

Predictors of 10-year hospital use in a community-dwelling population of Brazilian elderly: the Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging

Fatores associados à hospitalização em 10 anos entre uma coorte de idosos brasileiros: Estudo de Coorte de Idosos de Bambuí

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Abstract

We use data from a population-based cohort of elderly Brazilians to assess predictors of hospitalizations during ten years of follow-up. Participants were 1,448 persons aged 60 years and over at baseline (1997). The outcome was self-reported number of hospitalizations per year. Slightly more than a fifth (23%) experienced no hospitalizations during the 10 year follow-up. About 30% had 1-2 events, 31% had between 3 and 7 events, and about 18% had 8 or more events during this time. Results of multivariable hurdle and Cox proportional hazards models showed that the risk of hospitalization was positively associated with male sex, increased age, chronic conditions, and visits to the doctors in the previous 12 months. Underweight was a predictor of any hospitalization, while obesity was an inconsistent predictor of hospitalization.

Aged; Hospitalization; Cohort Studies

Introduction

In Brazil as in other countries around the world, planning for the health needs of rapidly aging populations is a priority. But there is a shortage of data available on how populations use health services as they age, given previous exposures, risk factors, and chronic conditions. The need to gather both descriptive and predictive data on hospital use is particularly relevant in Brazil where the government pays for about 80% of all hospitalizations, which in turn consume nearly 70% of all national health expenditures ^{1,2}.

Since 1999, the total number of hospitalizations in the Brazilian public sector increased by about two percent and inflation-adjusted expenditures for all hospitalizations increased by 43% to a total of \$4.1 billion Brazilian Reals per year ³. In 2009, among the nearly 20 million people over the age of 60 in the country, there were 2.3 million hospitalizations in the public sector and the hospitalization rate for those over 60 years of age was 119/1,000, double the rate for the younger population or those below this age (58/1,000) (Departamento de Informática do SUS. Sistema de Informações Hospitalares. <http://www.data.sus.gov.br>). We use data from the Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging to assess predictors of hospitalizations in the elderly during ten years of follow-up. The purpose is to identify factors associated with any hospitalization use and intensity of use over time.

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Methods

The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging has been carried out in the town of Bambuí (with approximately 15,000 inhabitants), situated in South-eastern Brazil, which in 1997 (the baseline year) had a human development index (HDI) of 0.70 and life expectancy at birth of 70.2 years^{4,5}. The study population comprised all inhabitants aged 60 and above residing in the town on 1 January, 1997. A complete census was carried out for enumeration and identification of participants: 1606 (92.2%) from all 1,742 residents participated in the cohort baseline. Blood collection and other examinations were performed in 85.8% of the eligible elderly. The study objectives, design and procedures have been described previously^{4,5}. Cohort members undergo annual follow-up visits, which consist of an interview and verification of death certificates. In the present analysis, we used data from the baseline to the 2007 interviews, yielding a ten-year follow-up period.

In terms of health services, Bambuí had one general hospital with 62 beds, 15 physicians (around 1 per 1,000 inhabitants), and a government polyclinic providing 24 hour access to urgent care. At baseline, the town had 545 public hospital admissions among those aged 60 or over, the principal causes of which were heart failure and bacterial pneumonia⁶. Principal causes of death were stroke, Chagas disease, and coronary heart disease during this period^{4,5}. Demographic variables measured at baseline considered in this study included age (measured in five-year age groups versus 60-64 years), sex, and marital status (married or cohabiting versus single, divorced or widowed). Socioeconomic conditions included self-reported private health insurance, number of completed years of schooling (< 3 years, 4-7 years, ≥ 8 years), and family monthly income in Brazilian minimum wages in tertiles (equal to about US\$120 in 1997). Health status measures include underweight (measured body mass index – BMI ≤ 18.5kg/m²), obesity (BMI ≥ 30kg/m²), current smoking (those reporting having smoked at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and were still smokers at baseline), hypertension (systolic blood pressure ≥ 140mm/Hg, diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90mm/Hg, and/or antihypertensive medication use), diabetes mellitus (fasting blood glucose level ≥ 126mg/dL and/or current use of insulin or oral antidiabetic drug treatment), prior stroke (response to lifetime history of stroke instrument)⁷, previous medical diagnosis of arthritis or coronary heart disease, infection with *Trypanosoma cruzi* [defined by seropositivity in three assays performed concurrently: a hemagglutination assay (Bio-Mérieux, Craponne, France), and two

enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assays (Abbott, Abbott Park, USA and Wiener, Rosario, Argentina)], and the self-reported number of doctor visits during the baseline year (divided into quartiles). Further details are described elsewhere^{4,5}. Each of these factors has been associated with hospitalization in previous cross-sectional and/or cohort studies^{6,8,9,10,11}.

Participants signed an informed consent and authorized death certificate and hospital records verification. The Bambuí cohort study was approved by the Ethics Research Committee of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fundação Oswaldo Cruz), Brazil.

Statistical analysis

The main outcome was a self-report of the number of hospitalizations per year. We excluded hospitalizations for the baseline year in order to assess risk factors for subsequent hospital use. We also excluded individuals with missing baseline measures to yield a final sample size of 1,448. Statistically significant characteristics of those with any missing data included older age, fewer chronic conditions, lower income, and lower schooling. In sensitivity tests, including those with missing data did not alter any of the main findings of the study.

We present descriptive statistics, means and proportions for all explanatory variables, stratified by number of hospitalizations. Then, to identify factors associated with having any hospitalization during follow up, we employ a hurdle model¹². This model assumes that different factors may determine whether someone is ever hospitalized as opposed to the total number of hospitalizations (or the intensity of use) they might have. The first stage models the likelihood of any hospitalization using logistic regression. The second stage uses a zero-inflated negative binomial model to estimate predictors of the numbers of subsequent hospitalizations among those who have had at least one. We present odds ratios (for logistic regression) and prevalence ratios (for negative binomial regression along with 95% confidence intervals – 95%CI).

For failure time analysis, we constructed a measure of the time, in years, to first hospitalization from baseline. Subsequent hospitalizations were also measured from baseline. When multiple hospitalizations were reported for the same year, we assumed these were equally spaced throughout the year since we did not have the exact date for each admission.

We built a series of nested models by sequentially adding blocks of covariates – demographic (age, sex), social and economic (married, health

plan, income, schooling), and health/risk factors (smoking, weight, chronic conditions, doctor visits), as defined above. Although traditional event history models have only a single possible failure (usually the subject's death), our model allows for repeated failures, since an individual can be hospitalized multiple times per year and in multiple years. We assessed two different approaches to modeling such data. The first, known as the Anderson-Gill model¹³ for repeated events includes all subjects, handles dependence of events through clustering among individuals (using robust standard errors), assumes a common exposure effect is sustained over time, and also assumes a common baseline hazard function – that is, that prior hospitalization will not influence one's chances of a subsequent hospitalization^{13,14,15}. The second approach (proposed by Prentice, Williams, and Peterson) is known as a gap time model. It assumes that the individual is not at risk for the second event until the first has already occurred and estimates the failure time between each event¹⁶.

For failure time models, both death and drop-out were considered censoring events. The assumption of proportional hazards was tested and confirmed using Stata 11's "phtest" (Stata Corp., College Station, USA) command and examination of the Schoenfeld residuals¹⁷. We also tested alternative methods for handling tied events. Since the Breslow and Efron approaches yielded identical results, we used the Breslow method for final estimation since it made it more likely that models would converge. Model fit was ascertained by inspection of Cox-Snell residuals¹⁷.

Results

Table 1 presents descriptive data on respondents. The mean age was 69 years at baseline, 61% of respondents were female and about half were married or cohabiting. Nearly three quarters (73%) were in the lowest income category, and 65% had three years of schooling or less. The average BMI was 25, but 7% were underweight and 13% were obese. Almost three-quarters (73%) had at least one and 50% had at least two chronic conditions. 19% were current smokers. Participants had an average of three doctor visits during the previous 12 months at baseline. Over the 10-year follow-up period, there were a total of 28,664 hospitalizations, with an average rate of four hospitalizations per person. Over the 10-year follow-up, 512 subjects died and six percent were lost to follow-up.

Slightly more than a fifth (23%) experienced no hospitalizations during the 10 year follow-

up. About 30% had 1-2 events, 31% had between 3 and 7 events, and about 17% had 8 or more events during this time. Fewer individuals having over 3 events were in the youngest age (60-69) category as compared to those experiencing no events. Married or cohabiting individuals experienced fewer hospitalizations overall. Both obese and underweight individuals were more likely to be in the highest hospitalization categories, as were those with one or more chronic condition. Although the overall population was both low income and had low educational levels, higher income categories were associated with lower numbers of hospitalizations as was the highest educational level. In terms of doctor visits, those with no hospitalizations were most likely to have had fewer visits, while those using more hospitalizations were more likely to have had more doctor visits in the 12 months preceding baseline.

Table 2 presents the hurdle model of factors associated with hospital use over the 10-year follow-up period. In the first column, predictors of the dichotomous indicator of any hospital use suggest that individuals over 75 had almost twice the odds of hospitalization than those aged 60-64. Being married lowered the odds of hospitalization, while being underweight, having a chronic disease, and larger number of doctor visits in the baseline year all raised the likelihood of at least one hospitalization episode. When examining predictors of the intensity of hospitalization (column 2), males had a 20% higher likelihood of multiple hospitalizations as did those aged 70 and over. Although schooling was not associated with the first hospitalization, it was negatively associated with the intensity of hospitalization among those who had at least one event. Obesity was not associated with the first hospitalization, but obese individuals were 15% more likely to be more frequent users of hospital care. Each additional chronic disease raised the likelihood of subsequent hospitalization by 17%. Previous doctor visits also raised the likelihood of more intense hospital use.

Figures 1 and 2 present Kaplan-Meier estimates of hospitalizations, by risk factors. Figure 1 shows that increased burden of chronic conditions raises the likelihood over time that an individual will be hospitalized: those with 3 or more chronic diseases experienced at least one event by year two. Figure 2 illustrates the relationship between education and hospitalization risk. Each category of increased schooling is associated with longer time before hospitalization. By year 2, about 75% of individuals in the lowest educational category experienced at least one event, while in the highest educational group fewer than 50% had been hospitalized.

Table 1

Baseline characteristics of participants, by total number of incident hospitalizations. The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging, 1997.

Characteristics	Total (N = 1,448)	Total number of hospitalizations during follow-up			
		0 (n = 327)	1-2 (n = 428)	3-7 (n = 442)	8+ (n = 251)
Age (mean)	69.31	67.19	68.35	69.84	70.16*
Male (%)	39.43	45.43	38.69	37.24	36.65
Female (%)	60.57	54.57	61.31	62.75	63.34
Married/Cohabiting (%)	49.65	57.62	51.28	44.92*	45.02 *
Current smoker (%)	18.85	19.21	18.18	19.64	17.93
BMI [kg/m ²] (mean)	25.11	25.23	25.00	25.09	25.19
Obese (%)	13.03	9.45	11.19	14.67	17.93 *
Underweight (%)	7.04	4.27	7.69	8.58	7.97
Number of chronic conditions (mean)	1.51	1.36	1.43	1.70	2.00 *
Two or more (%)	50.31	38.72	43.35	56.89 *	65.73 *
Private health plan (%)	19.30	17.68	20.27	23.02	18.71
Income [tertile] (%)					
Lowest	72.58	71.34	71.43	69.68	81.27 *
Middle	14.50	15.55	15.46	14.93	10.76
Highest	12.91	13.11	13.11	15.38	7.97
Schooling [years] (%)					
< 3	65.34	63.41	58.97	63.43	74.90 *
4-7	26.81	29.57	32.17	25.73	22.71
≥ 8	7.86	7.01	8.86	10.84	2.39 *
Doctor visits in previous 12 months (mean)	3.25	1.94	2.96	3.37	5.21 *

BMI: body mass index.

* $p < 0.05$ difference from zero hospitalization category.

Table 3 presents multivariable failure time models predicting hospitalizations over time. The first four models are nested together to assess the effect of adding additional blocks of covariates to the baseline model (model 1) containing only sex and age groups. In the fully adjusted model (model 4), males have about a 40% higher hazard of hospitalization, once other covariates are included in the model. Older ages (as compared with the 60-64 year old group) raise the likelihood of hospital admission although the relationship in a stepwise fashion. Being married is associated with about a 17% lower likelihood of hospitalization. Higher income and more years of formal schooling lower hospitalization risk. Having private health insurance and being a current smoker are not significant predictors of subsequent hospitalization. Being underweight raises hospitalization risk by about 44%, each chronic disease raises the risk by about 27% and each quartile of previous doctor visits raises hospitalization risk by 24 percent.

Model 5 (Table 3) presents conditional risk models for repeated events that assume that individuals are at risk of a subsequent event only

after the first one has already occurred and explicitly models the gap between each hospitalization episode. Males and higher age groups experienced shorter gaps between hospitalizations, but having private health insurance and being a current smoker are associated with longer gaps. Obesity, a greater number of chronic diseases, and more doctor visits in the baseline year were also associated with shorter gaps between hospitalizations.

Discussion

This is the first population-based study in Brazil to estimate the risk of hospitalization among the elderly over a ten-year period. It shows the relative frequency of hospitalization (over three quarters of the population was hospitalized at least once), the considerable prevalence of high volume usage (nearly a fifth were hospitalized eight times or more), and the relative importance of demographic, socioeconomic, health status, and health service-related factors in predicting hospital use among an aging cohort.

Table 2

Predictors of any hospitalization and subsequent number of hospitalizations. The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging, 1997-2007.

Baseline characteristics	Hospitalization (yes or no)	Number of hospitalizations (given at least one)
	OR (95%CI)	PR (95%CI)
Male (vs. female)	1.06 (0.77; 1.47)	1.20 (1.06; 1.36) *
Age [years]		
65-69 (vs. 60-64)	1.03 (0.75; 1.41)	1.02 (0.90; 1.17)
70-74 (vs. 60-64)	1.42 (0.98; 2.06)	1.17 (1.02; 1.35) **
75-79 (vs. 60-64)	2.06 (1.26; 3.37) *	1.30 (1.10; 1.52) *
≥ 80 (vs. 60-64)	2.11 (1.21; 3.68) ***	1.20 (1.00; 1.43) **
Married/Cohabiting (vs. single, divorced, widowed)	0.75 (0.56; 1.00) **	0.95 (0.85; 1.06)
Private health plan (vs. none)	1.20 (0.83; 1.73)	1.04 (0.91; 1.18)
Income in highest tertiles (vs. lowest tertile)	1.03 (0.74; 1.43)	0.89 (0.78; 1.01)
Schooling ≥ 4 years (vs. < 3 years)	1.08 (0.91; 1.29)	0.91 (0.85; 0.97) **
Current smoker (vs. no)	1.02 (0.72; 1.44)	0.94 (0.83; 1.07)
BMI [kg/m ²]		
Obese (BMI ≥ 30) (vs. other BMI)	1.35 (0.87; 2.07)	1.15 (1.00; 1.32) **
Underweight (BMI ≤ 18.5) (vs. other BMI)	1.95 (1.08; 3.54) **	1.03 (0.86; 1.23)
Chronic conditions (0-6 conditions)	1.25 (1.09; 1.44) *	1.17 (1.12; 1.23) *
Doctor visits, last 12 months (in quartiles)	1.35 (1.23; 1.48) *	(1.11; 1.19) *

95%CI: 95% confidence interval; BMI: body mass index; OR: odds ratio; PR: prevalence ratio.

Note: the analysis was based on 1,448 individuals. Column one present results modeling the likelihood of any hospitalization versus none (logistic regression) and column 2 presents results of models predicting the number of subsequent hospitalizations after the first (zero-inflated negative binomial regression).

* $p < 0.001$;** $p < 0.05$;*** $p < 0.01$.

Studies on factors associated with hospitalizations in older adults in Brazil are few, and they were restricted to cross-sectional or administrative data. Two of these studies used data from the baseline of the Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging. The first study, using information obtained by interview, showed that indicators of need (health conditions, use of health services and use of medications) were associated with both self-reported hospital admission, and with multiple admissions in the preceding year. Being male, living alone, and the existence of financial constraints in obtaining medications were associated with multiple hospital admissions⁸. Another study showed that the introduction of biomedical factors did not modify the above mentioned associations⁶. Another cross-sectional study identified prior hospitalization, recent doctor visits, the presence of chronic disease (particularly diabetes and heart disease), sex, and age as associated with hospitalization among a private health maintenance organization in Brazil¹⁰.

This cohort study showed that, once other factors were controlled, males were about 40% more likely to be hospitalized than females. Moreover, men who experienced multiple hospitalizations spent less time than did women between hospital episodes, even while controlling for risk factors. There was an important protective effect of being married or cohabiting. Interestingly, this measure of social support was not associated with the gap between hospitalizations, perhaps suggesting that the protective effect of such support may be limited after one has already developed a condition that requires multiple hospitalizations. Additional years of formal schooling was a consistent predictor of less frequent hospital use, but like social support, was not associated with the length of time between events among those experiencing multiple hospitalizations, a finding consistent with other cross-sectional studies¹⁸. Even small increments in schooling (comparing individuals with less than three years to those with three to seven years) influenced hospitalization risk.

Figure 1

Kaplan-Meier estimates of time until hospitalization, by number of chronic conditions at baseline. The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging, 1997-2007.

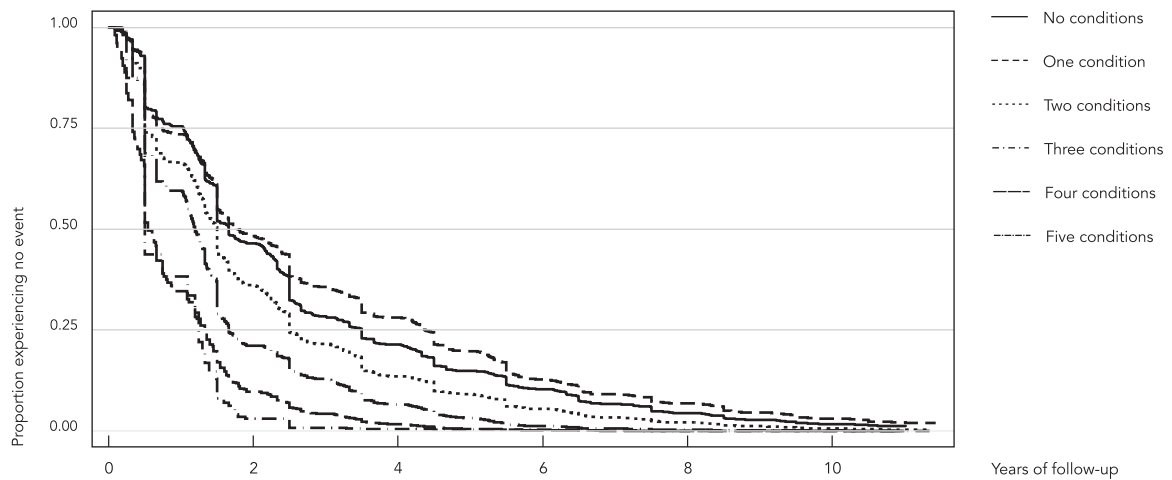
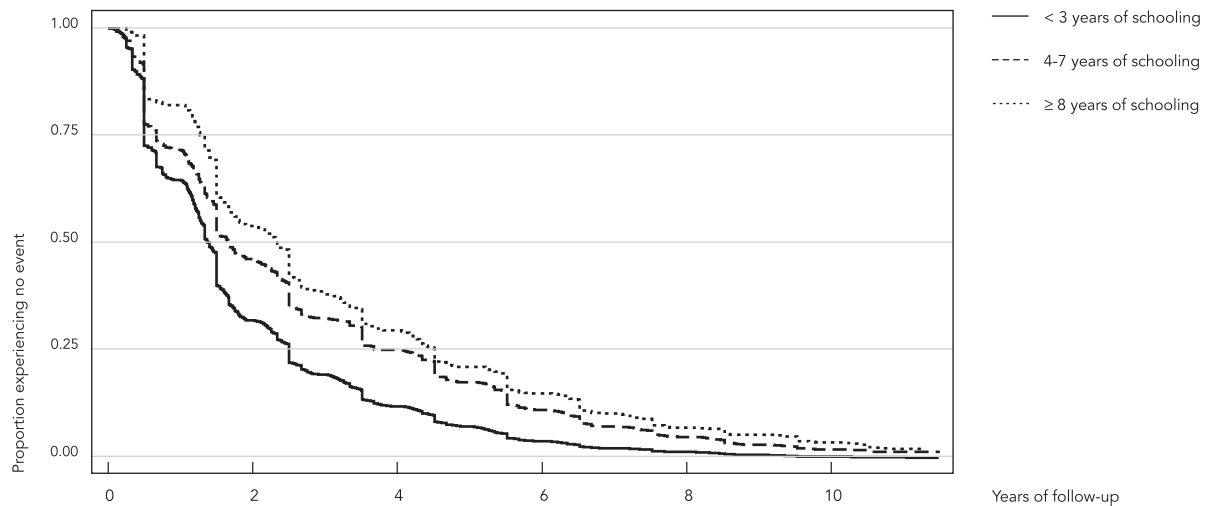


Figure 2

Kaplan-Meier estimates of time until hospitalization, by number of years of schooling. The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging, 1997-2007.



Underweight emerged as an important predictor of any hospitalization, as well as with the hazard of subsequent hospitalization, and may be an important marker of frailty and may be associated with injuries due to falls ¹⁹. In con-

trast, obesity was not independently associated with hospitalizations in most models. This may be due to the fact that a number of chronic diseases were already included in models as risk factors ²⁰.

Table 3

Ten-year hazard of hospitalization. The Bambuí Cohort Study of Aging, 1997-2007.

	Model 1 *	Model 2 *	Model 3 *	Model 4 *	Model 5 **
	HR (95%CI)	HR (95%CI)	HR (95%CI)	HR (95%CI)	HR (95%CI)
Male (vs. female)	0.94 (0.81; 1.09)	1.06 (0.90; 1.25)	1.22 (1.02; 1.46) ***	1.40 (1.17; 1.67) #	1.20 (1.13; 1.28) #
Age [years]					
65-69 (vs. 60-64)	1.03 (0.84; 1.26)	1.00 (0.82; 1.22)	0.99 (0.81; 1.20)	1.01 (0.83; 1.22)	1.00 (0.94; 1.07)
70-74 (vs. 60-64)	1.35 (1.11; 1.65) #	1.28 (1.05; 1.56) ***	1.21 (1.00; 1.48) ***	1.21 (1.00; 1.47) ***	1.12 (1.04; 1.20) #
75-79 (vs. 60-64)	1.75 (1.41; 2.17) #	1.65 (1.32; 2.04) #	1.63 (1.31; 2.03) #	1.63 (1.32; 2.00) #	1.18 (1.09; 1.28) #
≥ 80 (vs. 60-64)	1.94 (1.52; 2.47) #	1.80 (1.42; 2.29) #	1.88 (1.49; 2.37) #	1.80 (1.43; 2.27) #	1.34 (1.23; 1.47) #
Married/Cohabiting (vs. single, divorced, widowed)		0.85 (0.73; 0.99) ***	0.83 (0.71; 0.97) ***	0.83 (0.71; 0.96) ***	0.98 (0.93; 1.04)
Private health insurance plan (vs. none)		1.04 (0.88; 1.22)	1.04 (0.88; 1.22)	0.96 (0.82; 1.14)	0.91 (0.85; 0.97) ##
Income in highest tertiles (vs. lowest tertile)		0.83 (0.70; 0.98) ***	0.84 (0.71; 0.99) ***	0.87 (0.74; 1.03) ##	0.95 (0.89; 1.01)
Schooling ≥ 4 years (vs. < 3 years)		0.86 (0.79; 0.94) ##	0.91 (0.84; 0.99) ***	0.91 (0.84; 0.99) ***	0.98 (0.94; 1.01)
Current smoker (vs. no)			1.00 (0.82; 1.22)	0.96 (0.79; 1.16)	0.93 (0.87; 0.99) ***
BMI [kg/m ²]					
Obese (BMI ≥ 30) (vs. other BMI)			1.21 (0.99; 1.47)	1.17 (0.97; 1.42)	1.01 (0.95; 1.08)
Underweight (BMI ≤ 18.5) (vs. other BMI)			1.39 (1.08; 1.78) ##	1.44 (1.15; 1.81) #	1.17 (1.06; 1.28) #
Chronic conditions (0-6 conditions)			1.33 (1.24; 1.44) #	1.27 (1.18; 1.36) #	1.05 (1.03; 1.08) #
Doctor visits, last 12 months (in quartiles)				1.24 (1.19; 1.29) #	1.05; 1.08) #

95%CI: 95% confidence interval; BMI: body mass index; HR: hazard ratios.

Note: the analysis was based on 1,448 individuals. All models are variations on Cox proportional hazards models. Models 1-4 are nested models, based on sequential additional of blocks of covariates as shown.

* Anderson-Gill repeated events model;

** Prentice, Williams, Peterson repeated events model for gap time (between events);

*** $p < 0.05$;# $p < 0.001$;## $p < 0.01$.

Having had a higher number of doctor visits was consistently associated with hospitalization in all models. This is not surprising, since many individuals are likely to consult with their doctor before being referred to the hospital and those with more severe chronic conditions may be more likely to have had multiple doctor visits, a finding consistent with other studies ²¹.

Chronic conditions were important and consistent predictors of hospital use, the intensity of use, and shorter gaps between episodes, a finding consistent with other studies ^{22,23,24}. This study also showed the importance of comorbidity: each additional chronic condition raised hospitalization risk by as much as 27 percent.

This study has some limitations. We rely on individual self-report of hospital use. While it is likely that people's yearly recall about hospitalizations is fairly accurate, we were not able to

confirm hospitalizations, length of stay, or the reason for the hospitalization. It is also not possible to determine how many were re-admissions for the same health problem. For some individuals for some years, a proxy (usually a family member) reported the number of hospitalizations. To assess the level of bias, we dropped all proxy reports and re-ran the analyses. Results were generally consistent with those obtained from the models reported here. We used only values from baseline and did not include time-varying factors, such as chronic disease incidence or changing age. Thus, our results are subject to the effects of regression to the mean, and these changes in exposure status over time were not captured. Both tend to underestimate the strength of the associations found.

Strengths include the fact that the study included an entire population cohort with a follow-

up period of ten years. Measurements included objective assessments of illness at baseline and benefited from ongoing yearly interviews with participants to gather information on hospital use. We used analytic methods to assess various aspects of hospitalizations, including predictors of any use and predictors of intensity of use, and we employed failure time models to measure an individual's risk of hospitalization over time, while controlling for the fact that some subjects either died or dropped out during follow-up.

Conclusions

This study has quantified the volume of hospital use and identified a number of important predictors of hospitalization among a population-based cohort of elderly Brazilians. Consistent

with other studies, we confirmed that risk factors such as age, the number of chronic illnesses, and previous doctor visits were important predictors of hospital use. The study also found that even very small differences in social factors, such as additional years of schooling, were important in lowering hospitalization risk among a population of very low socioeconomic status. Future studies should link users with their actual hospital records to assess the most common causes of hospitalization and permit the estimation of costs associated with hospital use based on different patient profiles and assess the impact of hospitalization on long-term morbidity and quality of life. Such information can then be used to help validate models used to project future needs for hospital, rehabilitation, and long-term care services appropriate for Brazil's rapidly ageing population.

Resumo

Foram utilizados dados de uma coorte brasileira de base populacional para examinar os fatores prognósticos para hospitalizações entre idosos ao longo de dez anos de seguimento. Os participantes foram 1.448 idosos com 60 ou mais anos de idade na linha de base (1997). O evento estudado foi a ocorrência de hospitalizações informadas pelo participante. Um pouco mais de um quinto (22%) dos idosos não foi hospitalizado ao longo de dez anos de seguimento. Cerca de 30% tiveram 1-2 internações, 31% tiveram 3-7 internações e 18% tiveram 8 ou mais hospitalizações durante o período estudado. Resultados de regressões multivariáveis e modelos de Cox mostraram que o risco de hospitalizações apresentou associação positiva com o sexo masculino, idade avançada, número de doenças crônicas e número de consultas médicas nos 12 meses precedentes. O baixo peso apresentou associação significativa com a ocorrência de uma hospitalização, enquanto a obesidade não apresentou uma associação consistente com esse evento.

Idoso; Hospitalização; Estudos de Coortes

Contributors

J. Macinko conceived the study, analyzed data and wrote the text. V. Camargos contributed to the study design, data analysis, article revisions, and approving the final draft. J. O. A. Firmo participated in the data collection and management and reviewing the text. M. F. Lima-Costa contributed to the analysis and interpretation of the data and writing the text.

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