

The University of Chicago

Department of Statistics

Seminar Series

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“Accounting for Confounding by Time in a Semi-parametric Air Pollution Model”

**WEDNESDAY, December 1, 2004, at 1:00 PM
110 Eckhart Hall, 5734 S. University Avenue**

ABSTRACT

This talk will present work done in a Bayesian model of air-pollution on the frequency of asthma attacks. As is the case in many air pollution and other models, time serves as a confounder. Non-parametric smoothing is one way to account for the effect on time on the response, but choosing the right amount of smoothing to perform is difficult. We will explore whether model selection methods for smoothing can or should be altered when the goal is to account for confounding rather than simply to eliminate statistical noise. Preliminary results of a simulation study will be presented.