Do Adult MH Services Need to be Developmentally Appropriate?

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INTRODUCTION

Background
- State level adult mental health administrators express little faith in training developmentally appropriate services in adult mental health care and few such programs exist across the country.

Study Questions
- Do individuals functioning differ across adult age groups within individuals with psychiatric disorders?
- Is the rate of developmental change different in younger than older adults with psychiatric disorders?

Statistical Methods
- Weighted data nationally representative (N=4,970)
- Preliminary findings (adjusted rate)

Question 1: Is 2 age groups (younger & older age groups) different compared with Chi-square?

Question 2: Multiple regression and Quangles

Quangles?
- Detects a single shift in mean level of a sequence of observations (e.g., rates over an age range)
- The observed rate for each age group is compared against the age range with the maximum and minimum rate values

Methods

National Comorbidity Study
- Nationally representative household sample (N=4,970)
- Used CIDI to assess DSM-III-R disorders
- Interviews conducted 1990 -1992
- Ages 15-54

This Analysis
- 1130 subjects with a current psychiatric diagnosis
- Significant age differences in race but not gender see Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>% of Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
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<td>45-54</td>
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<td>55-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>65+</td>
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REFERENCES: