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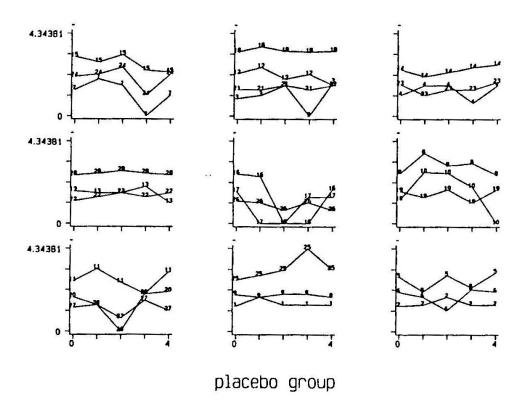


Figure 9.1 Response profiles in placebo group.

The resulting graphs are shown in Figure 9.1 and 9.2. There is no obvious improvement in the progabide group. Subject 49 had more epileptic fits overall than any other subject. However, since we are going to control for the baseline measure, it is an unusual shape (not the overall level) of the response profile that makes a subject an outlier.

As discussed in Chapter 7, the most plausible distribution for count data is the Poisson distribution. The Poisson distribution is specified in **xtgee** models using the option family(poisson). The log link is implied (since it is the canonical link). The summary tables for the seizure data given above provide strong empirical evidence that there is overdispersion (the variances are greater than the means) and this can be incorporated using the scale(x2) option to allow the dispersion parameter  $\phi$  to be estimated (see also Chapter 7).

```
iis subj
xtgee y treat baseline age week, corr(exc) family(pois) /*
    */ scale(x2)
```

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