Network social capital reduces the odds of developing hypertension in urban adults

Spencer Moore, PhD, MPH
Queen’s University, School of Kinesiology and Health Studies*
Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior,
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina

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Background: Hypertension

• High blood pressure was the leading risk factor for global disease in 2010. (Global Burden of Disease Studies)
• Six million Canadian adults, or one in five, have high blood pressure, representing 19% of the adult population.1
  • 83% are aware of their condition (80% for men and 87% for women)
• In the U.S., about 1 of 3 U.S. adults—or 67 million people—have high blood pressure with more than 348,000 deaths in 2009 citing high blood pressure as a primary or contributing cause. (CDC)

Background: Social capital and hypertension

• Network social capital
  – Resources to which individuals or groups have access through their social networks.
• Cross-sectional studies
  – Interpersonal level
    • Social integration (Gorman & Sivaganesan, 2007)
    • Social support (Reh, et al., 2010)
    • Social trust, group networks (Mulin, et al., 2014)
    • Network social capital2 (Moore et al., 2014)
• Prospective studies
  – Interpersonal
    • Social integration2 (Yang, et al., 2014)

Research question

• Does network social capital help reduce the odds of developing hypertension over a two-year period?
Methods: Sample

Montreal Metropolitan Area

Stratified cluster sampling

Wave 1
Census tracts
\( n = 300 \) (high, middle, low income)
Age Categories
\( n = 9/CT \) (25-44, 45-64, 75+ years)
Response Rate: 38.7%

Wave 2
\( n = 300 \)
\( n = 1400 \)
W2 Participation Rate: 51.7%
Key References


Thank you.
Publication List


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