

Melton Mowbray Ageing Project

1. Short summary

Two cross-sectional surveys were carried out in 1981 (n=1124 resident in the community, n=79 in hospital or homes for the elderly) and 1988 (n=1500 resident in the community, n=79 in hospital or homes for the elderly) of the health and social needs of all patients aged 75 years and over registered with a large general practice, which alone serves the town of Melton Mowbray, UK and its surroundings. An intermediate follow up study of survivors from the 1981 survey was carried out in 1985.

Routine health assessments have been offered to all patients aged 75 years and over since 1990. All participants in the 1981 and 1988 surveys were eligible for every health assessment, unless they were known to have died, or were no longer registered with the practice because they had moved out of the area. Six waves of follow up assessment are available for analysis, conducted between 1990 and 2003. All patients are flagged at the National Health Service Central Registry, who provides information on the deaths of study members. Data collection from the health assessments will no longer be available from 2004.

2. Status of the project

Sample date for 1981 survey: 31 December 1980

Sample date for 1988 survey: 31 December 1981

Health assessments Start date: October 1990

 End date: January 2003

3. Study website

<http://www.prw.le.ac.uk/melton/>

4. Keywords

Ageing, longitudinal data, health status, disability, disability-free life expectancy

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