

AGING IN MANITOBA (AIM)

AIM has implications in education, research, clinical practice, program planning and service delivery, policy development and decision-making. Given the data, opportunities have been created to better understand such phenomena as newly-acquired chronic disease, post-Flood (1997), new measures of well being and the testing of their reliability, the oldest old, social loneliness, and the functional heart status measures with the Multinational Longitudinal Study of Aging (MLSA). The AIM interview data has been linked with Manitoba health insurance administrative data. Four formal add-on studies include: SAS (1996, 2001), High Risk Seniors (1996), Post-flood study (1996, 1998) and PASS (2001).

Listing of study variables & measurement of variables

Demographics:

- age
- sex
- marital status
- income/expenses
- education
- ethnicity & language
- prior occupation
- retirement status
- immigrant status
- home ownership

Social structure:

- residential status
- residential location (rural, urban, remote)
- household membership
- length of time in the community
- prior location
- community service use
- availability of physicians and dentists
- regular source of care
- adequacy of transportation
- Life Space Index (Cummings and Henry 1961)
- social interaction

Indicators of well-being:

- chronic conditions
- days in bed
- Life Satisfaction Index (Neugarten et al., 1961)
- self-rated health (Shanas, 1962)
- cigarette and alcohol consumption
- exercise and activity levels
- social isolation

- loneliness (Jong-Gierveld, 1982)

Functional status:

- ADL
- IADL
- disability – Shanas Index of Incapacity (Shanas et al., 1968)
- health status questionnaire (NPHS, 1994)
- adaptation to functional loss
- mental functioning indicators • orientation to people
- household adaptations
- physical functioning
- mental status questionnaire (Kahn et al., 1961)

Perceptions:

- satisfaction with housing
- perceived control
- health locus of control
- Multidimensional Multiattributional Causality Scale
- perceived stress
- perceived respect
- community integration
- importance of social groups and collective self esteem
- perceived social standing
- perceived financial security
- affiliation scale

Assessed needs:

- psycho-social needs
- shelter needs
- household maintenance, food and clothing needs
- ethno-cultural needs
- physical health functioning needs
- mental health functioning needs
- economic needs
- proximity to friends, family, familiar community
- availability of family and friends as resources

Interviewer rating:

- state of mind
- respondent's attitude
- question comprehension
- physical difficulties
- respondent's weight
- condition of dwelling
- Why use proxy?
- language not English