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Comparison of Methods to Model Diastolic and Systolic Blood Pressure Measurements over Time

The pathology behind high blood pressure is still unclear. Most analyses of data from interventional studies treat systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) separately, ignoring the plausible correlation between them. Such analyses assumed that the two measures were independent of each other. We use data from the Cardiovascular Health Awareness Program (CHAP, see www.CHAPprogram.ca) study to compare the results of the longitudinal analyses of DBP and SBP using univariate (i.e. separately) and multivariate (i.e. jointly) approaches as functions of several baseline risk factors.