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Pan-European Network

Welcome to Hamburg!

EUROFAMCARE Final Conference
Hamburg 18th of November 2005

Family Care of Older People in Europe

The 5th Framework Programme:
Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources

Services for Supporting Family Carers of Elderly People in Europe:
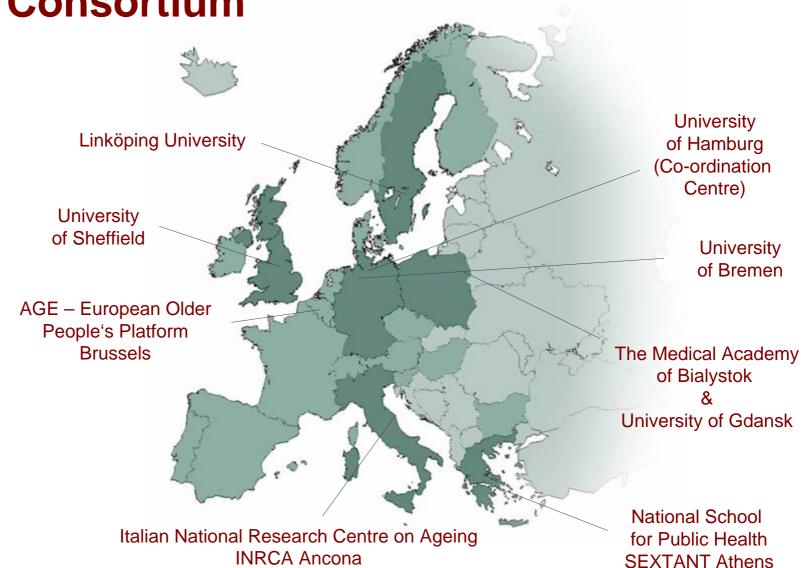
Characteristics, Coverage and Usage

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Key Action 6: The Ageing Population and Disabilities
6.5: Health and Social Care Services to older People

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Consortium

Linköping University

University of Hamburg (Co-ordination Centre)

University of Sheffield

University of Bremen

AGE – European Older People's Platform Brussels

The Medical Academy of Bialystok & University of Gdansk

Italian National Research Centre on Ageing INRCA Ancona

National School for Public Health SEXTANT Athens

Services for Family Carers in Europe:
Characteristics, Usage, and Acceptability

Giovanni Lamura, Beata Wojszel and
Barbro Krevers

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2. Service "effectiveness"

Aims and methods

- AIMS of this section of the study:
  - To find determinants of Negative Impact of caring factor
  - To evaluate the influence of using supporting services (in general and different types of services) by Carers/Elders on negative outcomes of caring
- METHOD: multivariate regression analysis (standard; stepwise backward and forward) in overall sample

The procedure

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CARING

INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

MODEL 1
- Older Person's situation
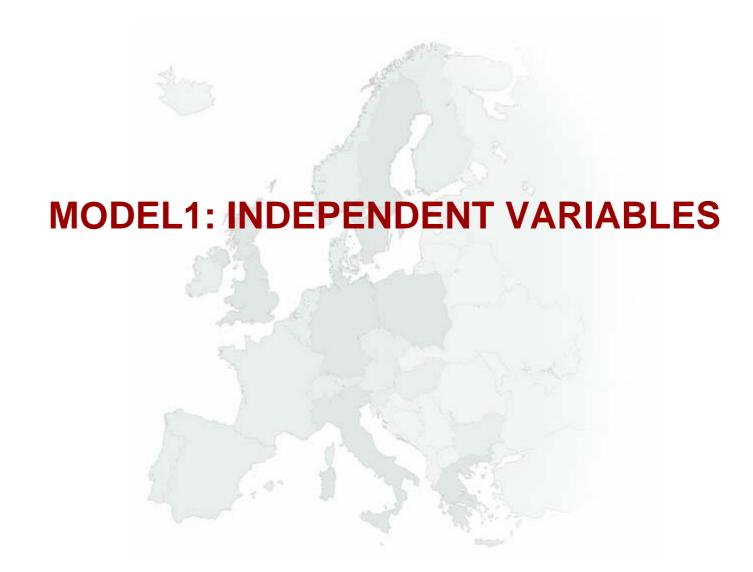- Carer's situation
- Service (non-) usage

MODEL 2
MODEL 1 + countries of living

MODEL 3
MODEL 2 + usage of different categories of services for carers and elders

MODEL1: INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

Older person's situation

- Demographics (e.g. age)
- Caring needs (e.g. ADL/IADL, behavioural problems)
- Financial situation

Carer's situation

- Demographics (e.g. age, gender, place of living)
- Caring tasks (e.g. average number of hours of care)
- Support network
- Reasons for starting caring
- Positive impact of caring

Service (non-)usage

- **Use**
  - Elder's needs covered by formal support
  - Total number of services used by Elder/ Carer
- **Non-usage**
  - There are services that Carer/Elder need but they have not used them so far
  - Carer perceived need for more support
- **Financial availability**
  - Help provided (by services/ other organisations) to carer and cared-for person is not too expensive

Model 1

MODEL 1

Dependent variable-

NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CARING

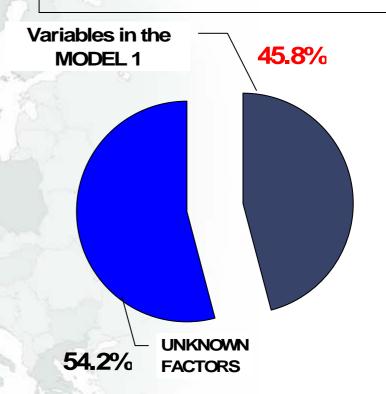- – Total score on 7-Items subscale of the COPE Index

Independent variables

- Older Person's situation
- Carer's situation
- Service (non-) usage

METHOD – standard multivariate regression analysis

RESULTS

- **N=3796;**
- **adjusted R^2= 0.4576**
- **S.E.- 3.3**
- **F=115.33**
- **p<0.0001**

Percentage of explained variance of Negative Impact of Caring

Variables in the MODEL 1

45.8%

54.2% UNKNOWN FACTORS

Model 2 and 3

MODEL 2
Independent variables
   MODEL1 + countries of living
RESULTS
   •adjusted R2= 0.5228
(MODEL 1+ 6.52% of variance)

MODEL 3
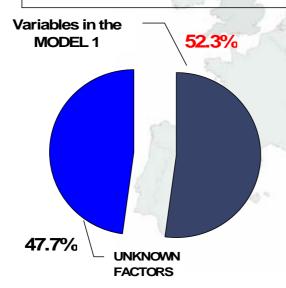**Independent variables**
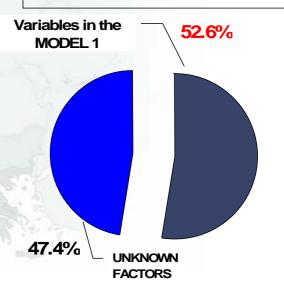   MODEL2 + usage of different categories of
      services for carers and elders
RESULTS
   •adjusted R2= 0.5262
(MODEL 2 +0.34% of variance)

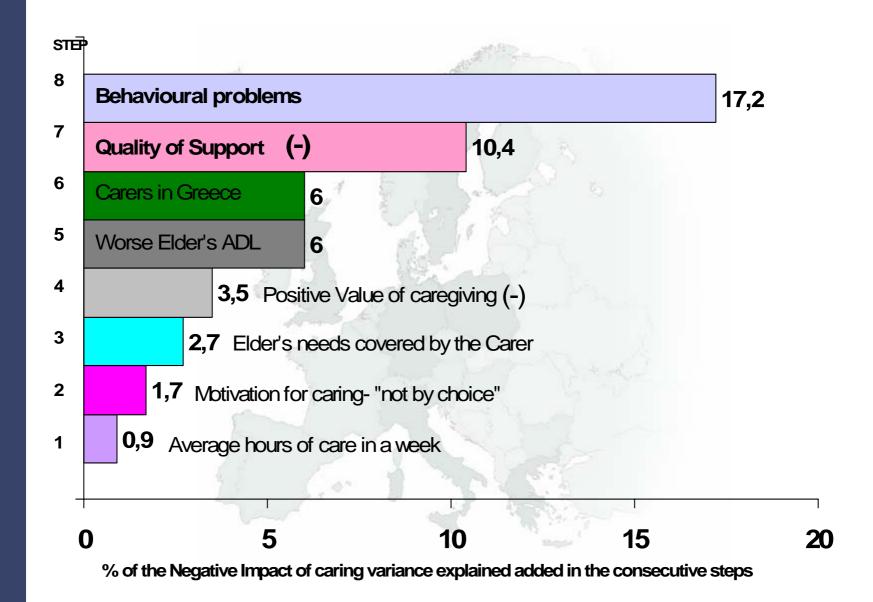**Percentage of explained variance of Negative Impact of Caring**

Variables in the MODEL 1

52.3%

47.7%

UNKNOWN FACTORS

Percentage of explained variance of Negative Impact of Caring

Variables in the MODEL 1

52.6%

47.4%

UNKNOWN FACTORS

Determinants of Negative Impact of caring (1)
(stepwise forward regression analysis – MODEL 3)

STEP

8 Behavioural problems — 17,2

7 Quality of Support (-) — 10,4

6 Carers in Greece — 6

5 Worse Elder's ADL — 6

4 3,5 Positive Value of caregiving (-)

3 2,7 Elder's needs covered by the Carer

2 1,7 Motivation for caring- "not by choice"

1 0,9 Average hours of care in a week

0   5   10   15   20

% of the Negative Impact of caring variance explained added in the consecutive steps

Determinants of Negative Impact of caring (2)
(stepwise forward regression analysis – MODEL 3)

STEP

- **17** | **0,1** Worse IADL ability
- **16** | **0,2** Elder's needs covered by other informal support **(–)**
- **15** | **0,2** **Total number of services used by Elder (-)**
- **14** | **0,2** **Cohabiting non-family paid carer**
- **13** | **0,3** Carers in Poland **(-)**
- **12** | **0,3** Cohabitation
- **11** | **0,5** **There are services that Carer/ Elder need but they have not used**
- **10** | **1** **Carer perceived need for more support to Elder**
- **9** | **1** Carers in Sweden

0   10   20

% of the Negative Impact of caring variance explained added in the consecutive steps

Summary

- Throughout Europe, negative impact of caring on family carers is mostly associated with main characteristics and needs of older person in need of care, the intensity of the caring tasks performed by the carer, the strength of the carer's support network and the type of services used (single country situations may differ).

- The usage of some types of services is significantly connected with a more negative impact of caring, probably explained by the fact that the usage of these services is higher for more frail elderly-carers dyads.

- In further analyses, the findings need to be integrated by those derived from the analysis of the follow-up survey focussing on determinants of change in carers' outcome and service use to produce comprehensible picture and prove the direction of the detected associations.