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Section B

Valuing Health States and Relating to
Measuring Health States

Steps in Valuing Health States

- Measuring health states
- Defining use of measurement
- Process of valuing
- Defining timeframe
- Defining perspective
- ... establishing a scale and using it

1. Measuring Health States

- Characteristics of instruments to measure health states for SMPH
 - Scope: specifying domains
 - Duration: short- and long-term disability
 - Severity: degree of limitation
- Other issues
 - Self-reported
 - Wording issues
 - Means of administration

2. SMPH and Disability

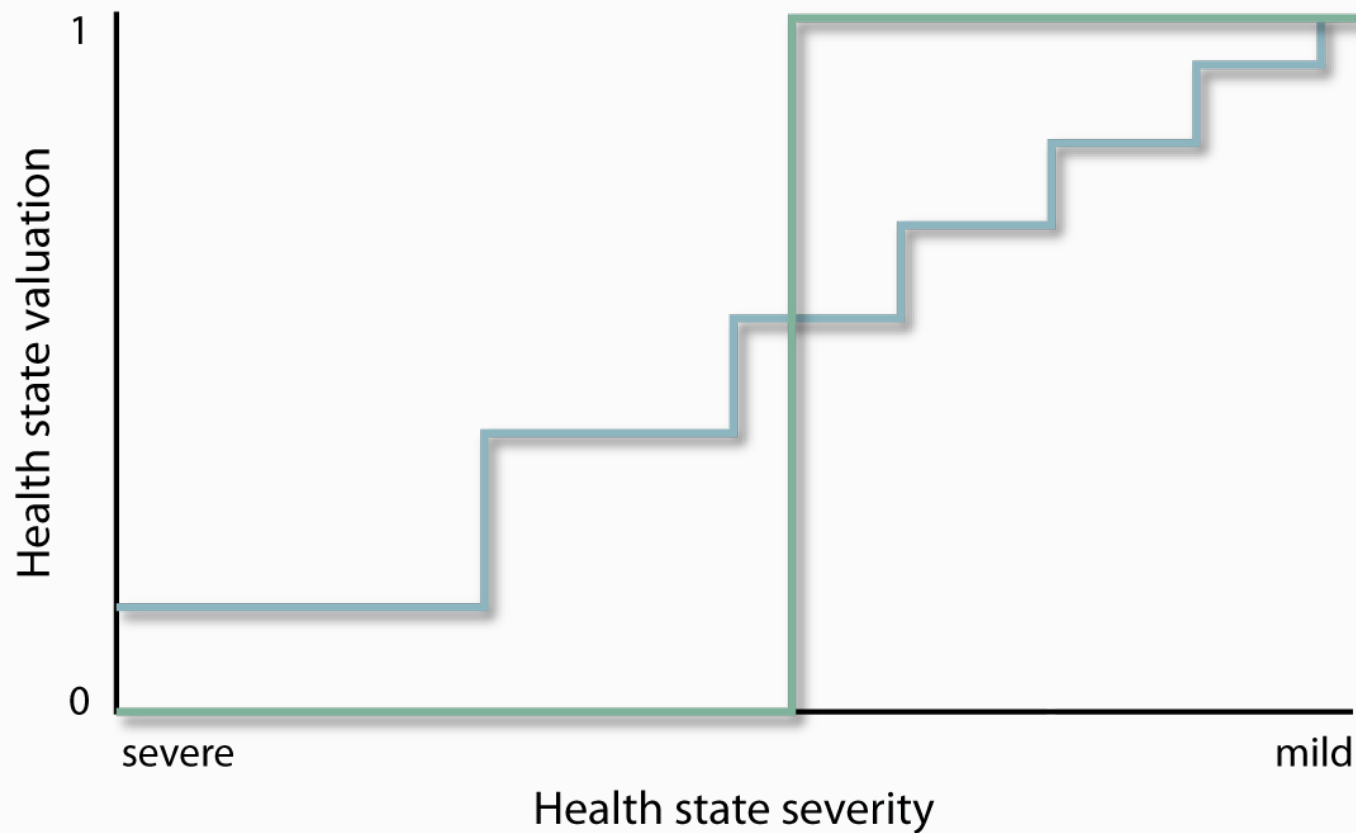
- Value sets vary with the intended use of SMPH—important to recognize
- Descriptive use
 - Comparative purpose
 - Relative severity of states
 - Between and within diseases
 - Invariant over time and countries
 - Rationale for single disability scale in GBD
- Causative use (attribution)

2. SMPH and Disability (cont.)

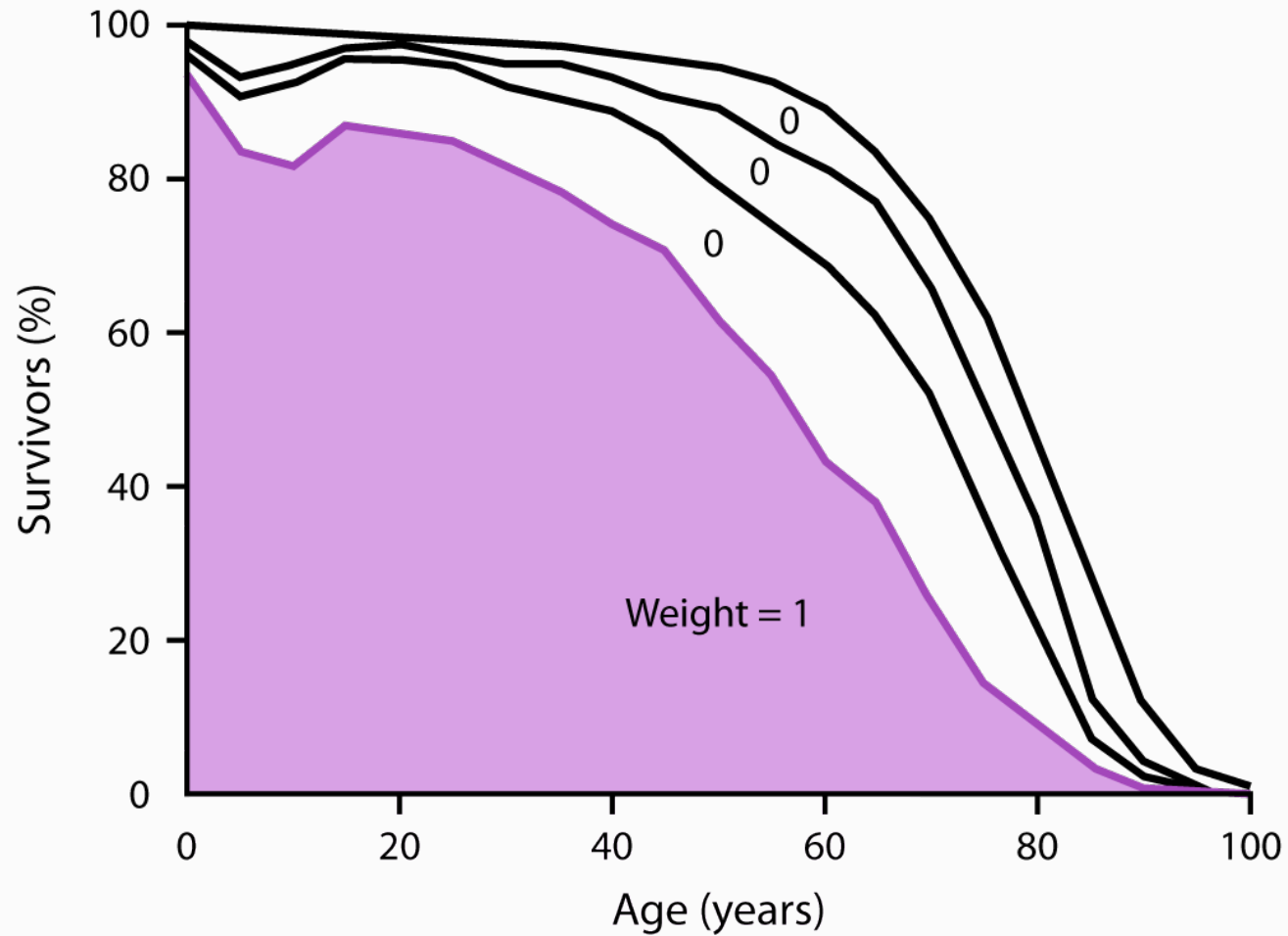
- Evaluative use
 - Resource allocation decisions
 - Disability vs. other values
 - Notions of distributive justice
 - Integrated within equations or separate
- ... therefore disability measurement is not an end in itself ... but for a purpose
- ... consistency between epidemiological data and disability information

Valuations of Time in Health States Worse Than Perfect

- Valuations of time spent in health states worse than perfect



Disability-free Life Expectancy



3. Valuing Health States

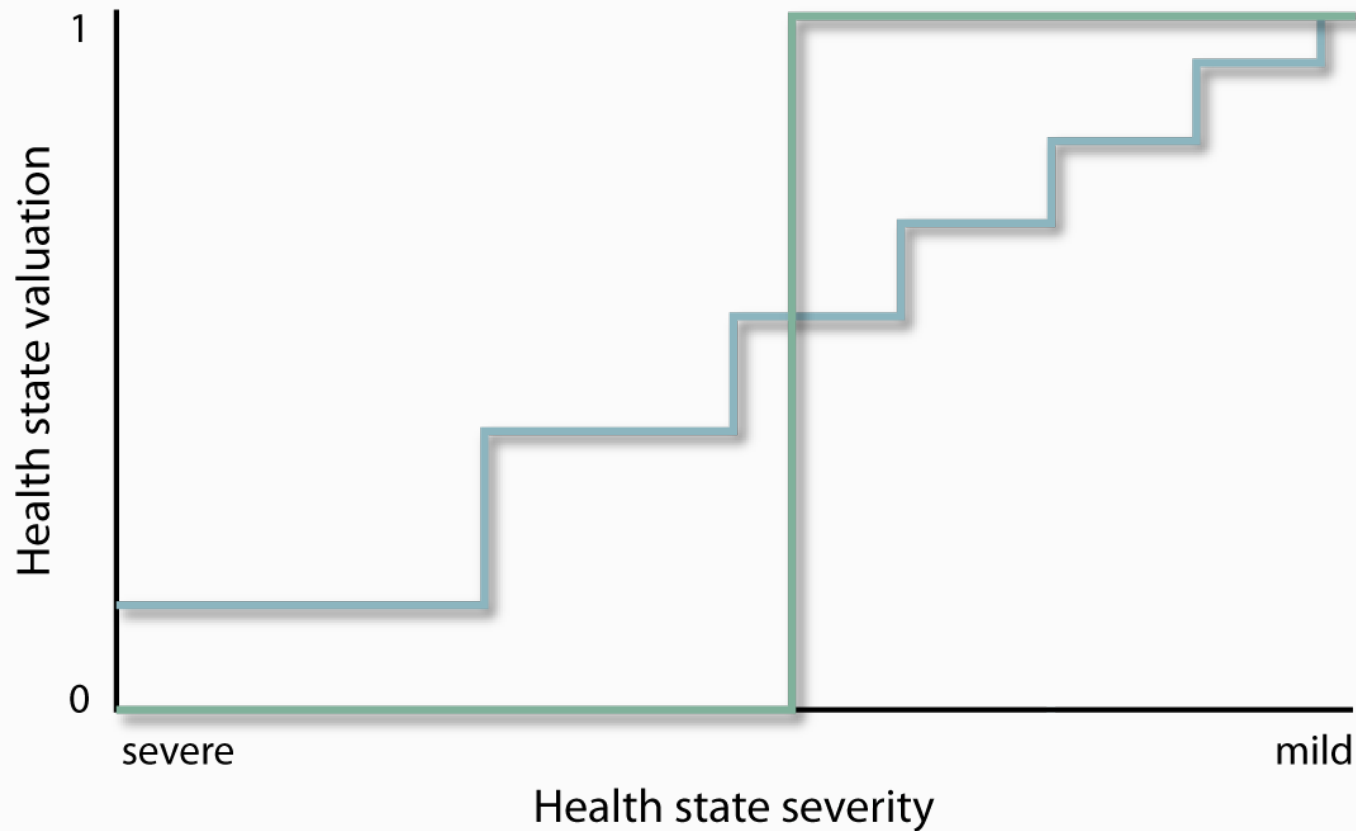
- Description of health states is the first step
- Deciding what they mean in terms of their impact on health is another
- Captured by terms of level of disability or severity or degree of impairment
- Several methods available—each with its own strengths and weaknesses
- No universal consensus on either methods or results!

Valuing ...

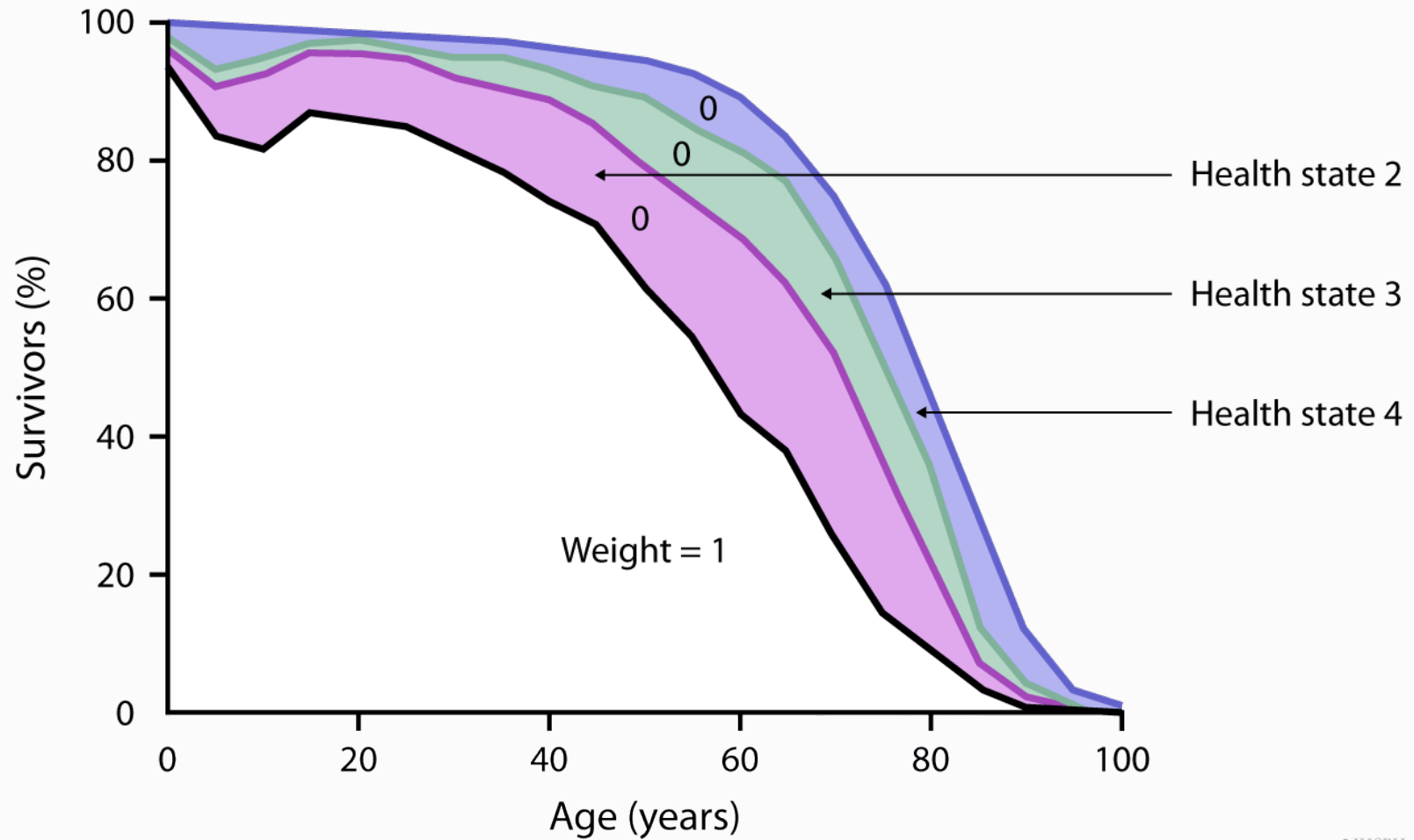
- Disease-specific health states or generic ones can be valued
- The disease label may have intrinsic information for valuing
- Making sense for the natural history of disease concept

Valuations of Time in Health States Worse Than Perfect

- Valuations of time spent in health states worse than perfect



Health Expectancies



Years of Life with and without Specified Disabilities

- Expected years of life at birth free of, and with, specified types of disability, 1994 (United States)

Expected length of life ...	Total	Males	Females
Total	75.7	72.6	78.8
Free of any limitation	62.1	60.3	64.0
Free of major disability	71.5	68.4	74.5
Able to perform personal care	74.3	71.5	77.1
With some limitation, not major	9.4	8.1	10.5
With major disability but can PPC	2.8	3.1	2.6
Unable to perform personal care	1.4	1.1	1.7

4. Time

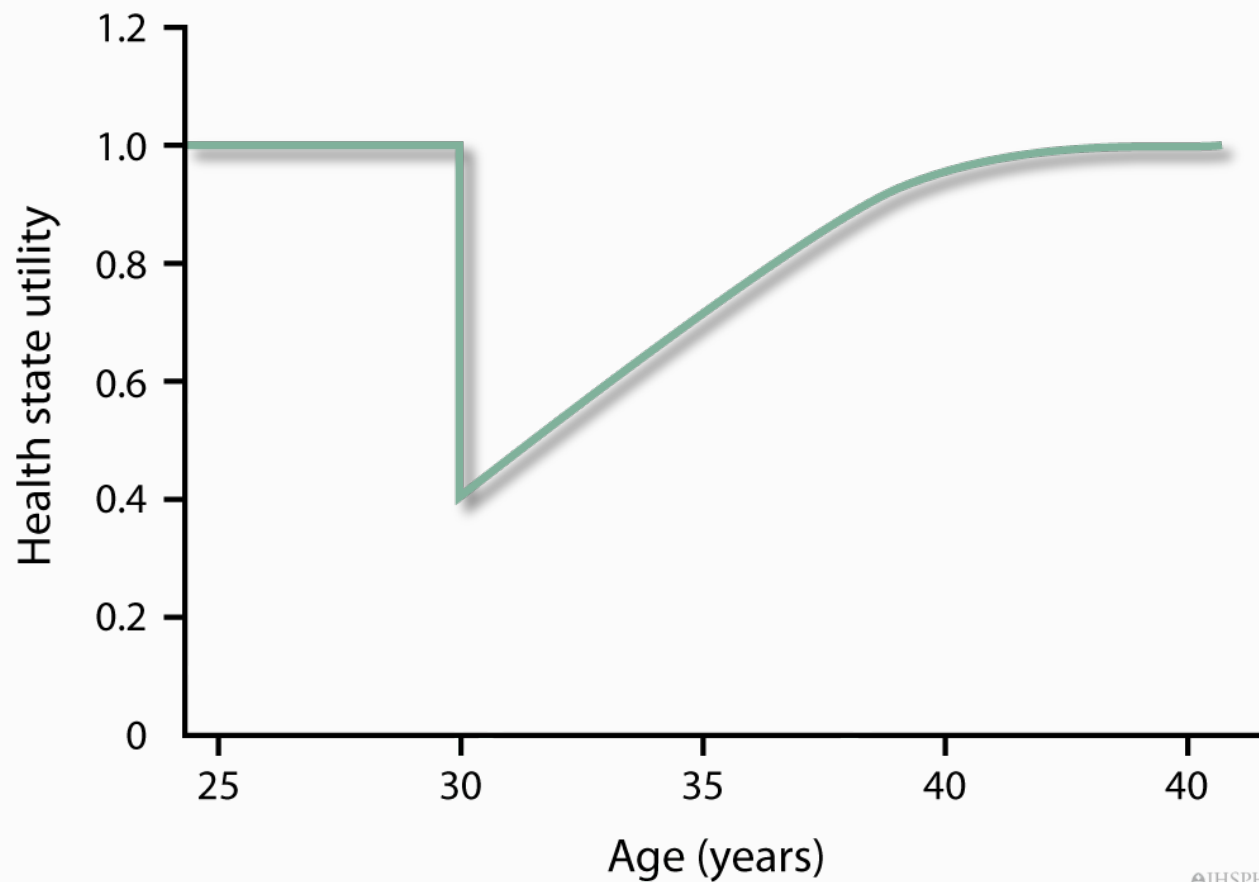
- Impacts valuing of disability
- Usually states of one-year duration have been used
- Assumption that disability weight and duration are independent is questioned
- Permanent, temporary, episodic ... may be defined, but do we have data?

5. Whose Values?

- Societal perspective—who represents?
 - The general public?
- Educated and experienced professionals?
 - Physicians and health people
- Those who are disabled?
 - Adaptation and coping

Health State Utility Over Time: Example

Health State Utility Over Time of an Individual Who Experiences a Spinal Cord Transection at Age 30 and Becomes Paraplegic



Whose Values?

- Societal perspective—who represents?
 - The general public?
- Educated and experienced professionals?
 - Physicians and health people
- Those who are disabled?
 - Adaptation and coping
- Those who take care of disabled?
 - Value of the experience

Case Study: Valuations

- Group work

Conditions for You to Value

- Blindness
- Below the knee amputation
- Infertility
- Sore throat

Process

- Each student to take the four conditions and rate them on the simple scale provided
- It is a “visual” scale with fixed end points
- 1 = dead, 0 = full health
- Then discuss in your group and provide a group consensus for each condition
- Present the range, mean, median of your results

Discussion for LiveTalk

- Cases vs. Conditions