Unequal Aging:

Lessons from Inequality's End Game

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Overview: The End Game

- Who gets to play?
- II. Shared challenges
- III. Uneven playing field
- IV. Styles of play
- V. Team dynamics

Who Gets To Play?

- Freese and Lutfey (2011): "The lower status people are, the sooner they die, and the worse health they have while alive [on average]."
- Most disadvantaged typically do not survive to the End Game (selective mortality) and those that do are typically in worse health

The Uneven Playing Field

- Continuation in fundamental differences in resources across groups
- Individual resources (wealth, pension, insurance, home, family)
- Neighborhood resources (public transit, good hospitals, senior programs, service hubs)
- Baygardens (M.C.) versus Rockport (Poor)

Running Out of Ensure

Pauline

Middle-Class African American woman

Laura

Middle-Class white woman

Dave

Poor white man

Implications

- Necessary to look at the intersection between aging and inequality
 - -Need both macro and micro-data
- Health is a key axis of inequality
- Interventions remain uneven and piecemeal

Thank you!

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