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Adapting to Heatwaves in the elderly population: Behavioral Patterns and Strategies

Heatwaves are becoming frequent, posing severe consequences for elderly populations. Preventing excess mortality among them hinges on effective prevention strategies, which necessitate identifying their vulnerabilities. However, existing studies often overlook the distinction between vulnerability to heat and the ability to protect oneself from it. An individual's capacity to shield themselves from heat is just one aspect of their overall risk profile, influenced in part by their behaviors.

This study aims to characterize behavioral profiles related to heat adaptation among individuals aged 55 and older. A survey was administered to 300 participants, revealing by a latent class analysis three distinct profiles: nearly half take no proactive measures, about one-sixth react moderately regardless of heatwave severity, one-third promptly adopt all precautionary measures.

Furthermore, using latent transition analysis, adaptation profiles were constructed based on preventive measures, examining how populations transition between these profiles in response to varying heatwave severity. The study's unique contribution lies in segmenting behaviors, including cognitive capacities, beliefs, perceptions of health impacts, and digital usage. This segmentation enhances the characterization of vulnerability among the elderly and enables the development of prevention strategies precisely tailored to vulnerable populations, identifying specific actions that meet their needs.

Keywords: Heatwaves, adaptation, cognition, beliefs, latent class analysis, health information

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➤ 12h30 – Salle 103 / Comodal

➤ Participer à la réunion Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/99935051449>

ID de réunion : 999 3505 1449

➤ Calendrier des séminaires

<https://urlz.fr/nv08>