

OR 1-2 The Effects of social Interactions, Living Conditions and Satisfaction  
 1th Status: A Structural Analysis of Urban Elderly Dwellers in Tibet of China

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**[Introduction]** It is important to improve the quality of lives of urban elderly people in Tibet by studying how to maintain and enhance their social interactions and living conditions.

**[Purpose]** The purpose of this cross-sectional study is to explore how the effects of social interactions, living conditions, and satisfaction on health status of the urban elderly people in Tibet of China.

**[Methods]** 13 of 38 communities were randomly selected from Lhasa and Xigaze by cluster sampling method in August, 2009. This study was based on a questionnaire survey responded by 1,845 elderly individuals who aged 60 and over. The response rate was 93.2%. The elderly were divided into 4 groups to compare with each other by gender and age (Table 1).

**[Results]** From the result of an exploratory factor analysis, three factors, “social interactions”, “living conditions”, and “health status” which were extracted from 34 observed variables were defined as latent variables. According to the analysis results, on one hand, satisfaction had direct effect on health status; on the other hand, social interactions, living conditions could not only have direct effects on health status, but could affect elderly people’s health status affect indirectly as well. (Fig.

1, 2).

**[Discussions and Conclusions]** Social interactions with high quality can improve health status of elderly people. It can make the urban elderly in good health status to have convenient and good living conditions, especially for male elderly people. Moreover, satisfaction can strengthen the effects from social interactions and living conditions on health status.

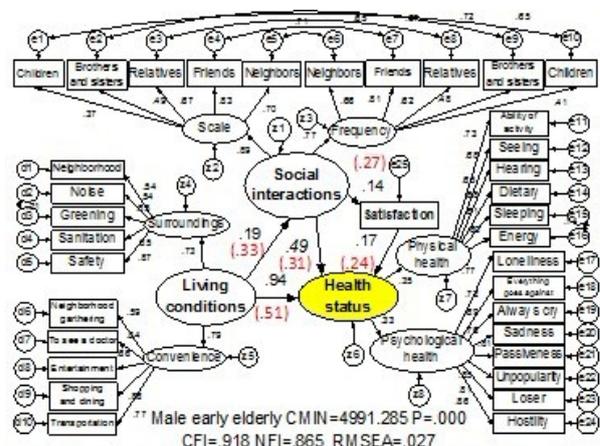


Fig.1 The structural analysis among early elderly people in Tibet of China (Female early elderly)

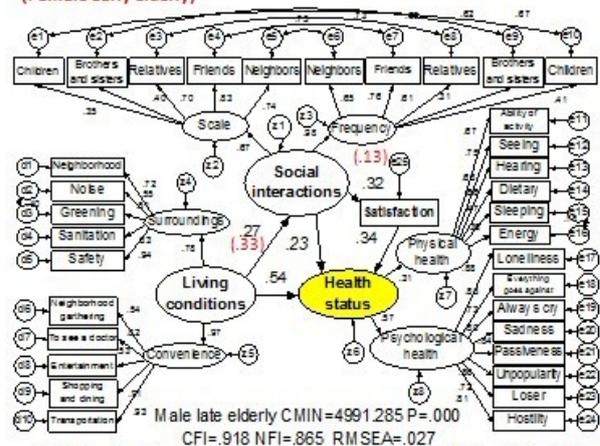


Fig.2 The structural analysis among late elderly people in Tibet of China (Female late elderly)

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