The Actuarial Profession

making financial sense of the future

Life Conference and Exhibition 2010
Nick Ketley, Swiss Re
Dan Knipe, Leadenhall Capital Partners

When you can't diversify how can you divest?

Managing concentrations of risk

7-9 November 2010

Agenda



- Nature of risks
 - Shock mortality
 - Trend mortality
 - Trend longevity
- Risk management
 - Using diversification
 - Risk transfer techniques
 - Examples and considerations
 - Innovation and the current market
 - Buyers' of life insurance risk
- Questions and comments

Life Insurance Risk Concentrations



Shock Mortality

- Financial loss from sudden large number of excess deaths
 - Exposure from protection portfolios
 - Concentrated in insurance buying groups

Trend Mortality

- Financial loss from an accumulation of excess deaths over time
 - Exposure through protection-linked portfolios
 - Inherent in long-term guaranteed premium business

Trend Longevity

- Financial loss from fewer deaths than expected over time
 - Exposure through future annuity payments
 - Significant exposure to males at the start of retirement

Pandemic Shock



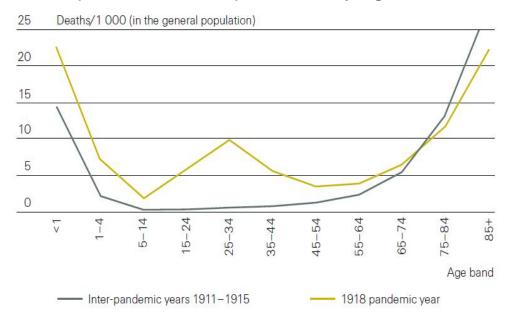
Pandemic characteristics

- Severe influenza potentially more lethal to younger ages
- Traditional 'flu impact is on the infants and the elderly
- Other infectious disease impact is uncertain

Financial characteristics

- Age concentrations
- Geographical concentrations
- Socio-economic concentrations

Impact of 1918 'flu pandemic by age band

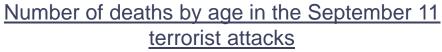


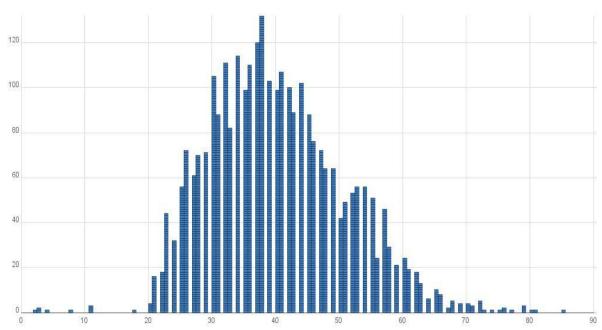
Source: Swiss Re - Pandemic influenza: A 21st century model for mortality shocks

Other Mortality Shock



- Terrorism characteristics
 - Working age individuals more vulnerable
 - Targets where population density is high
 - Dynamic nature of the threat
- War characteristics
 - Younger males predominant
- Natural disasters
 - Geographical concentrations





Source: Data from www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/memorial

Trend Mortality



- Changes to anticipated mortality improvements over time
 - Term assurance portfolios exposed to deterioration in mortality rates for the 50 to 55 age group (greatest impact on liability value)
 - Whole of life assurances exposed to mortality rates at higher ages i.e. mid 80's (depending on underlying improvement best estimate)

Drivers

- Socioeconomic: e.g. health care provision and population density
- Lifestyle: e.g. obesity and excess alcohol
- Disease: e.g. new and re-emerging diseases

Trend Longevity



- Ever increasing improvements to senior mortality
 - Exposures aggregated by defined benefit schemes and annuity writers
 - Immediate concern for in-payment pensions
 - Long-tail exposure with deferred pension liabilities
 - Significant exposure to mortality improvements of newly retired males
 - Changes to mortality rates in the mid 80's have greatest financial impact

Drivers

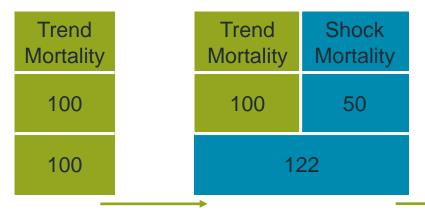
- Personal healthcare: e.g. preventative and remedial treatments
- Medical developments: e.g. improved drugs and procedures
- Lifestyle: e.g. good nutrition and high levels of activity with few 'bad habits'
- Aging: e.g. breakthroughs in the understanding and 'treatment' of aging

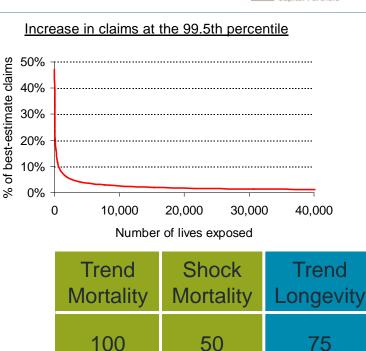
Benefits of Diversification

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- Diversification within a product line reduces specific risk leading to lower relative variation in experience
- Marginal volatility is lower than the aggregate of the component parts for non-perfectly correlated risks





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Diversify by product, region or risk class

Utilise natural offsets

Product Line

Stand Alone

Combined

Capital

Capital*

^{*} Based on QIS5 technical specification

Limits of Diversification



- Company circumstances may restrict diversifying business
 - Monoline business strategies
 - Risk aggregators
 - Limited expertise
 - Regulatory restrictions
- Other circumstances may restrict diversifying business
 - Peak exposures dictated by insured appetite
 - Economically over-sized exposure
 - Unexpected correlations

Risk Transfer Techniques



	Established Metho	ds Emerging methods	Innovative methods
	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale	Portfolio Sale	Portfolio Sale	Portfolio Sale
Reinsurance / Retrocession	 Quota Share Non-Proportional Group Life Surplus Lloyds Market	Quota ShareCaptives	■ Insurance Swap
Capital Markets	Mortality Bonds & Swaps	Value-in-Force SecuritisationParametric Hedge	■ Parametric Hedge

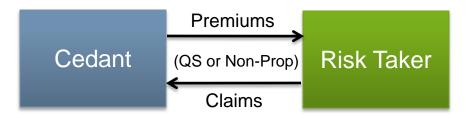
Reinsurance / Retrocession

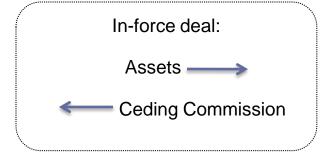
Examples











- 'Traditional' retrocession reinsurance of long-tail mortality liabilities to reduce trend (and lapse) risk. Inforce deals could have additional capital and liquidity benefits
- Non-proportional shock protection excess of loss cover for mortality risks. Cession of risk concentrations in the group life market e.g. large office buildings in central London or surplus cover on high income lives
- 3. Longevity swaps reinsurance, without asset transfer, of inforce (and possibly contingent) annuity liabilities. Premiums and claims paid on net basis reducing exposures, counterparty risk may be mitigated by collateral arrangements. Possibility to 'shape' premiums
- 4. Risk swaps potential for reciprocal arrangements for risk diversification e.g. mortality vs. critical illness, cross territory

Reinsurance / Retrocession

Considerations



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

- Benefits
- Indemnity risk transfer
- Long duration
- Flexibility
- Familiar (usually)
- Significant capital relief
- Lock-in profits from existing business
- Generation of (fungible) liquidity

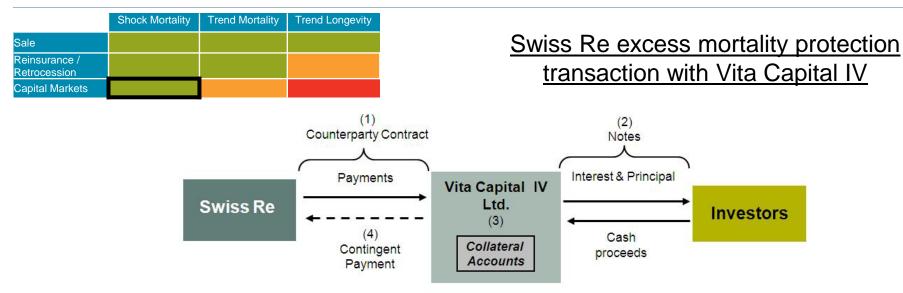
Challenges

- Limited capacity available
- Significant counterparty exposure
- Residual 'tail' exposures
- Agreements on pricing and terms e.g. underwriting standards
- Complex structure and administration
- Removal of some risk specific diversification benefits

Capital Markets

Example





- 1. Swiss Re and Vita Capital IV (a Cayman SPV) enter into an ISDA mortality swap whereby Swiss Re purchases mortality shock protection.
- 2. Vita Capital IV issues floating rate notes to investors for the aggregate exposure of the mortality swap
- 3. The proceeds of the Notes are held in trust and invested in IBRD (part of the World Bank) debt securities. Coupons on the notes comprise of investment earnings on the assets plus risk premium payments from Swiss Re.
- 4. If population mortality is in excess of specified level in a certain country over a given period, Swiss Re is paid the calculated claim amount. On the note redemption date the collateral is liquidated and the principal on the notes is returned to investors

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Capital Markets

Considerations



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

Coverage

- Parametric or indemnity cover (or some hybrid)
- Basis risk and claim recovery timeline
- Capital relieved relative to protection cost
- Multi-year protection

Execution

- Insurance or derivative
- Complexity and execution timing
- Availability and quality of data
- Suitable for large aggregated exposures

Counterparty

- Collateral: None, replacement value, full
- Counterparty risk
- Alternative and sustainable capacity

Innovation

Longevity



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

- 'Delta hedging' liability value using parametric derivatives
 - Capacity provided by (re)insurers, banks and capital markets investors
 - Netting and collateralisation reduce counterparty risk
 - Flexibility to hedge subsets of a portfolio including deferred pensioner risk
 - Basis risk versus underlying portfolio limits scope to larger liabilities
- Transfer of liability and asset risk to a third party
 - Capacity provided by banks with 'captive' insurers e.g. GS, DB
 - Highly structured transactions
 - Complete exit or de-risking on specific portfolios
 - Full release of any associated capital, but comes at a cost

Innovation

Mortality





- Extreme mortality
 - Capital Markets indemnity risk transfer
 - Accelerated payouts
 - Group terror mortality protection
- Mortality trend risk
 - Parametric or modelled loss hedges
 - Risk swaps (exchange mortality for longevity)
 - Optimisation of natural offsets in trend risk
 - EV under Solvency II tranching and financing of layers in SCR

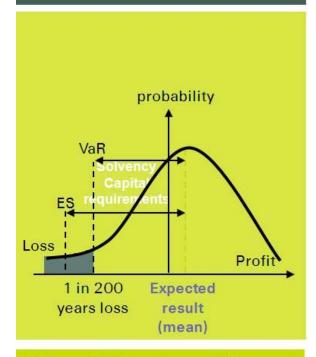
Regulatory Environment



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

- Principles based regulation should more fully recognise non-traditional risk transfer methods
 - Liability securitisation
 - Insurance risk derivatives
- The EU is introducing the principles based Solvency II regime in 2013
 - Benefit captured through internal risk model
- Other regulatory domiciles (e.g. Bermuda, Switzerland) want to have equivalent regimes
- US regulation is moving towards principles based regulation, but timeline is uncertain

Probabilistic risk measurement



Solvency II risk measure will be based on a Value at Risk (VaR) level of 99.5% which is equivalent to a 0.5% target default probability, and specifies a time horizon of one year

Current Market Overview



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

What is getting done:

- Extreme mortality market
 - New Vita IV issuance, SCOR mortality swaps
- XXX (redundant reserve) financing
 - Mortality contingent LoC financing hedged with derivatives, private securitisations
- Value-in-Force transactions
 - UK FSA now requires funded basis reinsurance solution involves sourcing cash
- Longevity risk transfer
 - LLMA developments, buyout, insurance based deals, interest in parametric deals
- Closed block
 - Renewed interest in wholesale divestment

'Buyers' of life insurance risk



	Shock Mortality	Trend Mortality	Trend Longevity
Sale			
Reinsurance / Retrocession			
Capital Markets			

Insurers, Reinsurers, Pensions Funds, Corporations, Asset Managers, Banks

Attractions

- Diversification from traditional asset classes
- Attractive risk adjusted returns with low anticipated volatility
- Offset and/or diversification of other insurance risks
- Capture a premium for the illiquid and esoteric nature

Concerns

- Pricing and valuation transparency
- Potential for anti-selection and information asymmetry
- Standardisation and liquidity
- Long duration and embedded second order risks (e.g. market risk)

Questions, Comments & Important Information

Swiss Re





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