

**Appendix Material for “Testing the Mechanisms of Structural Models:  
The Case of the Mickey Mantle Effect”**

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This Appendix gives details of our factor analysis results. As noted in the main text, the HRS data contains 33 health indicators that we use in our analysis. In some specifications we simply include all 33 indicators separately as controls for health. But this makes it difficult to interpret any of the individual coefficients. We also conducted a factor analysis where we reduce the 33 indicators down to 4 principal factors. In this Appendix we report that factor loadings for each factor.

Factor 1 is by far the most important. It is a poor health factor with large negative loadings on all the self-reported health measures and large positive loadings on all the physician diagnosed conditions. Factors 2 through 4 are all positive health factors whose interpretation is subtler. Factors 2 and 3 load positively on self-reported health but also load positively on stroke indicators. But while factor 2 loads negatively on the *change* in self-reported health, 3 loads positively. Factor 4 loads positively on self-reported health and negatively on hypertension and diabetes indicators. But it also loads positively on ADL limitations.

**Table A1: Factor Loadings for the Health Variables**

Variable	Health factor 1	Health factor 2	Health factor 3	Health factor 4
Self reported health excellent	-0.371	0.085	0.169	0.237
Self reported health very good or better	-0.576	0.089	0.221	0.224
Self reported health good or better	-0.680	0.044	0.170	0.012
Self reported health fair or better	-0.576	-0.010	0.084	-0.176
Change in self reported health (1 to 5)	0.384	-0.510	0.425	0.019
Number of ADL limitations (0 to 6)	0.557	0.112	0.050	0.406
Change in number of ADL limitations	0.256	0.064	0.098	0.392
Hospital stay in last two years	0.411	0.049	-0.055	-0.050
Hypertension diagnosis ever	0.325	-0.008	-0.057	-0.224
Diabetes diagnosis ever	0.348	-0.003	-0.065	-0.261
Cancer diagnosis ever	0.138	-0.050	-0.115	0.028
Lung disease diagnosis ever	0.341	-0.079	-0.119	0.187
Heart problems diagnosis ever	0.404	0.009	-0.096	-0.134
Stroke diagnosis ever	0.369	0.462	0.380	-0.143
Mental diseases diagnosis ever	0.373	-0.026	-0.103	0.107
Arthritis diagnosis ever	0.327	-0.106	-0.080	-0.042
Hypertension first diagnosis last 2 years	0.087	-0.043	0.015	-0.095
Diabetes first diagnosis last 2 years	0.139	-0.042	-0.022	-0.184
Cancer first diagnosis last 2 years	0.116	-0.063	-0.073	0.012
Lung disease first diagnosis last 2 years	0.169	-0.061	-0.051	0.112
Heart problem first diagnosis last 2 years	0.197	-0.032	-0.037	-0.113
Stroke first diagnosis last 2 years	0.244	0.326	0.330	-0.084
Mental disease first diagnosis last 2 years	0.182	-0.027	-0.020	0.067
Arthritis first diagnosis last 2 years	0.074	-0.071	0.017	-0.035
Hypertension worse	0.193	-0.022	0.036	0.021
Diabetes worse	0.195	-0.034	0.009	-0.023
Cancer worse	0.063	-0.025	-0.022	0.021
Lung disease worse	0.217	-0.052	-0.016	0.161
Heart problems worse	0.239	0.018	0.045	0.028
Mental disease worse	0.192	-0.015	0.010	0.113
Stroke remaining problems worse	0.315	0.431	0.379	-0.082
Health status variable missing	0.043	0.146	-0.162	0.038
Change in health variable missing	-0.078	0.556	-0.526	0.066
Eigenvalue	3.405	1.179	1.088	0.802

Note: For ease of interpretation, the more important negative loadings on good health indicators (or positive loadings on poor health measures) are highlighted in red. Similarly, the more important positive loadings on good health indicators (or negative loadings on bad health indicators) are highlighted in blue.