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Informal caregivers' judgements on sharing care with home care professionals from an intersectional perspective: the influence of personal and situational characteristics

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INTRODUCTION

European policy emphasis on providing informal care at home causes caregivers and home care professionals having more contact with each other, which makes it important for them to find satisfying ways to share care. It is unclear what conditions foster a negative judgement among caregivers on professional support. To improve our understanding of social inequities in caregiving experiences, this study adopts an intersectional perspective.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS / AIM

- To describe caregivers' judgements regarding sharing care with home care professionals when taking into account their various backgrounds.
- To find out whether personal (such as gender) and situational characteristics (such as the care recipients' impairment) are related to caregivers' judgements and to consider the interaction between these characteristics.

METHODS

Data of the Netherlands Institute for Social Research, representative sample of Dutch population. Dependent variable: a 1-4 scale on "caregiver judgement" ($\alpha = 0.69$).

- Bivariate and multivariate linear regression analysis (N = 292).
- Multiplicative approach to examine the relationship between mutually constituting factors of the caregivers' judgement.

MORE INFORMATION AND CONTACT

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(PRELIMINARY) RESULTS

Influence of personal and situational characteristics on the caregivers' judgement R ² = 0,29 N = 292		
	Coef.	P>[t]
Gender		
Male	0 (base)	
Female	-0,07	0,354
Age		
65+	0 (base)	
45-64	-0,07	0,534
16-44	-0,25	0,034
Employment status		
Not working / < 12 hours	0 (base)	
Working > 12 hours	-0,16	0,069
Level of education		
Lower education	0 (base)	
Intermediate education	-0,04	0,676
Higher education	-0,24	0,007
Household situation		
With a partner	0 (base)	
Alone	0,05	0,567
Self-reported health		
Not obstructed	0 (base)	
Slightly obstructed	-0,24	0,010
Heavily obstructed	-0,44	0,001

	Coef.	P>[t]
Care motives		
I like to take care	0,22	0,013
I think I should care	-0,11	0,127
I like to do it for him/her	0,00	0,966
There is no one else	-0,31	0,000
Relationship		
Partner	0 (base)	
Adult-child	-0,21	0,061
Other family members	-0,38	0,003
Friends/neighbours	-0,41	0,001
Impairment		
Physical	0 (base)	
Mental	-0,02	0,828
Help from others		
No	0 (base)	
Yes	-0,06	0,486
Type of provided care		
Home nursing care	0 (base)	
Domestic help	-0,22	0,035
Social support	-0,08	0,421

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

Caregivers who provide help to people with a mental impairment are at risk of being less satisfied about sharing care compared to others, especially when they are aged between 45 and 64, have a paid job or when they provide care to a parent or child. This underlines the importance for professionals to pay extra attention to these groups of caregivers.