Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project (LLLP): Design, Challenges and Initial Results

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# Investigators Involved in the Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project

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# Outline

- Background and design of the study
- Recruitment and follow-up rates
- Some initial results

# Background



- Initiated in 2004
- Few studies of determinants of gambling & disordered gambling
- Interested in better understanding:
  - Factors that promote responsible gambling
  - Factors that make some susceptible to problem gambling
- Guided by bio-psycho-social conceptual model

### **LLLP Conceptual Model**



# Background (cont'd)

• A prospective, panel study of gambling behavior

- Study Albertans over a 5-year period
- Initial sample
  - Stratified by region of the province
  - 5 age groups
  - Over sampled high frequency gamblers
  - -70<sup>th</sup> percentile for age and sex



# Age Groups – accelerated Iongitudinal design

### Baseline

- 13 to 15
- 18 to 20
- 23 to 25
- 43 to 45
- 63 to 65

### Time 4

- 18 to 20
- 23 to 25
- 28 to 30
- 48 to 50

68 to 70





## **Methods - Procedures**

## Telephone interview

- Subcontracted the completion of these interviews
- Adult interviews (~ 45 minutes)
- Adolescent interviews (~ 30 minutes)
- Majority of demographic & gambling questions

## Face-to-face interview

- Completed by Research Assistants
- Adult interviews (~ 3 hrs)
- Adolescent interviews (~ 2 hrs)
- Parent interviews (~ 40 minutes)



# **Response Rates**

Recruitment



- Over sampling procedure was laborious and expensive (9 versus 3 months)
  - 543 versus 1000 high frequency
- Of eligible households
  - 52% did screening, 27% agreed to interview,
  - 73% of consenters completed (not different than noncompleters)
- Eligible telephone numbers- 32, 870 (5.4%)
- Eligible households 17,357 (10.2%)



# **Recruitment and Retention**



- High frequency did not differ from high frequency in general population
- General population bootstrapped weights derived (age, sex, geography, high frequency)
- Time 2 n = 1495 84% (online)
- Time 3 n = 1316 73% (online)
- Time 4 n = 1343 75% (online)
- Blood and spit n = 679



## **Attrition Bias**



- Males
- Non-Caucasians
- single, less educated, attending school,
- More types of gambling, more time spend gambling (not frequency)
- Greater gambling problem severity

# **Analytic Approach**



- Parallel analysis with Quinte Longitudinal Study (QLS)
- 4123 Quinte residents
  - Same timeframe
  - No age cohorts
  - Over sampled higher frequency
  - 5 assessments over 5 years
  - Many of the same measures
  - 94% retention rate

# **Some Initial Results**



- How stable is problem gambling?
  - Substantial degree of change observed inconsistent with the traditonnal addiction model
- What factors predict gambling and problem gambling over time?
  - An evolving etiological model

# **Stability of Problem Gambling**



- Important to factor in measurement error
- Accuracy of self-report compromised by:
  - short period of time participants given to answer the questions
  - incomplete recall
  - recency bias
  - self-deception
  - mood state
  - social desirability
  - genuine uncertainty about whether they meet the criteria we are asking about (guilt, financial problems, etc.)

# **Reliable Change Index (RCI)**

 Difference in the person's score over 2 time periods divided by the standard error of difference between the 2 test scores:

$$RCI = \frac{x_1 - x_2}{\sqrt{2(SD_1\sqrt{1 - r_{xx}})^2}}$$

 RCI scores provide a measure of the change in standardized units. Thus, a RCI of 1.96 or larger is needed for statistical significance at p < .05</li>

Jacobson & Truaxx (1991)

# Reliable Change Index: QLS & LLLP



- PGSI has average test-retest reliability of .765 (over a number of studies)
- Average SD of PGSI over the 4 Time periods is 2.15 in LLLP and 1.86 in QLS over the 5 Time Periods
- Hence, a raw score increase or decrease of
- > 3 at the subsequent time period is what is required for a statistically significant change

## Stability of PGSI 5+ Problem Gambling using the RCI

Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3	Wave 4



Red = PG; White = NPG; N = 44 (each row represents a case)

# Summary of PG Stability Findings



 Good consistency in findings across the two data sets (QLS and LLLP) and between the two assessment instruments (PPGM and PGSI).

#### **Chronicity and Duration**

- About half of problem gamblers are problem gamblers in only one time period.
- Chronic unremitting problem gambling is uncommon.
  - Only one-third of problem gamblers are problem gamblers in 3 or more time periods
  - Only one-quarter are problem gamblers in 4 or more time periods
- Risk of chronic problem gambling increases with each consecutive year of problem gambling status.

# Summary of PG Stability Findings



#### Recovery

• The above results also mean that close to three-quarters of problem gamblers are observed to recover (no longer meet problem gambling criteria).

#### Relapse

- Of those that no longer meet problem gambling criteria, three-quarters do not relapse (at least during a 4-5 year time frame). Only a minority of people move in and out of problem gambling in a 4-5 year time period.
- Probability of relapse increases with increased prior duration of problem gambling.
- Longer time frames are needed to understand overall course of problem gambling.

### **Ongoing Qualitative Study of Transitions**

# An evolving etiological model

- Iterative process of modeling relationships using structural equation models
  - Gambling behaviour
    - Number of types of gambling
    - Expenditure
    - Frequency
  - Gambling Problems
    - CPGI PGSI (3 parcels of items)

# Gambling is stable over time





# Problem gambling is stable over time



Appears OK ML ChiSq Group Fit: 529.071 Fits 529.071 [459.317, 606.301] Probability 0.000 AIC 407.071 [337.317, 484.301] RMSEA 0.072 [0.067, 0.078] Degrees of freedom 61 Free parameters 29 Observed Statistics 90 Constraints 0

# Gambling and Problem Gambling are stable over time







Appears OK ML ChiSq Group Fit: 560.958 Fits 560.958 (490.653, 638.792) Probability 0.000 AIC 342.958 (272.653, 420.792) RMSEA 0.067 (0.061, 0.072) Degrees of freedom 109 Free parameters 27 Observed Statistics 136 Constraints 0



# Adding Covariates QLS



Risk group, Age, Sex, Personality traits Excitement Seeking and Impulsivity, IQ



# Adding Covariates LLLP



Risk group, Age, Sex, Personality traits Excitement Seeking and Impulsivity, IQ

# Another example- mental health variables- LLLP





# **Emerging Model....**





# Merci!



