Quantitative Medicine Forum

Title:
“Self-Reported Health and Other Subjective Measures in Health Services Research: The Issue of Reporting Heterogeneity”

Abstract:
Although measures of self-reported health, well-being, and satisfaction are widely used in health services research and other related fields, a perennial concern is that different people may have different reporting habits. For example, observed gender differences in self-reported pain may be influenced by differences in the way men and women report pain. Unemployed and employed individuals may use different references of scale for their subjective well-being. Wealthier individuals may have higher expectations for health services and thus underreport their levels of satisfaction with health systems. For the pain example above, the main statistical challenge is to account for potential gender differences in reporting habits to separate out the true difference in pain from the overall difference in self-reported pain.

To illustrate the issue of reporting heterogeneity, I will use relevant examples from my recent collaborative research. The methodological focus will be on the vignettes approach and hierarchical ordered probit model, also briefly touching on longitudinal data analysis. Application of these methods will be presented in a less technical, more intuitive way.

Biography:
Young Kyung DO received his M.D. and Master of Public Health degrees from Seoul National University in 1997 and 2003, respectively. He also earned his Ph.D. in Health Policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2004–8) and received postdoctoral training at Stanford University (2008–9). His substantive interests include population aging and chronic disease, long-term care, interactions between health and other human capital, and adolescent health behavior. His methodological interests involve causal inference for policy and program evaluation, and measures of self-reported health and subjective well-being.

All are welcome to attend. No RSVP is required. Light refreshments will be served from 11.45am onwards, outside the auditorium.