



Time trends and socioeconomic variation in use of radiotherapy and radical surgery for prostate cancer in an English region 1995-2006

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Prostate cancer: Too many uncertainties

Aetiological risk factors?

Which treatment?

Screening (asymptomatic diagnosis):
Does it work?

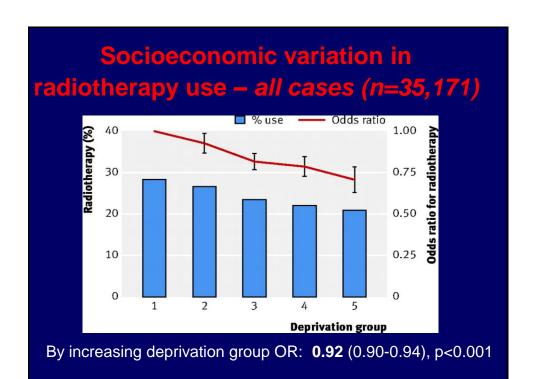
Who gets treated and by which treatment?

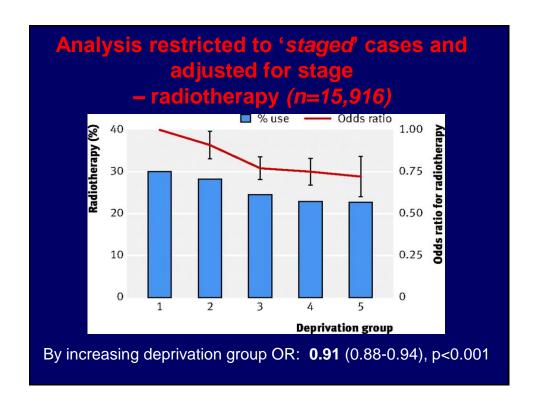
Data

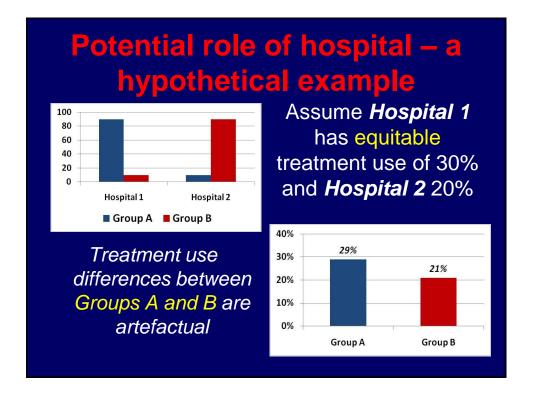
- 35,171 men with prostate cancer; East of England; 1995-2006
- Information on
 - Socioeconomic status measured with small area of residence (IMD 2004, at LSOA)
 - Treatment use (radiotherapy and curative surgery)
 - Stage for 57% of patients (latter 9 years)

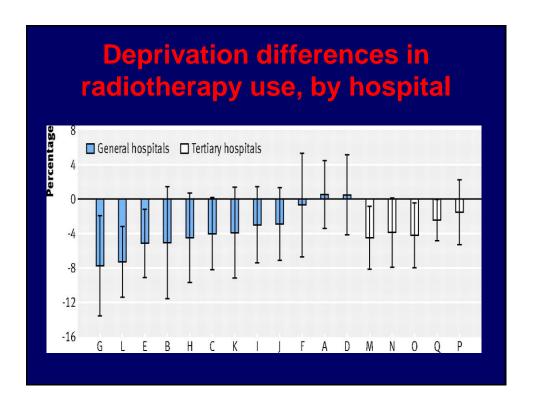
Analysis

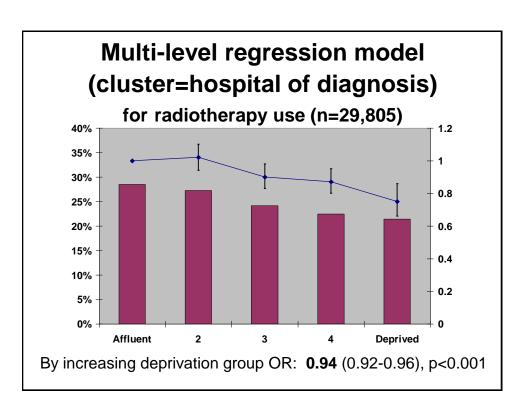
- Treatment use % by variable category
- Multivariate regression. Model 1
 - Treatment status as outcome variable
 - Adjusted for age, diagnosis period, morphology status, deprivation (and stage)
- Model 2. As for Model 1+ random effects for hospital of diagnosis
 - 'recognising' the clustered nature of the data

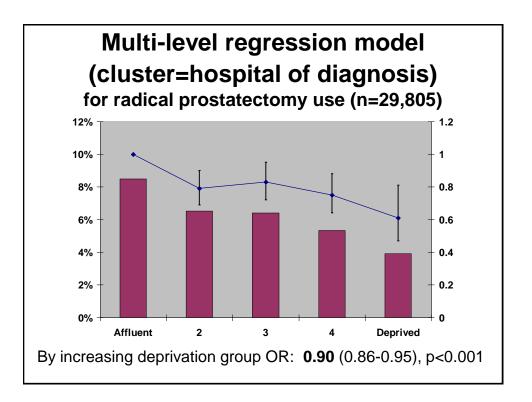












In summary

- (Historical) socioeconomic variation in use of radiotherapy and radical prostatectomy
- Association unlikely to be due to
 - Hospital differences (practice, case-mix)
 - Socioeconomic differences in stage
 (Fairley et al, BJC 2009)
- Ethnicity not adjusted for but low % of 'non-White' in reference population (Jack et al, BJUI 2009)

What could be responsible

- Co-morbidity particularly for surgery
- A 'cluster' of factors relating to socioeconomic differences in
 - Healthcare literacy
 - Patient risk attitudes and treatment choices
 - Communication with clinicians
 - Decision-making interactions between patients and treating clinicians

(Cykert et al., JAMA 2010)



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