

Towards the Reconstruction of Long-Term Time Series Statistics on Causes of Death in Japan: How to Remove the Influence of a New Death Certificate in 1995

Yui OHTSU, Yu KOREKAWA, Futoshi ISHII, Markéta PECHHOLDOVÁ,
France MESLÉ and Jacques VALLIN

The statistics on cause of death are often disrupted by the revision of ICD, which makes it difficult to follow long-term mortality trends. Then, the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS) in Japan have been attacking the reconstruction of long-term time series statistics on causes of death in Japan with the 4-digit level of ICD-10, by applying the method of the Human Cause-of-Death Database (HCD). The HCD is a joint project of the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED) and the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR). We are moving forward with the translation of the data during the period covered by ICD-9 (1979-94) to those with ICD-10.

Incidentally, the death certificate was revised at the same time as the introduction of ICD-10 in Japan in 1995, which lead to the sudden decrease of heart failure and renal failure as well as the discontinuous increase of other causes instead. Therefore, we need to remove the influence of new death certificate before the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10. This paper explains this method and introduce how the data was actually modified.