Income Growth Trajectory For Parents Of Children With Down Syndrome In The United States

Citation

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Accessibility
**Background**

- The non-invasive prenatal screening (NIPT) test, available as of October 2011, allows couples to learn whether their fetus has Down syndrome (DS) early as early as 9 weeks into gestation.
- Given the availability of this test, more couples are expected to receive a diagnosis of DS.

- Analyses
- Baseline characteristics

**Parental Matching**

- Parents within the DS study panel and control panel were matched to parents within the control panel.
- A panel of pairs of consecutive years of parents' income information was created.
- Observation Time

**Data**

- The dataset contains administrative claims (medical and pharmacy claims) and eligibility information for over 10 million adults, inclusive of insured individuals and their family members, insured through their employer, including primary subscribers and their covered beneficiaries.

**Methods**

- The database contains administrative claims data from 1999 to 2015:

**Results**

- Baseline Characteristics of Study Participants: Pre- vs. Post-Matching

**Inclusion Criteria**

- Patients with DS or those with Down syndrome in the United States

**Study Design**

- To determine whether the rate of income growth among parents of children with DS differs from that among parents of children without chromosomal conditions.

**Study Objective**

- A panel of pairs of consecutive years of parents' income information was created.
- Observation Time

**Data of interest**

- The current study focuses on income data for plan subscribers, and the findings may not be generalizable to the

**Notes**

- Age 1
- Age 2
- Age 3
- Age 4
- Age 5

**Limitations**

- As claims data were used for the study, any missing information or administrative error may have resulted in

**Discussion**

- Parents of children with DS have lower mean annual income growth compared to those of children without chromosomal conditions. This difference was not statistically significant among mothers and fathers when analyzed separately using the 2015 Q1 data. However, this difference was statistically significant among mothers and fathers when analyzed together using the 2015 Q1 data. The potential impact on income growth is a part of the financial consideration for parents receiving a prenatal diagnosis.

**Conclusions**

- Parents of children with DS may experience lower mean annual income growth compared to those of children without chromosomal conditions.
- The findings cannot be generalized to secondary earners, among whom the impact may be different.

- Patients of children with DS have lower mean annual income growth compared to those of children without chromosomal conditions. This difference was not statistically significant among mothers and fathers when analyzed separately using the 2015 Q1 data. However, this difference was statistically significant among mothers and fathers when analyzed together using the 2015 Q1 data. The potential impact on income growth is a part of the financial consideration for parents receiving a prenatal diagnosis.

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**Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of Parents in DS Study and Control Panels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>DS Study Panel</th>
<th>Control Panel</th>
<th>P-Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean log difference in annual income, mean ± SD</td>
<td>0.040 ± 0.084</td>
<td>0.041 ± 0.107</td>
<td>0.193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average change in annual income (%)</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>-0.13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2. Mean Annual Growth Rate in Income Amongst Parents of Children with DS and Matched Controls**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>DS Study Panel</th>
<th>Control Panel</th>
<th>P-Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean log difference in annual income, mean ± SD</td>
<td>0.059 ± 0.092</td>
<td>0.040 ± 0.101</td>
<td>-0.011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average change in annual income (%)</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**References**