NAME: LOW BIRTH WEIGHT DATA [1-3 MATCH] (MLOWBWT.DAT)

KEYWORDS: Logistic Regression (for a matched 1-3 case-control study)

SIZE: 116 observations (29 cases, 87 controls), 9 variables

SOURCE: Hosmer and Lemeshow (1989) Applied Logistic Regression, Appendix 4.

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be acknowledged and used accordingly. Data were collected at Baystate

Medical Center, Springfield, Massachusetts.

DESCRIPTIVE ABSTRACT:

The goal of this study was to identify risk factors associated with giving birth to a low birth weight baby (weighing less than 2500 grams). Data were originally collected on 189 women, 59 of which had low birth weight babies and 130 of which had normal birth weight babies. For 29 low birth weight cases, 3 controls were selected matched on age. Four variables which were thought to be of importance were age, weight of the subject at her last menstrual period, race, and the number of physician visits during the first trimester of pregnancy.

LIST OF VARIABLES:

Variable Abbreviation

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Stratum Number STRATUM

Observation Type (1 = Case, 2,3,4 = Controls) OBS

Age of the Mother in Years AGE

Low Birth Weight (0 = Birth Weight ge 2500g, LOW

l = Birth Weight < 2500g)

Weight in Pounds at the Last Menstrual Period LWT

Smoking Status During Pregnancy (1 = Yes, 0 = No) SMOKE

History of Hypertension (1 = Yes, 0 = No) HT

Presence of Uterine Irritability (1 = Yes, 0 = No) UI

History of Premature Labor (0 = None, 1 = Yes) PTD

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Low birth weight is an outcome that has been of concern to physicians for years. This is due to the fact that infant mortality rates and birth defect rates are very high for low birth weight babies. A woman's behavior during pregnancy (including diet, smoking habits, and receiving prenatal care) can greatly alter the chances of carrying the baby to term and, consequently, of delivering a baby of normal birth weight.

The variables identified in the code sheet given in the table have been shown to be associated with low birth weight in the obstetrical literature. The goal of the current study was to ascertain if these variables were important in the population being served by the medical center where the data were collected.

References:

1. Hosmer and Lemeshow, Applied Logistic Regression, Wiley, (1989).