Variables Summary

These are definitions and examples of the measures used in this patient investigation at Bruner Clinic. They are medical and pulled from the patient encounters or they are social, where the patients zip codes or counties demographic information was used and not the individual circumstances of each patient.

Medical Variables:

BP\_Systolic: Blood Pressure – Systolic, The first of two readings, measures the pressure in your blood vessels when the heart beats.

BP\_Diastolic: Blood Pressure – Diastolic, measures the pressure in your blood vessels when your heart rests between beats.

Temperature: Body Temperature, the body temperature of an individual, measured by degrees, good indicator for sickness.

Pulse: Measured in Beats per Minute, the amount of time a heart beats within a minute.

Weight: Body weight, measured in pounds.

Respirations: measured in number of breaths taken in a minute, normal is between 12 and 20 breaths/minute

BMI: Body Mass Index, is a person’s weight in kilograms divided by his or her height in meters squared. Overweight for women is 27.3, for men its 27.8.

BSA: Body Surface Area, takes the weight and height of a patient and measures how much area the body takes up, in square feet.

Social Variables:

Crime Rate: The rate of crime within the patient’s zip code. If it is above the national average the measure is a 1, if not the measure is 0.

Urban or Rural: The indicator of if the area the patient lives is described as rural or urban. If urban then the measure is 1, if rural it is a 0.

Population: The number of people within a general area.

Low Access Tract 1 and 10: If the patient is from an area where access to healthcare is difficult. 1 mile for urban, 10 miles for rural.

Vehicle Access: If access to a vehicle in the patient’s zip code is hard to come by the measure is a 1, if it is not difficult than it is a 0.

Low Income Tract: If the patient is from a low income area the measure is a 1, if it is not than the measure is 0. This doesn’t mean the patient is from a poverty area either, the patient could just be from an area where the Median Family Income is lower than the national average.

Poverty Rate: Percentage of people in county living at or below the poverty line.

Poverty Tract: If the patient is from a place where the poverty rate is low, than the measure is a 1, if not the measure is 0.

Median Family Income: The Median Family Income for the people living in a given area.

Family Income Tract: If the patient is from an area where the Median Family Income is above the national average the measure is 1, if not the measure is 0.

Low Access to Supermarket: The number of the population within that zip code that have low access to a supermarket

Supermarket Tract: If the patient is in an area where the population with low access to a supermarket is above 2500 than the measure value is 1, else it is 0.

Access to Exercise: The percentage of people in the area who have easy access to be able to exercise.

Access to Exercise Tract: If the patient is from an area of 70% and under than the measure is 1, else it is 0.

High School Graduation Rate: Percentage of people who graduate high school in that given county.

Graduation Tract: If the area is below the national average for people graduating high school they get a 1, or else they get a 0.

Percentage Unemployed: Percentage of people unemployed in that given county.

Unemployed Tract: If the patient is from an area where the unemployment rate is above the national average the measure is 1, else 0.

Percentage Uninsured: Percentage of people uninsured in a given county.

Uninsured Tract: If the patient is from an area where the uninsured rate is higher than the national average the measure is 1, else 0.

Chronic Conditions:

Hypertension: A long term medical condition in which the blood pressure in the arteries is persistently elevated.

Cancer: A disease caused by an uncontrolled division of abnormal cells in a part o f the body.

Coronary Heart Disease (CHD): A disease in which there is a narrowing or blockage of the coronary arteries.

Diabetes: A disease in which the body’s ability to produce or respond to the hormone insulin is impaired, resulting in abnormal metabolism of carbohydrates and elevated levels of glucose in the blood and urine.

Asthma: A respitory condition marked by spasms in the bronchi of the lungs, causing difficulty in breathing. It usually results from an allergic reaction or other forms of hypersensitivity.

Arthritis: Painful inflammation and stiffness of the joints.

Hepatitis: A disease characterized by inflammation of the liver.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: A lung disease characterized by chronic obstruction of lung airflow that interferes with normal breathing and is not fully reversible.

Obesity: An abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that presents a risk to health.

Weak or Failing Kidneys: Also known as acute kidney failure, this is when the kidneys suddenly stop working.