

EFFECT OF HOUSING AND REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT ON HEALTH

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[SYNOPSIS]

Based on a follow-up study, the effect of housing and regional environment on the health of the elderly was examined. Cross-sectional surveys were conducted using a mail-in self-administered questionnaire in 2008 and 2012. "Health related to housing and regional environment model" was formed by the covariance structure analysis. The target population of the 2008 survey comprised 4,169 elderly people. The response rate was 69.9%. The target population of the 2012 survey comprised 11,172 elderly people. The response rate was 74.3%. The respondents of both 2008 and 2012 were 1,808 people. 933 people who had respond all the questions were analyzed. A latent curve model was examined. Housing in 2008, regional environment in 2008, self-rated health in 2008 and 2012 and mobility in 2008 and 2012 were variables. 47% were male. The average age was 72.1 at the time of 2008. As a result, health conditions of elderly people had been deteriorated gradually. To have own house but living rented house affected on keeping self-rated health and mobility. To live in independent house but living in condominium or apartment house or housing complex affected on deterioration of mobility. Lack of means of transportation in the living area related to deterioration of self-rated health.