92 for the 2011-2012 session. He also invited anyone with suggestions for speakers or venues or anyone interested in joining the committee to please contact a committee member.

Treasurer's Accounts and Report 2011-2012:

The CSDG started the year in October 2011 with £36.21 cash in addition to £200 in the Cambridge building Society (plus ~£6.00 interest). The table below shows the financial activity during the current year (Oct11 to Sept12).

Expenditure		Income	
Speakers' expenses	£37.76	Balance at Oct 2011	£36.21
		Subscriptions	£28.00

Cash balance at October 2011 £36.21, cash remaining 1st October 2012 £26.45.

There remains £200.00 (plus interest) in a Community account at the Cambridge Building Society.

The account holders are Ted Harding (current chairman), Peter Watson (current secretary) and Adam Wagner (current treasurer replacing Helen Tate as a signatory). These names can be changed on application. The principle holder is the treasurer. Any of the three account holders can deposit and withdraw money. It is suggested subscriptions stay at £1 for the 2012-2013 session although these may need to go up if we make future losses as in the 2011-2012 session.

Election of officers and committee: Committee (unchanged) for 2012-2013: *chair* Ted Harding; *secretary* Peter Watson; *treasurer* Adam Wagner; *officio* Dave Andrews; *ordinary* Margaret Corbett, Pamela Morris, Haidee Philpott. **Any Other Business:** None.