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# Critical illness insurance rates: are they changing over time and how?

Dr George Streftaris & Dr Erengul Dodd

Work with  
Chunxiao Xie

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[www.actuaries.org.uk/arc](http://www.actuaries.org.uk/arc)

## Modelling, Measurement and Management of Longevity and Morbidity Risk

- Major research programme funded by the Actuarial Research Centre of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries running from 2016 to 2020
- Significant supporting funding from the Society of Actuaries and the Canadian Institute of Actuaries
- Themes
  - Development of new single and multi-population models for mortality and new sub-population mortality datasets
  - Drivers of mortality and cause of death analysis
  - Longevity risk management
  - **Stochastic models for critical illness insurance**



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## Outline

- Critical illness insurance
- Data
- Stochastic modelling
  - Delay time distribution (diagnosis to settlement)
  - Claim rates
- Claim rates comparison
  - Smoothed rates: 1999-2005 v 2007-2010
- Pricing rates



## Critical illness insurance

## Critical illness: Policy description

- Fixed term policy, usually ceasing at age 65
- A fixed sum insured payable on the diagnosis of one of a specified list of critical illnesses
- Covers: Cancer; *Death*; Heart attack; Stroke; Multiple Sclerosis; Total & permanent disability; Coronary artery bypass graft; Kidney failure; Major organ transplant etc.
- Policies are often sold together with term or endowment insurance
- Benefit type: Full Accelerated (FA) or Stand Alone (SA)



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## Data

Provided by the CMI Assurances Committee

## Data

CII data supplied by CMI:

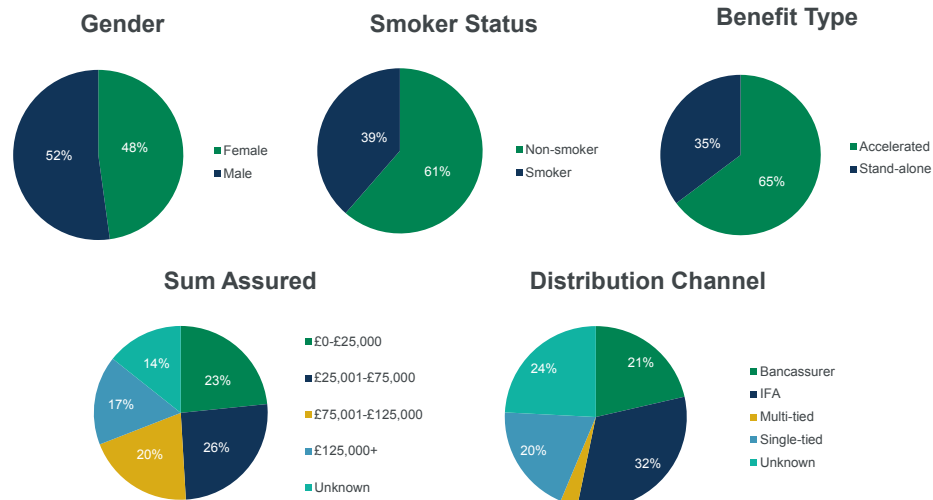
- 1999-2005
  - Details of policies inforce at the start and end of each year
  - 19,000 claims settled
- 2007- 2010
  - Grouped by various risk factors
  - 25,187 claims settled

Data:

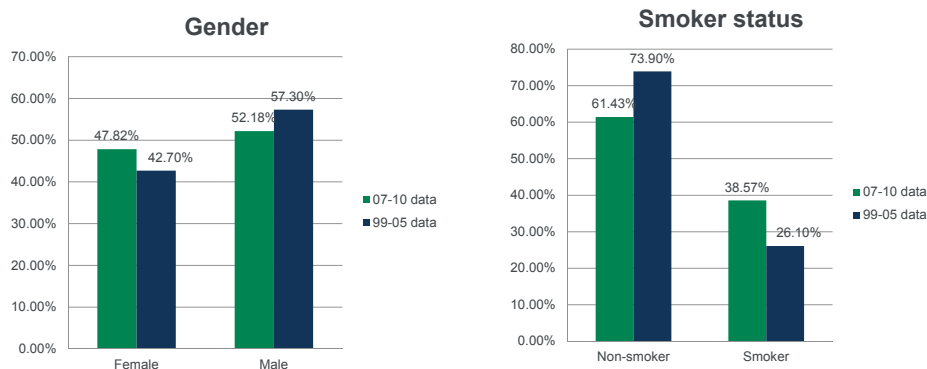
- Claims
- Exposures
- Risk factors:

Risk factor (covariate)	1999 – 2005	2007 – 2010
Age (last birthday)	√	√
Gender	√	√
Smoker	√	√
Policy duration	√	√
Office	√	
Distribution channel	√	√
Benefit type (accelerated, standalone)	√	√
Benefit amount	√	√
Policy type (single, joint)	√	
Settlement year	√	√
Cause	√	
Product category		√
Date of diagnosis	√	

## Data: 2007 - 2010

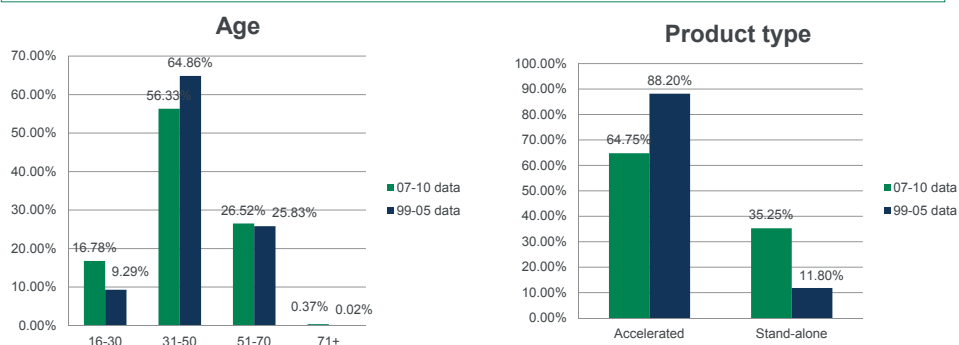


## Data: 2007 – 2010 v 1999 – 2005



- Distributions more “even” in 2007 – 2010
- Higher proportion of **smokers** in 2007 – 2010

## Data: 2007 – 2010 v 1999 – 2005



- Higher proportion of **age 16-30** in 2007 – 2010
- Higher proportion of **stand-alone** in 2007 – 2010



## Modelling

Mostly Bayesian stochastic

## Stochastic modelling

- Estimation & smoothing of CI diagnosis rates
  - how do these depend on **risk factors**?
- Diagnosis is the **insured event** and there is a delay between **diagnosis** and **settlement**



- The **exposure corresponds to claims settled, not to claims diagnosed**
- **This can lead to biased rate estimates; need to adjust it**
- Also take into account uncertainty

## Stochastic modelling

### Delay time distribution (1999-2005)

- Diagnosis date not always recorded or available
  - 18% diagnosis dates missing
- Observed data: mean delay 185 days; sd 263 days
- Fit a delay distribution (GB2 in Bayesian GLM-type setting):
  - $F(d; x, z) = \Pr(\text{claim diagnosed age } x, \text{ risk factors } z, \text{ will be settled in } d \text{ days})$

$D_i \sim \text{Generalised Beta2}(\alpha, \tau, \gamma, s_i)$

$$f_D(d_i) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \gamma)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\gamma)} \frac{\tau (d_i/s_i)^{\tau\gamma}}{d_i [1 + (d_i/s_i)^\tau]^{\alpha+\gamma}}$$

$$E(D_i) = \exp(\eta_i) = \exp \left( \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^8 \beta_j z_{ij} + \beta_{9,k} + \beta_{10,l} \right)$$

with  $s_i$  given as function of  $\eta_i, \alpha, \tau, \gamma$ .

## Stochastic modelling Delay time distribution (1999-2005)

- Most factors significant:
  - Policy duration, amount, death: **shorter delay**
  - Single life, stroke, multiple sclerosis: **longer delay**
- Non-recorded **diagnosis dates estimated through delay distribution  $F()$**
- Data (exposures) adjusted to allow for non-settled claims
 
$$E^*(u; x) = E(u; x) \times F(t-u; x)$$

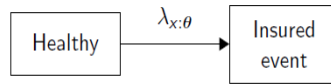
## Stochastic modelling Delay time distribution (2007 – 2010)

- Diagnosis date **not available**
- Assume similar delay distribution
- Match claims with common characteristics (age, policy duration etc)
- Adjust exposures as in earlier data



## Stochastic modelling: Claim rates

Model:



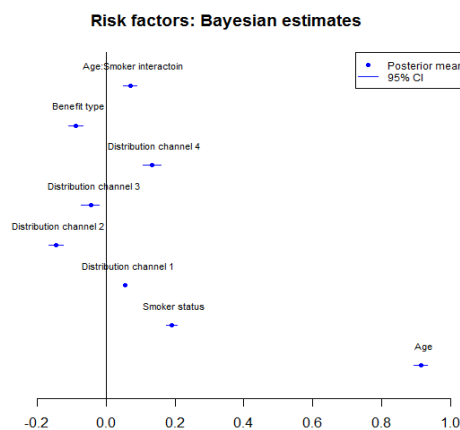
Fit Bayesian model:

$$N^{(j)}(x; \theta) \sim \text{Poisson} \left( \lambda_{x;\theta}^{(j)} \int_{u=0}^4 E(u : x; \theta) F^{(j)}(4 - u : x; \theta) du \right)$$

Adjusted exposure

- $\lambda_{x,\theta}^{(j)}$  : **diagnosis (claim) rate** for cause  $j$  at age  $x$  with risk factors  $\theta$

## Stochastic modelling: Risk factor estimates for claim rates (2007 – 2010)



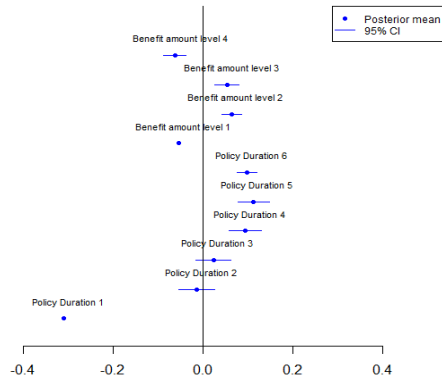
**Perform variable (factor) selection**

Selected model includes:

- ✓ age (older ↑)
- ✓ smoker status (S ↑)
- ✓ distribution channel
- ✓ benefit type (stand-alone ↓)
- ✓ age x smoker

## Stochastic modelling: Risk factor estimates for claim rates (2007 – 2010) cont.

Risk factors: Bayesian estimates



Selected model includes:

- ✓ policy duration (longer ↑)
- ✓ benefit amount (mid ↑)

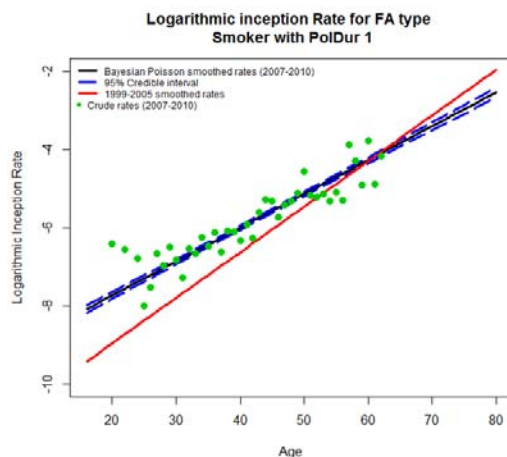


## Claim rates

Smoothed estimates, intervals

## Claim rates

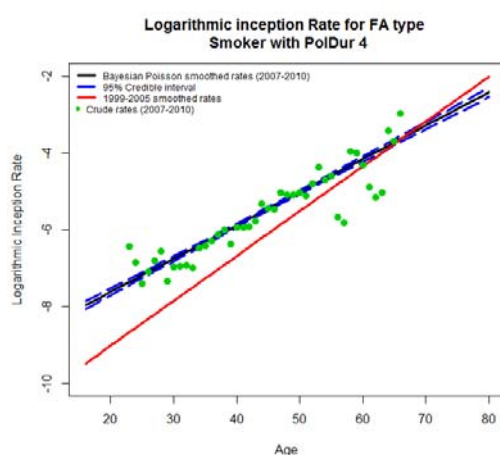
### 2007-2010 v 1999 – 2005, Accelerated, Smoker, Pol Duration 1



- ❖ Model fits crude rates (2007 – 2010) well
- ❖ 2007 – 2010 rates significantly higher
- ❖ Gap widens at younger ages

## Claim rates

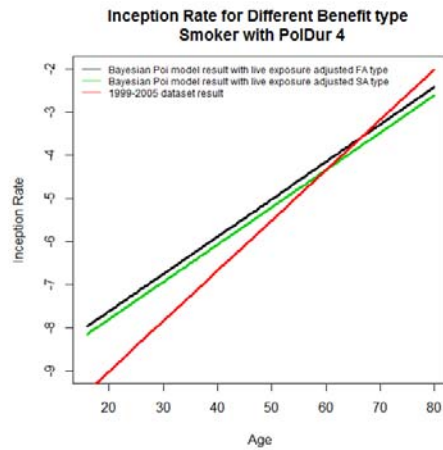
### 2007-2010 v 1999 – 2005, Accelerated, Smoker, Pol Duration 4



- ❖ Again, 2007 – 2010 rates significantly higher
- ❖ Rates higher than for Pol Duration 1

## Claim rates

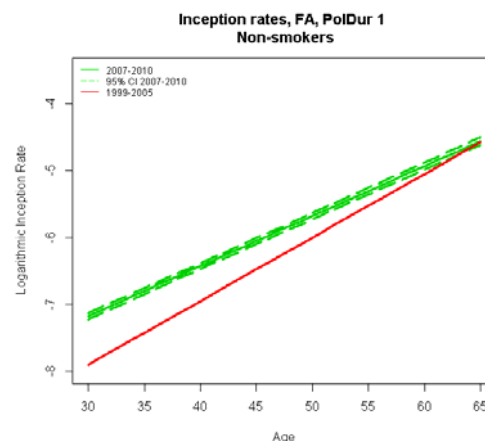
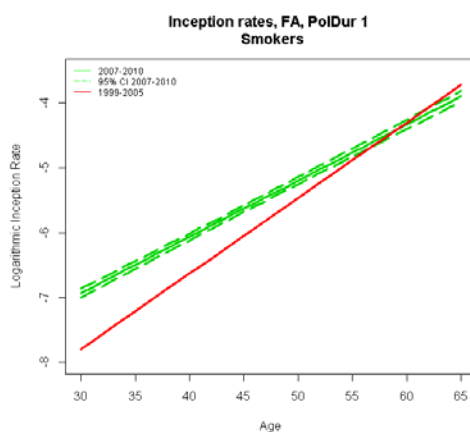
### Accelerated v Stand alone (2007 – 2010) & 1999 – 2005



- ❖ Accelerated 2007 -2010 (black) higher than stand-alone (green)
- ❖ Both significantly higher than 1999 – 2005

## Claim rates

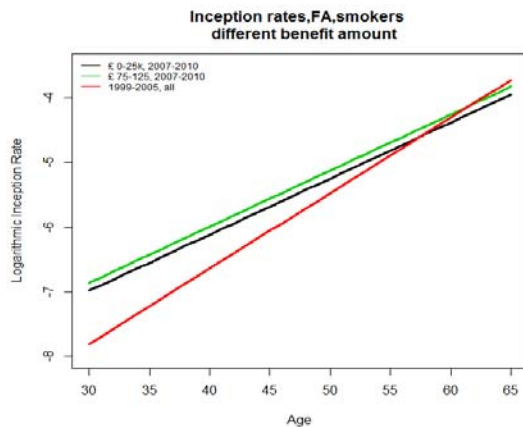
### Smokers & non-smokers (Accelerated, Pol Duration 1)



- ❖ 2007 – 2010 rates significantly higher, both S & NS

## Claim rates

### Different benefit amount (Accelerated, Smokers)



- ❖ 2007 – 2010 rates significantly higher, also for different amount



## Pricing

## Pricing

Annual premium, paid at constant rate, n-year term:

$$\text{Net Premium} = \text{Benefit Amount} \times \frac{\int_{t=0}^n v^t {}_t p_x \lambda_{x+t} dt}{\int_{t=0}^n v^t {}_t p_x dt}$$

where

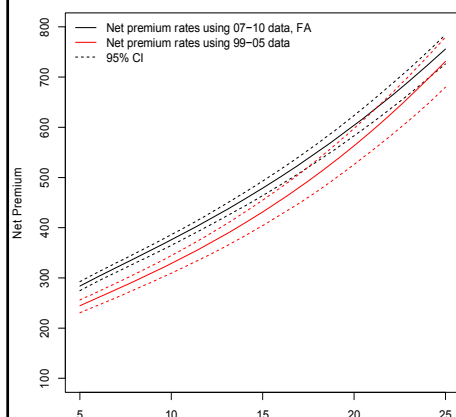
$${}_t p_x = \exp\left(-\int_{s=0}^t \lambda_{x+s} dt\right) \text{ and}$$

$v$  is the discount factor.

Then bootstrap distribution of  $\lambda$ s used to derive CIs for premiums.

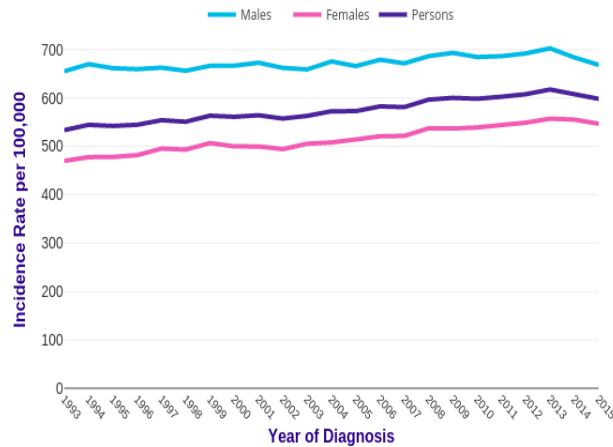
## Pricing

All causes, Smoker, Age 40, Policy duration 0, Benefit amount £100k,  $i=3\%$



- ❖ Since 2007 – 2010 FA rates are higher than 1999-2005 combined rates, the net premium rates are also higher.

## All Cancers Excluding Non-melanoma Skin Cancer (UK)



In 1999-2005 dataset

- ❖ 49% of the claims were caused by cancer
- ❖ Death 17.6%
- Heart attack 11.6%
- CABG 2.1%

Source: [cruk.org/cancerstats](http://cruk.org/cancerstats)



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## Future trends of CII claims

- Cancer forms almost half of the CII claims.
  - Availability of screening (e.g. colonoscopy, mammography)
  - Social/behavioural changes (e.g. obesity, alcohol consumption)
  - New treatments (e.g. targeted immunotherapy)
  - Statistical advances (e.g. use of big data, AI methods)



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## Conclusions

### Conclusions

- Critical illness insured population distribution has some differences between 1999-2005 & 2007-2010
- Time between diagnosis and settlement of a claim is important
- Claim rates (2007-2010) depend on a number of risk factors including:
  - age, smoker status, distribution channel, policy duration, benefit amount and benefit type
- Analysis suggests increase of a CII claim and premium rates over time (1999-2005 v 2007-2010)
  - especially at younger ages



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## Continuing work

- Fit more sophisticated Bayesian model to allow for more variation in rates (e.g. hierarchical, negative binomial)
- Use of population morbidity statistics
- Liaise with CMI for knowledge exchange on data, modelling
- Compare with CMI rates

Questions

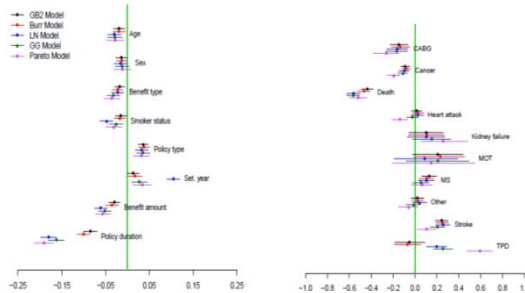
Comments

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter.

## Stochastic modelling: Delay time distribution

1999 – 2005 (cont.)

- Generalised Beta 2 distribution in Bayesian GLM-type setting



Most factors significant:

- Policy duration, amount, death, CABG: **shorter** delay
- Single life, stroke, mult sclerosis: **longer** delay

Figure: Posterior means (dots) and 95% credible intervals (bars) of  $\beta$ 's.