Capstone Project 2 - Milestone Report Predicting Health using the National Health and Nutrition Survey

Problem Statement

There are many factors that impact the health and wellness of human society. It should be possible to reduce the occurrence of particular health concerns if those factors with high impact can be identified. The goal of this project is to use statistical inference and machine learning to explore if predictions in certain illnesses can be made related to habits, nutrition, BMI, and bloodwork.

Proposed Solution

Perform exploratory analysis and predictive modeling from the National Health and Nutrition Survey (NHANES) dataset that assesses the health and nutritional status of people in the United States.

- Accurate predictive models can help people in general to benefit if looking for ways to better their life.
- It can extend to professionals in the medical, nutritional, and fitness arenas to discuss the potential effects of life choices relating to health conditions.
- This could lead to people wanting to research particular findings in more depth in order to better their lives. Potentially adding longevity and making a positive difference for our population at large.

Datasets

A collection of datasets from the National Health and Nutrition Survey (NHANES) was obtained from Kaggle. https://www.kaggle.com/cdc/national-health-and-nutrition-examination-survey. This information was used in the project to study variables that could potentially help predict health conditions and improve human lives.

More information on the NHANES survey can be found on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website https://www.cdc.gov/Nchs/Nhanes/about_nhanes.htm.



Wrangling Steps Performed:

Data, Demographics, and Labs

1. Three csv files were downloaded and read into a normalized pandas dataframe. They were merged together to create one dataframe.

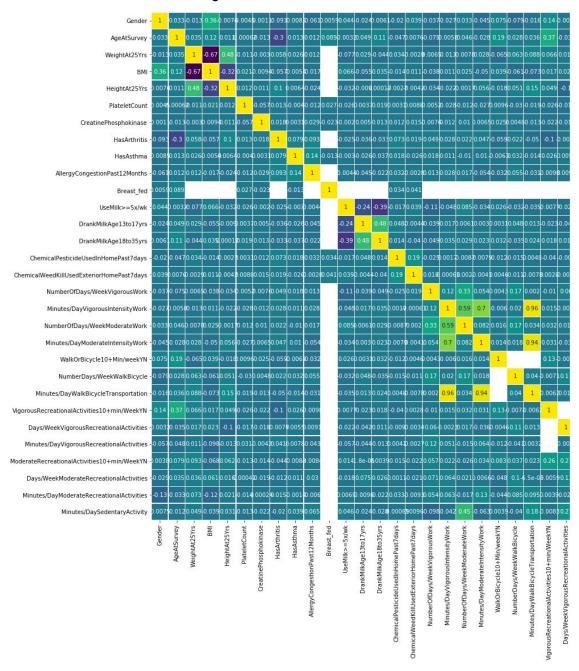
- 2. Columns were explored to determine which would be useful on this project. Those identified for use were then renamed from their initial codes to identifiable word strings.
- 3. A feature generation for BMI at age 25 was created using the height and weight found in the data.
- 4. The data was checked and scanned for any null information present. This was later used when looking at categories for those having asthma and those having arthritis. Null values had their entire rows removed when those columns were used for explorations.

Dealing with Outliers

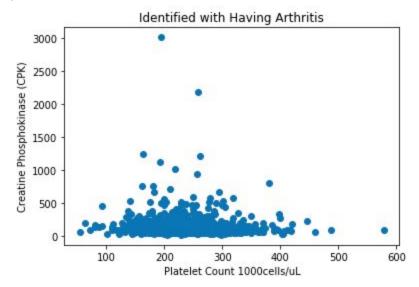
The dataset had categories that had significantly less data to use. Categories with more data were used in order to provide a substantial sampling to match the illnesses chosen to look at of asthma and arthritis.

Exploratory Data Analysis

Correlations can be found among the data.



One area this study further explored the correlation with those who reported having been told they had arthritis and their bloodcounts.



The scatterplot shows most participants identified with arthritis are in the lower left quadrant, which indicates lower platelet and CPK counts. Based on this visual alone, a hyphotheses statement such that a participant with low levels of CPK and low platelet counts have a good chance of being told by a health professional that they have arthritis. Further, there are no participants in the upper right quadrant, which suggests that higher counts for both CPK and platelets relates to those not being diagnosed with arthritis. There are definitley a few outliers in the upper left quadrant that are not significant and would not be included when making generalizations.

There are more outliers in the lower right quadrant, perhaps significant enough to look further into whether the higher platelet counts play a role in diagnosing possible arthritis. In general, high CPK levels in the muscle suggest the presence of inflammatory muscle disease, but they can also be caused by trauma, injection into the muscle, or muscle disease due to hypothyroidism. Conversely, low levels of CPK can be indicative of rheumatoid arthritis. https://www.arthritis-health.com/glossary/creatine-phosphokinase

Hypothesis Testing

Machine Learning Algorithms K-Means Clustering

Conclusion: