

Contents

Introduction

- Determinants of unusual and differential longevity: an introduction** 1
Graziella Caselli and Marc Luy

Refereed Articles

Methodological issues for studying longevity and mortality

- Mortality deceleration is not informative of unobserved heterogeneity in open groups** 15
Elizabeth Wrigley-Field

- Modal age at death: lifespan indicator in the era of longevity extension . . .** 37
Shiro Horiuchi, Nadine Ouellette, Siu Lan Karen Cheung and Jean-Marie Robine

- Surviving to be the oldest old—destiny or chance?** 71
Jon Anson

Longevity islands

- The Blue Zones: areas of exceptional longevity around the world** 87
Michel Poulain, Anne Herm and Gianni Pes

- The Nicoya region of Costa Rica: a high longevity island for elderly males** 109
Luis Rosero-Bixby, William H. Dow and David H. Rehkopf

- Regional hot spots of exceptional longevity in Germany** 137
Sebastian Klüsener and Rembrandt D. Scholz

Longevity and mortality of specific risk groups

- Lifetime abstainers and mortality risk in the United States** 165
Richard G. Rogers, Patrick M. Krueger, Richard Miech and Elizabeth M. Lawrence

- The longevity of academicians: evidence from the Saxonian Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Leipzig** 185
Maria Winkler-Dworak and Heiner Kaden

Evidence of resiliency among long-lived smokers	205
<i>Morgan E. Levine and Eileen M. Crimmins</i>	
Ethnicity, russification and excess mortality in Kazakhstan	219
<i>Ethan J. Sharygin and Michel Guillot</i>	
Survival to old and oldest-old age: Familial and contextual determinants	
Exploring Sardinian longevity: women fertility and parental transmission of longevity	247
<i>Graziella Caselli, Rosa Maria Lipsi, Enrica Lapucci and James W. Vaupel</i>	
Maternal age, birth order and other early-life factors: a family-level approach to exploring exceptional survival	267
<i>Valérie Jarry, Alain Gagnon and Robert Bourbeau</i>	
Determinants of exceptional human longevity: new ideas and findings	295
<i>Leonid A. Gavrilov and Natalia S. Gavrilova</i>	
Familial transmission of human longevity: a population-based study in an inland village of Sardinia (Italy), 1850–2010	325
<i>Luisa Salaris, Nicola Tedesco and Michel Poulain</i>	