

Title: Mortality Scenarios based on Cause-of-Death Modelling

Abstract: We consider recent developments in cause-specific mortality rates in several countries and discuss how all-cause mortality trends can be projected using those rates. More than a decade ago improvements in all-cause mortality started to slow down in the UK and the US. While many European countries continued to see strong improvements before the Covid-19 pandemic, some are now seeing excess deaths that are substantially higher than deaths caused by Covid-19. To shed some light on what is behind the slowdown in improvement rates and those excess deaths we are looking into past trends by cause of death and investigate how the contribution of specific causes to all-cause mortality has changed. The results allow us to generate scenarios for future mortality developments.