

Examining Differences in Self-Reported Health and Access to Health Care Among People with Early- and Late-Onset Disability

Abstract

This study wanted to see how people with disabilities, some who had their disabilities early in life and others who got them later, feel about their health and getting medical help. They asked adults between 18 and 62 years old about these things in a big survey.

Here's what was found:

1. People who had disabilities from an early age were more likely to get something called "Supplemental Security Income" (SSI) and Medicaid to help with their money and healthcare. But they were less likely to have "Social Security Disability Insurance" (SSDI) and Medicare.
2. People who got disabilities later in life were more likely to say they had problems getting certain healthcare services, and they were more likely to say their health was just "fair" or "poor."

Overall, this study tells us that people who got disabilities later in life might have a tougher time with healthcare and money for healthcare. Doctors and people who help with disabilities should think about how to help them get the right health insurance and services they need.

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