

American Statistical Association
Health Policy Statistics Section

7th INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
**HEALTH
POLICY
STATISTICS**

Striving for Consensus on Methods

PHILADELPHIA
January 17–18, 2008



www.amstat.org/meetings/ichps/2008

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Joseph Cappelleri, *Pfizer Inc*

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ASA Representative

Donna-Renee Arrington

Goals of the Conference

The International Conference on Health Policy Statistics: Striving for Consensus on Methods is a scientific conference sponsored by the Health Policy Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association.

It focuses on the interplay between health policy and research methodology.

Its specific aim is to create an educational research forum for statisticians, psychometricians, and other experts in research methodology to exchange and build upon ideas, discuss research needs, and develop solutions to methodological challenges.

These methodologies are aimed toward improving outcomes, measurement, quality, access to, and cost and utilization of health-care services, as well as toward better understanding of special needs or understudied populations (including women and minorities).

In addition to invited and contributed talks, the program will offer workshops intended to provide research training and career development in an educational forum bringing together senior and junior researchers.



Information

ICHPS08 Registration

P.O. Box 221

Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

Phone: (866) 421-7169

Fax: (301) 206-9789

Email: asainfo@amstat.org

Web: www.amstat.org/meetings/ichps/2008

January 17–18, 2008
Doubletree Hotel Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
www.amstat.org/meetings/ichps/2008

Hotel

The conference will take place at the Doubletree Hotel Philadelphia, 237 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Reserve your room early! A limited number of guest rooms are available at a special conference rate of \$179 plus tax for a single room and \$199 plus tax for a double room. For reservations, please call the hotel at (800) 222-8377 and reference the code **C-ASA**. The rate is available until December 18, 2007. To reserve your room online, visit http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/phlbldt_asa. Government per diem rate rooms are available in limited supply (15 rooms only). To reserve a government rate room, please contact Stephen Galloway at the Doubletree Hotel Philadelphia at (215) 893-1674 or Melissa Harriday at (215) 825-4369. Be sure to mention this ASA meeting. Once the 15 government per diem reservations are filled, the general conference rate will apply to all attendees. The hotel is centrally located in the heart of Philadelphia's cultural district on the Avenue of the Arts. Across from the Academy of Music, this comfortable high-rise is within walking distance of many of Philadelphia's attractions, including the Pennsylvania Convention Center, City Hall, and Liberty Bell.

Transportation

Located at the crossroads of the Northeast and mid-Atlantic, Philadelphia is within a four-hour drive of 40% of the U.S. population. Traveling to Philadelphia is incredibly convenient by car, rail, or air. Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) and Philadelphia's 30th Street Station, the second-busiest Amtrak station in the country, are connected to downtown and the Pennsylvania Convention Center by light rail. Once you have arrived, there's no need for a car in Philadelphia's wonderfully walkable downtown.

By Plane

Located eight miles from Center City, the Philadelphia International Airport is served by all major domestic carriers, with flights to more than 100 cities in the United States. There are more than 1,000 arrivals and departures daily. One-way cab fare from the airport to Center City is \$26.25. For real-time flight departure and arrival information, call (800) PHL-GATE or visit www.phl.org.

By Train

Amtrak provides extensive service to Philadelphia's 30th Street Station (30th and Market Streets). For schedules and fares, contact Amtrak at (800) USA-RAIL or www.amtrak.com.

By Bus

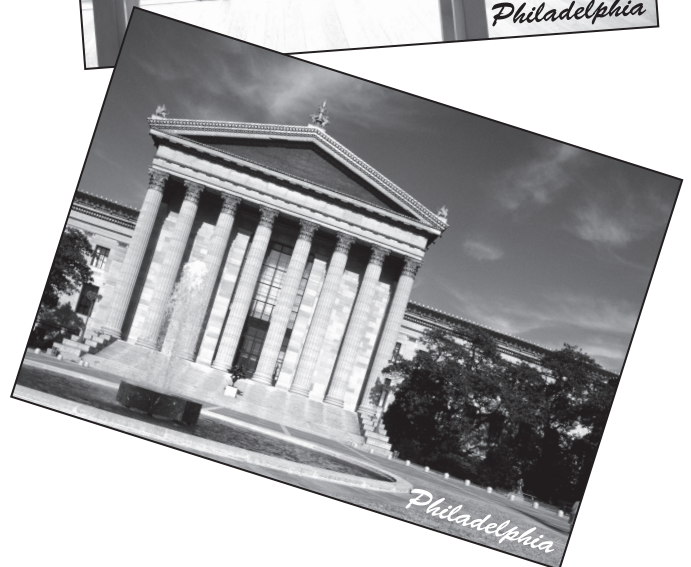
Greyhound provides transcontinental bus service through Philadelphia at its terminal at 10th and Filbert streets.

By Public Transportation

SEPTA offers commuter rail service between the city and suburbs. SEPTA also operates a large fleet of buses, subways, and streetcars throughout the region, with highly concentrated service in the Center City area. For schedules and fares, contact SEPTA at (215) 580-4000 or visit www.septa.org.

Car Rentals

Call AVIS at (800) 331-1600. Online reservations for the ICHPS conference are available at www.tinyurl.com/2xjbgy. Please reference Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number: **J099649**. Special negotiated rates are available from January 8 to January 25, 2008. Please visit the conference web site for a listing of negotiated rates. All rates include unlimited free mileage.



Invited Sessions

Statistical and Economic Perspectives on Utilization, Costs, and Cost-Effectiveness

Speakers: Arlene Ash, *Boston University*; Andrew Zhou, *University of Washington*; and Henry Glick, *University of Pennsylvania*

Discussant: James Burgess, *Boston University*

Organizer: Roslyn Stone, *University of Pittsburgh*

Alternative Estimators for Cost Data

Speakers: Melinda Buntin, *RAND Corporation*; Maren Olsen, *Duke University*; and Anirban Basu, *The University of Chicago*

Discussant: Matthew Maciejewski, *The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Organizer: Roslyn Stone, *University of Pittsburgh*

Multiple Imputation Algorithms for Response Errors and Nonignorable Mechanisms

Speakers: Alan Zaslavsky, *Harvard Medical School*; Michael Elliott, *University of Michigan*; and Joseph Schafer, *Penn State*

Discussant: Xiao-Li Meng, *Harvard University*

Organizer: Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, *RAND Corporation*

Trends in Medical Costs for Persons with Chronic Conditions

Speakers: Joel Cohen, John Fleishman, Steven Cohen, Steven Machlin, and Karen Beauregard, *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality*

Organizer: Steven Cohen, *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality*

Future Directions in Health Policy Statistics

Speakers: Robert Gibbons, *University of Illinois at Chicago*; Sharon-Lise Normand, *Harvard University*; and Nathaniel Schenker, *National Center for Health Statistics*

Discussant: Thomas Belin, *UCLA*

Organizer: Juned Siddique, *The University of Chicago*

Conceptual Issues (and Practical Implications) in Measuring Health Disparities

Speakers: Paula Braveman, *UCSF*; Kenneth Keppel, *National Center for Health Statistics*; and James Scanlan, *Attorney-at-Law*

Discussant: Alan Zaslavsky, *Harvard Medical School*

Organizer: James Scanlan, *Attorney-at-Law*

Joint Modeling of Longitudinal and Time-to-Event Data

Speakers: Jeremy Taylor and Wen Ye, *University of Michigan*; Jason Roy, *Geisinger Health System*; and Haiqun Lin, *Yale University*

Organizer: Mike Elliott, *University of Michigan*

Causal Methods: Advances and Applications in Health

Speakers: Elizabeth Stuart, *The Johns Hopkins University*; Marc Elliott and Amelia Haviland, *RAND Corporation*; and Sarah Taubman, *Harvard University*

Organizer: Amelia Haviland, *RAND Corporation*

Economic Assessments in Randomized Trials

Speakers: Henry Glick, Daniel Polsky, and Jalpa Doshi, *University of Pennsylvania*

Organizer: Zhen Chen, *University of Pennsylvania*

Incremental Cost Effectiveness Ratios (ICERs) and Net Health Benefits (NHBs): Statistical, Economic, and Policy Issues

Speakers: Andrew Willan, *University of Toronto*; Daniel Heitjan, *University of Pennsylvania*; Michele Shaffer, *Penn State*; and Michael Drummond, *University of York*

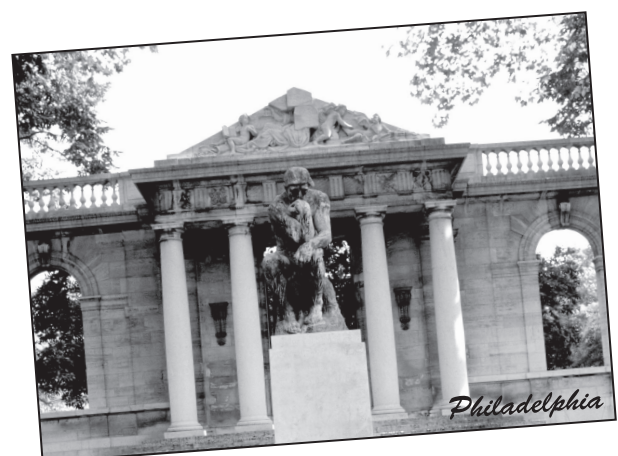
Organizer: Zhen Chen, *University of Pennsylvania*

Assessing Causation in Observational Studies: Propensity Scores and Instrumental Variables

Speakers: Therese Stukel, *Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, Toronto*; Ralph D'Agostino, Jr., *Wake Forest University*; and Dylan Small, *University of Pennsylvania*

Discussant: Don Rubin, *Harvard University*

Organizer: Thomas Love, *Case Western Reserve University*



Workshops

Registrants: \$60 each

Students: \$30 each

Workshops on statistical methods and introductions to important national research databases also will be offered in conjunction with the conference.

These events are in addition to the registration fee; they may not be purchased without a registration.

WK1 – Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS): A National Data Resource To Inform Health Policy

Jeffrey Rhoades, *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality*

8:30 a.m. – 10:15 p.m. Thursday, January 17

The purpose of this workshop is to facilitate the use of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component (MEPS HC) public use data files by the health services research community. To meet this objective, participants will be provided with a general overview of the MEPS, a description of available data files, information about online data tools, and examples of the type of research projects the MEPS data can support. The MEPS is a vital national data resource designed to continually provide health service researchers, policymakers, health care administrators, businesses, and others with timely, comprehensive information about health care use and costs in the United States. This workshop will provide the knowledge necessary to formulate research plans using the various MEPS HC files and linkage capabilities.

WK2 – Competing Risks

Per Kragh Andersen, *Department of Biostatistics, University of Copenhagen*

10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, January 17

In simple survival analysis, where only one failure event is studied, there is a simple relationship between the hazard function for the occurrence of the event and the probability of no event occurring in an interval (the survival function). However, when competing risks are present, the situation is more complex and the survival function depends on the hazard function for all the competing events. We will study situations where competing risks are present with examples taken primarily from medicine and public health, the generic medical example being death from different causes. The basic concepts of cause-specific hazards and cumulative incidence functions will be defined and statistical inference for these parameters will be discussed. Both nonparametric inference, models based on piecewise constant hazards, and regression analysis will be covered.

Conference Luncheon

Registrants: \$20

Guest(s): \$45

Thursday, January 17
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Data on Risk and Insurance Financing in a World of Decentralized Health Reform

Keynote Luncheon Speaker

Mark V. Pauly is Bendheim Professor in the Department of Health Care Systems at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He teaches health care systems, insurance and risk management, and business and public policy at the Wharton School and economics in the School of Arts and Sciences. Pauly is a former commissioner on the Physician Payment Review Commission and a former member of the advisory committee to the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality. Most recently, he was a member of the Medicare Technical Advisory Panel, and he is an active member of the Institute of Medicine. He is coeditor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics* and associate editor of the *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*. Pauly's books include *Health Benefits at Work: An Economic and Political Analysis of Employment-Related Health Insurance*, *Supplying Vaccine: An Economic Analysis of Critical Issues*, and *Financing Long Term Care: What Should Be the Government's Role?*



WK3 – Microsimulation Modeling

Carolyn Rutter, *Center for Health Studies, Group Health Cooperative*

2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 17

Microsimulation models are characterized by simulation of individual event histories for an idealized population or cohort of interest. This workshop will present current uses of microsimulation models, including estimation of cost effectiveness and population effects of cancer screening intervention, though the focus will be on population-based microsimulation of cancer incidence and mortality. We will briefly review the key aspects of microsimulation modeling: model building, parameter calibration, model validation, and model application and interpretation.

WK4 – Cluster Randomized Trials in Health Policy Research

Thomas Love, Randall Cebul, and Neal Dawson, *Case Western Reserve University*

4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 17

Electronic medical records (EMRs) with sophisticated clinical decision support (CDS) functions are increasingly common in health systems that have affiliated clinical practice sites. Cluster-randomized trials (CRTs) of different approaches to CDS are facilitated by EMRs in these systems by enabling identification of patients and problem areas that might benefit from CDS; providing rich clinical data for *a priori* balancing of practices on important characteristics before allocating practice clusters to intervention groups; and providing platforms for developing different types of CDSs, such as for patients or for providers. Course leaders will illustrate key points by highlighting an AHRQ-support CRT of CDS in diabetes across two organizations and 24 practice sites, and a small-group interactive task completed during the session will motivate the presentation.

WK5 – Applied Longitudinal Analysis

Garrett Fitzmaurice, *Harvard School of Public Health*

8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Friday, January 18

In recent years, there have been remarkable developments in methods for analyzing data from longitudinal studies. In particular, generalized linear models have been extended in a number of ways to handle longitudinal data. Two broad classes of models can be distinguished: marginal models and mixed effects models. Both account for the within-subject correlation among the repeated measures, though they differ in approach. For discrete longitudinal data, these models have regression coefficients with distinct interpretations. Indeed, it was the need to distinguish models for longitudinal data according to the interpretation of their regression coefficients that led to the use of the terms “marginal models” and “mixed effects models.” In general, these two classes of models have different targets of inference and therefore address somewhat different questions regarding longitudinal change in the response. The subtle distinctions are not well understood by many statisticians and practitioners. In this workshop, we will review marginal and mixed effects models for longitudinal data and highlight the main distinctions between them. We also will discuss the types of scientific questions addressed by each of the two classes of models. Emphasis will be on the practical, rather than the theoretical, aspects.

WK6 – Reducing the Impact of Selection Bias with Propensity Scores

Thomas Love, *Case Western Reserve University*

10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Friday, January 18

This intermediate-level workshop describes and demonstrates effective strategies for using propensity score methods to address the potential for selection bias in observational studies comparing exposures. We will review main analytical techniques associated with propensity score methods (multivariable adjustment, matching and stratification using the propensity score, sensitivity analysis) and describe key strategic concerns related to effective estimation of the propensity score, assessment and display of covariate balance, choice of analytic technique, sensitivity analyses for matched samples, and communicating results effectively to nonstatisticians. We also will review the literature regarding recent methodological advances in propensity scores and application of propensity score methods to problems in health policy research. Attendees will receive detailed handouts.

WK7 – Intermediate Bayesian Data Analysis Using WinBUGS and BRugs

Bradley Carlin, *University of Minnesota*

2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 18

We offer a hands-on opportunity to explore the use of WinBUGS, the leading Bayesian software package, in a variety of important models, with special attention paid to joint models for longitudinal measurements and survival data. Model building, MCMC convergence diagnosis and acceleration, and posterior plotting and summarization will be mentioned, as well as important data-analytic procedures, such as residual analysis, model adequacy (through Bayesian *p*-values and CPO statistics), variable selection, and model choice (through posterior probabilities and DIC statistics). In addition to WinBUGS, we also will provide a brief introduction to BRugs, the new version of BUGS available directly within the popular R package, which enables simultaneous use of the features of both languages. Students are invited to bring their own laptops (with WinBUGS and R already installed) to the workshop.

WK8 – Hierarchical and Joint Longitudinal and Survival Modeling Using WinBUGS

Bradley Carlin, *University of Minnesota*

4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Friday, January 18

In this second part of the two-part presentation, we extend our investigation of hierarchical Bayesian models to the analysis of longitudinal and survival data. Here, we consider traditional longitudinal data modeling, both parametric and nonparametric (Cox) survival modeling, and joint models that incorporate both of these features simultaneously. Again, we use WinBUGS as our computational platform and offer students a chance for hands-on experience with the software through a series of real-data examples. Students are encouraged to bring their own laptops (with WinBUGS and R already installed).

Registration Form

January 17–18, 2008 ■ Doubletree Hotel Philadelphia ■ Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 8. FORMS RECEIVED WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.

Instructions

1. Print or type all information and retain a copy for your records.
2. Use a separate form for each registrant.
3. Register online at www.amstat.org/meetings/ichps/2008 mail form with payment to ICHPS08 Registration, P.O. Box 221, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701; or fax to (301) 206-9789 (credit cards only). Do not mail your form if you fax it.
4. Purchase orders will not be accepted. No exceptions.
5. Please see the web site for abstract submission guidelines. Do not send abstract submissions with this form.
6. ASA Federal ID #53-0204661

Registration

(Full registration includes conference materials and refreshment breaks.)

- ☐ \$250 if **received by** ASA on or before January 3, 2008. After January 8, 2008, register onsite. Fees increase to \$300.
- ☐ \$80 student (a copy of student ID or letter from faculty member must be presented at onsite registration)

Name

ASA ID# (if known)

Preferred Name for Badge (if other than first name)

Organization/Affiliation

Address


City State/Province

ZIP/Postal Code Country

Daytime Phone

Fax

Email

☐  This meeting is ADA accessible. Please check here if you need special services due to a disability and attach a statement regarding your disability needs.

☐ Check here if you would like your ASA customer information updated with the contact information you have listed on this form.

Conference Luncheon

(Fee event, additional to registration.)

Thursday, January 17

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- ☐ \$20 registrant
- ☐ \$45 guest(s)

Guest(s) Name

Dietary Restrictions

- Registrant Guest
- ☐ Kosher ☐ Kosher
- ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Vegetarian
- ☐ Other special dietary needs

Total luncheon fee \$

Workshops

(Fee events, additional to registration.)

Please select the workshops you wish to attend.

		Registrant	Student
WK1	Thursday, January 17 8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK2	Thursday, January 17 10:35 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK3	Thursday, January 17 2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK4	Thursday, January 17 4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK5	Friday, January 18 8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK6	Friday, January 18 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK7	Friday, January 18 2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30
WK8	Friday, January 18 4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30

Total registration fee \$

Total luncheon fee \$

Total workshop fee \$

Total Amount Due \$

Payment

☐ **Check or Money Order** made payable to the American Statistical Association (U.S. dollars on U.S. bank; include "ICHPS08" on memo line)

- ☐ VISA
- ☐ MasterCard
- ☐ American Express

Card Number

Expiration Date CVS# (3-digit security code on back)

Name as it appears on card

Cardholder's Signature

Cancellations

All cancellations must be submitted in writing. Email: asainfo@amstat.org; Fax: (301) 206-9789; Mail: ICHPS08 Registration, P.O. Box 221, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

■ Cancellations received prior to January 8, 2008: Conference fee will be refunded, less a 20% cancellation fee per item cancelled.

■ Cancellations received after January 8, 2008: **No refunds will be issued.**

In case of an emergency, list the name and phone number of the person we should contact.

(This information will remain confidential.)

Emergency contact

Relationship to registrant

Phone number