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Research Article

Modelling vulnerability to gambling related harm: How disadvantage predicts gambling losses

Angela C. Rintoul , Charles Livingstone, Andrew P. Mellor & Damien Jolley

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Abstract

Electron... and club... in Austr... difficulty... gamblin... often... relat... of Statis... losses at... spatial n... reveal in... highest mean annual EGM losses of \$845 per adult (55% of \$A\$1,515) occurred in

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as hotels expenditure cause of the e of (gaming) is amines the ilian Bureau nd EGM edictive e findings files. The e occurred in



areas classified in IRSD Quintile 1, the most disadvantaged areas; in the least disadvantaged areas, mean annual losses were \$298 per adult (CI \$260 –\$342). The density of EGMs confounds the relationship between losses and disadvantage. In this model, 40% of the apparent effect of disadvantage is explained by the density of EGMs. The vulnerability surface reflects socioeconomic patterns across Melbourne. EGM vulnerability is clustered (Moran's Index 0.52; $p < 0.001$). High levels of EGM density in disadvantaged areas are contributing to a disproportionate share of EGM losses in already disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Regulation of EGMs could be improved to better protect vulnerable neighbourhoods from EGM harm.

Gambling EGM slots socioeconomic disadvantage public health policy GIS

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