An analysis of factors concerned with the active life expectancy and the duration in care of the elderly.

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Socioeconomic factors concerned with some health indicators of the elderly that take quality of life into account were analyzed by an ecological study using prefectural data. Active life expectancy had a high correlation with common life expectancy but little correlation with duration in care. In the multiple regression analyses, more variables influenced to the health indicators in females than in males. Active life expectancy was affected by the participation rate of cancer screening test. Duration in care was affected by the rate of the elderly living with their son(s)/daughter(s) in males, and by the capacity of institutions for the elderly in females, and by the availability of care services in both males and females. It was discussed whether these variables could be considered as causal factors.