

Newsletter - Scor Chair on Mortality Research

First quarter 2025

We kicked off the year with two exciting new submissions. And for even more great news—several of our papers have been accepted for presentation at international conferences. We also had our first conference of the year in February.

Research and papers

This winter, we submitted our sixth and seventh research papers since the Chair began. It's been a productive season, and we look forward to even more submissions in the next quarter!

In **January**, *Silvia Rizzi and Cosmo Strozza* co-authored a paper with lead author Virginia Zarulli titled “[Risk of death of individuals with different comorbidity profiles during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)”. The paper investigates how comorbidities diagnosed prior to the pandemic interacted with COVID-19 and whether the mortality risk for individuals with comorbidities changed during the pandemic.

Additionally, *Silvia Rizzi* submitted a paper with lead author Ainhoa-Elena Leger and co-author Ugofilippo Basellini to the *International Journal of Forecasting* titled “[Modelling and short-term forecasting of seasonal mortality](#)”. The paper evaluates which specification of a Poisson regression for seasonal mortality, a commonly used model to predict expected mortality and quantify excess mortality, yields more accurate predictions.

Conferences and dissemination

We are pleased to announce that we received acceptances at two major demographic conferences. Additionally, our PhD student recently presented at a key conference for young demographers—an important opportunity to network and connect with peers.

Young Demographer Conference, Prague, 5-7 February 2025

- Elizaveta Ukolova presented her ongoing work on “[Hidden Mortality Dynamics in Surface Plots: A Contrasting View with Underlying vs. Multiple Causes of Death in the U.S., 1960–2022](#)” in an oral presentation – Check the program: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ANk2xr69Wri5kJZzGuKN76NcHg9PGTSFB_7FkvQs_w/edit?tab=t.0

International Population Conference in Brisbane Australia, 13-18 July 2025.

- [Modelling Interactions between Multiple Causes of Death Using Causal Pies](#), by Elizaveta Ukolova has been accepted for an oral presentation in the session *Chronic Diseases and Multimorbidity*

Nordic Demographic Symposium in Middelfart Denmark, June 10-12 2025.

- [Competing Causes of Death: Quantifying the Probability of Dying from One Cause Before Another](#), by Marie-Pier Bergeron-Boucher, Elizaveta Ukolova and Cosmo Strozza has been accepted for an oral presentation.
- [Bridging Morbidity and Mortality: Analysis of Mortality by Disability and Interrelated Causes of death using Czech administrative data](#), by Elizaveta Ukolova and Cosmo Strozza has been accepted for a poster presentation.
- [Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cohort life expectancy](#), by Silvia Rizzi was also accepted for a poster presentation.