Longitudinal research resources

Professor Alison Park
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Today

- About CLOSER
- CLOSER Discovery
- Learning Hub
- Harmonisation and data linkage resources
Harmonisation
Facilitating comparisons within and across studies
Why harmonisation matters

• Full potential of the UK studies realised when we compare within and across studies

• Different studies have used different methods to collect information on participants’ lives

• Data harmonisation involves recoding or modifying variables so that they are comparable
Harmonisation topics

- Height, weight and BMI
- Socio-economic status
- Use/collection of biological samples
- Measures of vision
- Childhood environment and adult wellbeing
- Review of methods for determining pubertal status
- Exploiting CLOSER biomarker data
- Overcrowding and health
Tracking the rise of obesity in the UK (91st percentile)

Reference
Johnson, W., Li, L., Kuh, D., & Hardy, R. (2015). How Has the Age-Related Process of Overweight or Obesity Development Changed over Time? Co-ordinated Analyses of Individual Participant Data from Five United Kingdom Birth Cohorts. *PLOS Medicine*, e1001828. Contact: Rebecca Hardy rebecca.hardy@ucl.ac.uk
Harmonisation resources

- Harmonised datasets available via UK Data Service, with documentation
- Future outputs drawing out learning from across CLOSER’s harmonisation work
- Further harmonisation projects 2017-2019 – inc. diet, mental health, cognitive measures
- Training events
Data linkage
Enhancing study data with administrative records
Data linkage

- Economic and education data
- Geographic data
- Hospital Episode Statistics
- Data linkage in cohorts and longitudinal studies
Longitudinal analysis of schools

Note: multiple rows per school, as linked forward and backward and include school mergers.
(Churchfields, the village school formed from Atworth Primary School and Monkton Farleigh & South Wraxall.)
Data linkage resources

- Outputs as part of ongoing data linkage coordination and advocacy
- Schools database
- Dataset linking P14 employment data (HMRC) to birth cohort data
- Training events (e.g., workshop on linking study data to geographic variables)
Thank you

alison.park@ucl.ac.uk
@parkali
@CLOSER_UK

closer.ac.uk
closer.ac.uk/discovery
closer.ac.uk/learning