# Government of Alberta 

# Logistic Regression: Use \& Interpretation of Odds Ratio (OR) 

Fu-Lin Wang, B.Med.,MPH, PhD
Epidemiologist Adjunct Assistant Professor

Fu-lin.wang@gov.ab.ca Tel. (780)422-1825

Surveillance \& Assessment Branch, AHW
Community Health Sciences, the University of Calgary

## Background

- Odds: The ratio of the probability of occurrence of an event to that of nonoccurrence.
- Odds ratio (OR, relative odds): The ratio of two odds, the interpretation of the odds ratio may vary according to definition of odds and the situation under discussion.
- Consider the $2 \times 2$ table:

|  | Event | Non-Event |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Exposure | a | b |
| Non-Exposure | c | d |
| Total | a+c | b+d |

## A 2x2 Table for Two Binary Variables

Smoking Non-Smoking Total

| Lung Ca | No Lung Ca |
| :---: | :---: |
| 80 | 20 |
| 20 | 80 |
| 100 | 100 |

Total
100
100
200

Odds for Lung Cancer smokers $=80 / 20=4.00$

- The probability of having lung cancer among smokers is 4 times of not having lung cancer.

Odds Ratio for Lung Cancer smokers $=(80 / 20) /(20 / 80)=16.00$

- The probability of developing lung cancer among smokers is 16 times of that non-smokers.


## Why is the odds ratio useful?

If the odds measures exposure-disease relationship

- Determine the strength of association: Strong (OR>3), moderate ( $\mathrm{OR}=1.6-3.0$ ), weak ( $\mathrm{OR}=1.1-1.5$ )
- Assess the impact of confounding variables
- Estimate the relative risk for a disease in relation to a given risk factor


## Why is the odds ratio useful (cont'd)?

If the odds measures other event to non-event (reference) relationship or spatial/temporal trend

- The likelihood to delivery LBW babies for mothers 35 years or older is 2.5 -times of that for mothers 20-34 years
- The rate of MVA in Northern Alberta is 4 times more than that in Calgary
- The rate increased 2-folds, from 3 per 100,000 population in 1990 (reference) to 9 per 100,000 in 2010


## Why Do We Need Logistic Regression?

- LBW was reported high in our region. Is it true?
- What are the factors that contribute to a lower rate?
- Tell me what will be the LBW rate in next 20 years in our region.


## Logistic Procedure

- Logistic regression models the relationship between a binary or ordinal response variable and one or more explanatory variables.
- Logit $\left(P_{i}\right)=\log \left\{P_{i} /\left(1-P_{i}\right)\right\}=\alpha+\beta^{\prime} X_{i}$ where
$P_{i}=$ response probabilities to be modeled
$\alpha=$ intercept parameter
$\beta=$ vector of slope parameters
$X_{i}=$ vector of explanatory variables


## Performing a Logistic Regression

Proc logistic data = sample;
Class mage_cat;

Model LBW = year mage_cat drug_yes drink_yes smoke_9 smoke_yes /
lackfit outroc=roc2;

Output out=Probs Predicted=Phat; run;

## Why Re-Coding Data to Binary?

- While explanatory variables can be continuous and ordinal types, it is useful to recode them into binary sometime.
- When we want to use a fixed group as the reference, coding a variable into binary makes it easier to use and interpret.
- Teen age mother vs. mother 20-34 years or mother $35+$ vs. mother 20-34 years, for instance.


## Re-Coding Data to Binary

data sample; set \&srcData;
Smoke_Yes=0; Smoke_9=0; Drug_Yes=0;
Drink_Yes=0; Mage_Teen=0; Mage_Old=0;
if EverSmoke = 1
if EverSmoke in (9, .)
if Street_Drug = 1
if ALCOHOL_Preg= 1
if Mage_cat= 2
if Mage_cat= $\mathbf{0}$
then Smoke_Yes=1; then Smoke_9 = 1; then Drug_Yes =1; then Drink_Yes =1;
then Mage_Old = 1; then Mage_Teen = 1; run;

## Understanding Distribution - Proc Freq

Proc freq data=sample; table smoke_yes*LBW/nopercent nocol chisq cmh1;

Proc freq data=sample; table smoke_yes*(Mage_Teen Mage_Old mage_cat)/nopercent nōrow chisq cmh1;

Proc freq data=sample; table smoke_yes*(drug_yes drink_yes)/nopercent chisq;

## run;

## Run the Macros for Data Preparation

- \%inc '\ledm-goa-file-3luser\$lfu-lin.wang\methodology\Logistic Regressionไrecode_macro.sas';
- \%recode;


## Distribution of Maternal Smoking and LBW

Low Birth Weight (<2500 g)

|  | 1 (Yes) <br> $n=68$ | $0($ No $)$ <br> $n=932$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $1(n=237)$ | $11.0 \%$ | $89.0 \%$ |
| $0(n=763)$ | $5.5 \%$ | $94.5 \%$ |

Odds Ratio (95\%CI): 2.11 (1.27-3.53)

## Use Class Statement for Odds Ratio

Proc logistic data = sample desc outest=betas2; Class mage_cat;

Model LBW = year mage_cat drug_yes drink_yes smoke_9 smoke_yes / lackfit outroc=roc2;

Output out=Probs_2 Predicted=Phat; run;

## Use Recoded Data for Odds Ratio

Proc logistic data = sample desc outest=betas3;

Model LBW = year mage_Teen Mage_Old drug_yes drink_yes smoke_9 smoke_yes / lackfit outroc=roc3;

Output out=Probs_3 Predicted=Phat; run;

## Run the Macros for logistic regression

- \%inc '\ledm-goa-file-3luser\$\fu-lin.wang\methodology\Logistic Regression\logistic_macro.sas';


## Logistic Regression - Class Statement

## Odds Ratio Estimates

| Effect | Point Estimate | 95\% Wald |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Confidence Limits |  |  |  |

## Logistic Regression - Recoded Data

|  | Odds Ratio Estimates <br> Effect |  | Point Estimate |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | | 95\% Wald |
| :--- |
| Confidence Limits |

## Logistic Regression - Model Fitness

| Model Fit Statistics |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Criterion | Intercept <br> Only | Intercept <br> \& Covariates |
| AIC | 498.869 | 492.644 |
| SC | 503.777 | 531.906 |
| -2 Log L | 496.869 | 476.644 |

Identical for AIC, SC and -2 Log L and other statistics between two models

| Association of Predicted Probabilities and |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Observed Responses |  |  |  |
| Percent Concordant | 63.4 | Somers' D | 0.306 |
| Percent Discordant | 32.9 | Gamma | 0.317 |
| Percent Tied | 3.7 | Tau-a | 0.039 |
| Pairs | 63376 | c | 0.653 |

## Impact of Excluding Missing Smoking

## Odds Ratio Estimates

| Effect | Point Estimate95\% Wald <br> Confidence <br> Limits |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| YEAR | 0.961 | 0.862 | 1.071 |
| Mage_Teen | 0.785 | 0.290 | 2.124 |
| Mage_Old | 2.439 | 1.365 | 4.357 |
| Drug_Yes | 0.487 | 0.101 | 2.349 |
| Drink_Yes | 2.047 | 0.797 | 5.260 |
| Smoke_Yes 2.288 | 1.299 | 4.028 |  |

## Interpretation of OR in Logistic Regression

- There is a moderate association between maternal smoking and LBW.
- Maternal age is associated with both LBW and maternal smoking.
- After controlling the confounding effect of maternal age (and other variables in the model), the risk for LBW among pregnant women who smoke is about 2.4 times of that non-smoking pregnant women.

Predictors of Low Birth Weight in Term Livebirths, Alberta, 1997 to 2004

eSAS, Edmonton, Nov 26, 2011

## Questions?

## Pease contact:

## Fu-lin.Wang@gov.ab.ca

eSAS, Edmonton, Nov 26, 2011

## Thank you!!

