

## **Using National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Data Linked to Administrative Records**

### **WORKSHOP OVERVIEW:**

This half-day workshop will focus on datasets from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) that have been linked to administrative records, including Medicare claims, death records, and Social Security records. Linking survey data to data from administrative records for the same individual has several advantages for health economics research. First, it enables study of the relationship between survey responses and outcomes before and after the survey, thereby providing a longitudinal component to cross-sectional surveys. Second, it has the potential to increase the accuracy of information collected through surveys (e.g., on participation in public programs). Finally, it can add to survey data more detailed information about the use of health services, health outcomes, and history of application for and receipt of benefits (and benefit amounts) from public programs. Specific topics that will be discussed during the workshop are summarized below.

- **NCHS Resources for Health Economics Research**

- *Overview of NCHS Data Systems*  
Edward Sondik

Overview of NCHS data systems designed to monitor the nation's health and use of health services, including the National Vital Statistics System, the National Health Care Surveys, the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

- *Overview of NCHS Data Linked to Administrative Records*  
Kimberly Lochner

Overview of NCHS files that have linked survey data (NHIS, NHANES, the National Nursing Home Survey, and the Longitudinal Study on Aging) and administrative data (Medicare claims, death records, and Social Security records)

- **Using NHANES III-Linked Medicare Linked Files**

Kimberly Lochner

Analytic issues involved in using the NHANES-Medicare linked files, using as an example analysis of the relationship between obesity and Medicare expenditures for those aged 65 and over

- **Using NHIS-Medicare Linked Files**

Sandra Decker

Analytic issues involved in using the NHIS-Medicare linked files, using as an example analysis of the effect of insurance status before age 65 on Medicare expenditures and the use of Medicare-covered services among those aged 65 and over

- **Using NHIS-Social Security Linked Files**

Timothy Waidmann

Analytic issues involved in using the NHIS-Social Security linked files, using as examples analyses of the effect of health on the application for disability benefits, and the effect of disability program participation on the use of formal and informal long-term care services

- **Accessing NCHS Data Linked to Administrative Records**

Kimberly Lochner

The process for accessing NCHS data linked to administrative records through the NCHS Research Data Center (RDC), including on-site, remote, and staff-assisted access methods, and at U.S. Census Bureau RDCs

**WORKSHOP FACULTY:**

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