

2020 CFPR Lunchtime Seminar Series

## AGING AND HEALTH AMONG HISPANICS, AMERICA'S LARGEST MINORITY POPULATION

The Hispanic/Latino population of the United States has recently reached 60 million, making it by far the largest of the country's minority population comprising 18% of the total. While it is still growing, its rate of growth has declined in recent years as both fertility and immigration have declined. The majority of the Hispanic population are of Mexican-origin. While still relatively young, the population is aging rapidly. In the last few decades, we have observed a Hispanic Epidemiologic Paradox of relatively good health despite a high-risk profile especially with respect to the population's low average socioeconomic status. Official life tables have estimated a clear mortality advantage among Hispanics driven largely by migration selection or a healthy immigrant effect. Data from our long-running Hispanic Established Population for the Epidemiological Study of the Elderly (1992-2023) have suggested that the population's rising longevity has been accompanied by rising comorbidity, disability, and cognitive impairment, giving rise to increasing caregiving burden on family members. An overall profile of the study is presented along with an outline of plans for the future.



Kyriakos S. Markides received his Ph.D. in Sociology in 1976 from Louisiana State University. He is currently the Annie and John Gritzinger Distinguished Professor of Aging and Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Dr. Markides is the Editor of the Journal of Aging and Health, which he founded in 1989. He is the author or co-author of over 400 publications most of which are on aging and health issues in the Mexican American population as well as minority aging issues in general. His research has been funded continuously by the National Institutes of Health since 1980. He is currently Principal Investigator of the Hispanic EPESE (Established Population for the Epidemiological Study of the Elderly), a longitudinal study of the health of older Mexican Americans from the five Southwestern states. He is also Principal Investigator of the National Institute on Aging-funded Texas Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR). Dr. Markides is credited with coining the term 'Hispanic Epidemiological Paradox' (with J. Coreil) which is currently the leading theme in Hispanic health. The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) has listed Dr. Markides among the most highly cited social scientists in the world. Dr. Markides is the recipient of a number of awards including the 2015 Robert W. Kleemeier Award from the Gerontological Society of America for his contributions to research on aging.

**Chaired by: A/Prof Bussarawan Puk Teerawichitchainan**  
Department of Sociology, Deputy Director of CFPR, NUS

**Date: 10 January 2020 | Time: 12.00noon - 1.30pm**  
**Venue: FASS Research Division Seminar Room, AS7-06-42**

**Light lunch is provided. Registration is required.**  
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/v9po43m>