THE CHeSS METHODS CORE is dedicated to providing CHeSS affiliates with high quality analytical and research assistance. We provide access to a high capacity statistical server, public and private research data sets, and consulting staff with expertise in data collection, data management, and data analysis.

RESEARCH RESOURCES

Statistical Server. The Methods Core manages accounts on a statistical server running SAS and Stata. The server has 28 processors, 128 GB RAM, and 10 TB hard drive space. Accounts are charged at $300 per year (July–June) with reduced rates starting in January and April.

Research Data. The Methods Core has experience with and can facilitate access to a wide variety of public datasets. Please see our website for details. In addition, we manage access to a collection of MarketScan data. This is a large collection of medical claims data (inpatient, outpatient, and pharmaceutical) from 2003 to 2011.

CONSULTING SERVICES

There are three main cluster areas on which consulting is available through the Methods Core. Contact Christopher Lyttle for information on availability and cost.

Data Collection Cluster. The Data Collection Cluster assists with the design and implementation of data capture strategies. This includes advising on experimental and sample design, power testing, and questionnaire design. We can also assist with implementing data capture through construction of custom programs using Access, REDCap, and Web interfaces on desktop, laptop, tablet, and other platforms. These systems may be stand-alone or networked across the medical center or multiple sites. Additionally, we are able to extract data from hospital data systems such as TSI.

Data Analysis Cluster. The Data Analysis Cluster works to ensure high quality data analysis. The Data Analysis Cluster collaborates with CHeSS affiliates on issues of study design, power analyses, sample size determination, missing data imputation, statistical analysis, manuscript preparation, and survey instrument design. We also offer programming support for the use of MarketScan data.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Other Methods Core services include audio transcription, design, and writing services. Contact us for assistance with graphic design, print layout and development of print publicity materials, and small-scale web design. Writing services including copyediting, manuscript revision, and citation management. Accurate audio transcription is available in-house at affordable rates.

KEY PERSONNEL

Christopher Lyttle, MA
Director
Expertise: SAS, computer-assisted telephone interviewing, data management processes
Interests: Health services research, issues of social equity.

Beatriz Choi, BA
Expertise: SAS, MarketScan data
Interests: Health law, health economics

Andrea Flores, MA
Expertise: Managing and analyzing large datasets
Interests: Health policy, program evaluation, cost-effectiveness.

Sandra Ham, MS
Expertise: Survey research, research methods, data management, statistical programming and analysis in SAS, State, and R, data visualization, surveillance epidemiology, policy and health recommendations, evaluation interests: Obesity, psychology of eating, multidisciplinary research, agent-based modeling, and social sequence analysis.

Kaitlyn Tierney, MLIS
Expertise: Adobe Creative Suite, graphic and layout design, photo editing and photography, audio transcription, web design and front-end development, copyediting and manuscript revision.

Benjamin Vekhter, PhD
Expertise: Multiple data streams, data cleaning, large and claims-based datasets, TSI
Interests: Theoretical physics, medical statistics.