

College of Public Health News

April 18, 2014

Georgia Southern University

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Disease Dynamics Seminar Series

April 18, 2014

Disease Dynamics Seminar Series

This series has been created to facilitate an interdisciplinary approach to public health research, with an emphasis on quantitative methods. Please make plans to participate and take advantage of this learning opportunity.

- Date & Time:** Friday April 25, 12:00 -1:00 PM
- Venue:** Hendricks Hall, Room 3001
- Topic:** **Latent Class Models with Application to Suicide Data**
- Presenter:** Hani M. Samawi, PhD, Professor, Department of Biostatistics; Director, Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics, Georgia Southern University
- Abstract:** According to World Health Organization (WHO) estimates, in the year 2000, approximately one million people died from suicide, and 10 to 20 times more people attempted suicide worldwide. They reported in 2005 that there were a total of 32,559 deaths from suicide in the United States of those 32,559 there were 4,474 deaths between the ages 5-24. From the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)(CDC, 2009) it is reported that almost 9% of adolescents of high school age attempted suicide at some point in the 12 months prior to survey administration. Screening for a specific disease or condition is a fundamental component of human disease control and prevention. One of our primary goals is to use the latent class approach to estimate the sensitivity and the specificity of the screening test for Adolescents Suicidal Behavior in United States using data from 1991-2011 YRBSS Survey. Our preliminary results indicated the validity of using this technique. Also, we found that using the four suicide behavior indicators (Ideation, Planning, Attempt and Injury from attempt) as screening test has a high Sensitivity (0.9946) and Specificity (0.9233) from 2009 data.
- Presenter:** Hani M. Samawi, PhD, Professor, Department of Biostatistics; Director, Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics, Georgia Southern University
- Series Information:** <https://sites.google.com/a/georgiasouthern.edu/fung/disease-dynamics-seminars>