

PRiMHE

Programme in the Methods of Health Economics

‘Estimating the monetary value of informal care provided to people living with dementia using a discrete-choice experiment.’

Dr Lidia Engel

Dr Lidia Engel is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Deakin Health Economics, based at the Institute for Health Transformation (Melbourne, Australia). She holds a PhD from Simon Fraser University (Canada), a MSc degree in Health Sciences from Maastricht University (The Netherlands) and a BSc degree in Health Economics from the University of Cologne (Germany). As a health economist by training, she has a great interest in methodological approaches when assessing the cost-effectiveness of different health care interventions. She specialised in the measurement and valuation of quality of life and informal care, as well as the economics of mental health and ageing. She has advanced skills in undertaking trial-based and model-based economic evaluation, systematic literature reviews, psychometric validation studies and qualitative research. In her current role at Deakin Health Economics, Lidia is leading the *Economics of Ageing and Dementia stream*, undertaking a broad program of economics research with the aim to improve the quality of life and care for older adults and their informal carers. She is currently a member of the EuroQol group, a membership officer for the Australian Health Economics Society (AHES), and sits on the scientific advisory committee of *Ending Loneliness Together*, a national network that addresses the growing problem of loneliness in Australia.

Date: 09 November 2021/12:00 – 13:00 CET

Virtual Webex Event (login details will be announced closer to the date)

Summary

Traditionally, informal care hours have been valued using the opportunity cost method (i.e. values informal care by foregone wages) or the proxy good method (i.e. values informal care at the price of the market substitute; also known as the replacement cost method). However, both methods are insensitive to the different circumstances of informal carers and are unable to reflect the preferences of informal carers. This lecture will present findings from a study that employed a discrete choice experiment (DCE) methodology to estimate the value of informal care provided to people with dementia. First, a literature review of qualitative studies was undertaken in bibliographic databases, exploring carers' positive and negative experiences. Themes identified in the review were further tested for importance and wording in qualitative interviews with carers of people living with dementia. Following two rounds of consultation with an advisory group, the final list of DCE attributes and levels was developed that describe four carers' experiences, in addition to the attributes 'hours of care provided' and the 'monetary compensation from the government'. A D-efficient design was developed using Ngene, which yielded 90 choice sets that were further divided into nine blocks to reduce respondents' cognitive burden. Each participant received one block randomly and was asked to answer 10 choice sets, in addition to one dominant choice set. The DCE survey has been administered to a representative sample of the Australian general population as well as a group of informal carers of people with dementia. This talk will present findings from the DCE survey and will contrast the views of the general public and informal carers in terms of the level of compensation needed to provide an additional hour of informal care to a person with dementia.

This lecture is accredited with 1 DFP-point for members of the Austrian Medical Chamber.



CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA
Department of Health Economics

For further information and registration (free) please contact:

Margit Leeb, E-mail: primhe@meduniwien.ac.at,

Telephone: +43 1 40160 34848

<http://healtheconomics.meduniwien.ac.at/primhe/>