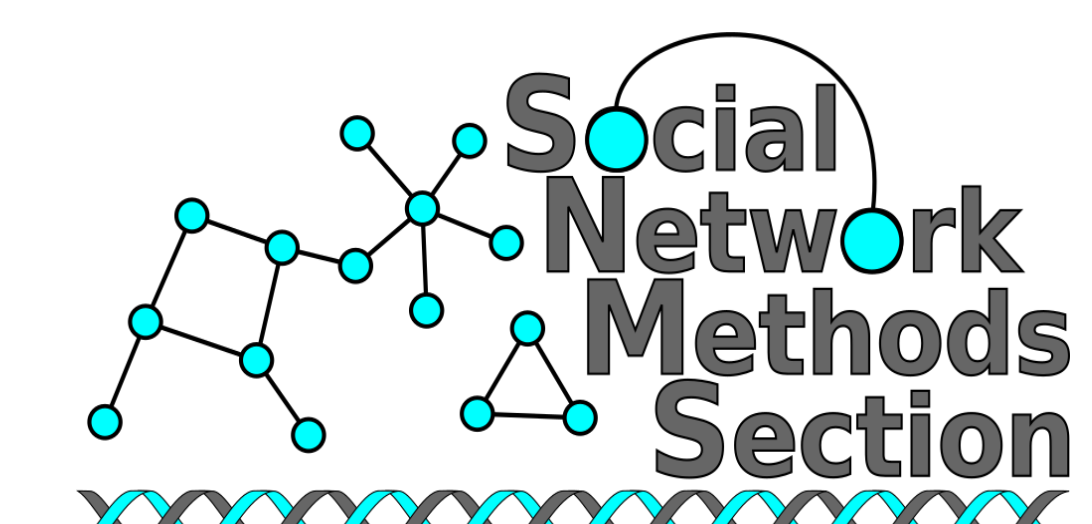


# Gender Differences in Division of Labor and Network Utilization in Rare Disease Caregivers



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## INTRODUCTION

- 60% of informal caregivers identify as women
- Elevated caregiving burden and depression
- Gender differences in time spent caregiving and use of network
- Similar health outcomes for rare disease caregivers

## AIMS

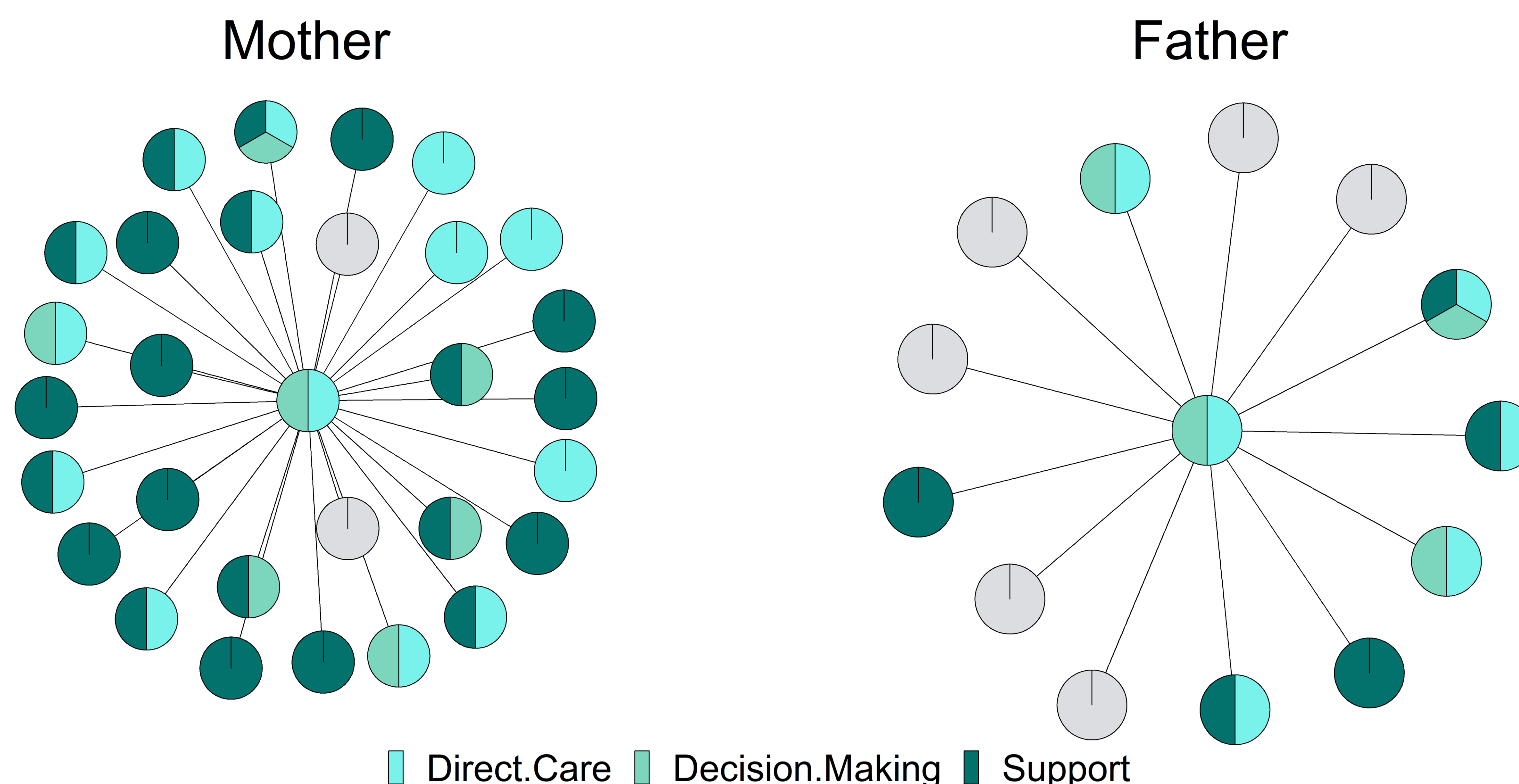
- Assess for gender differences in:
  - Network Utilization
  - Participation in Caregiving Activities
- Examine
  - Perception of partner's involvement in caregiving
  - Impact of dis/agreement on mental wellbeing

## METHODS

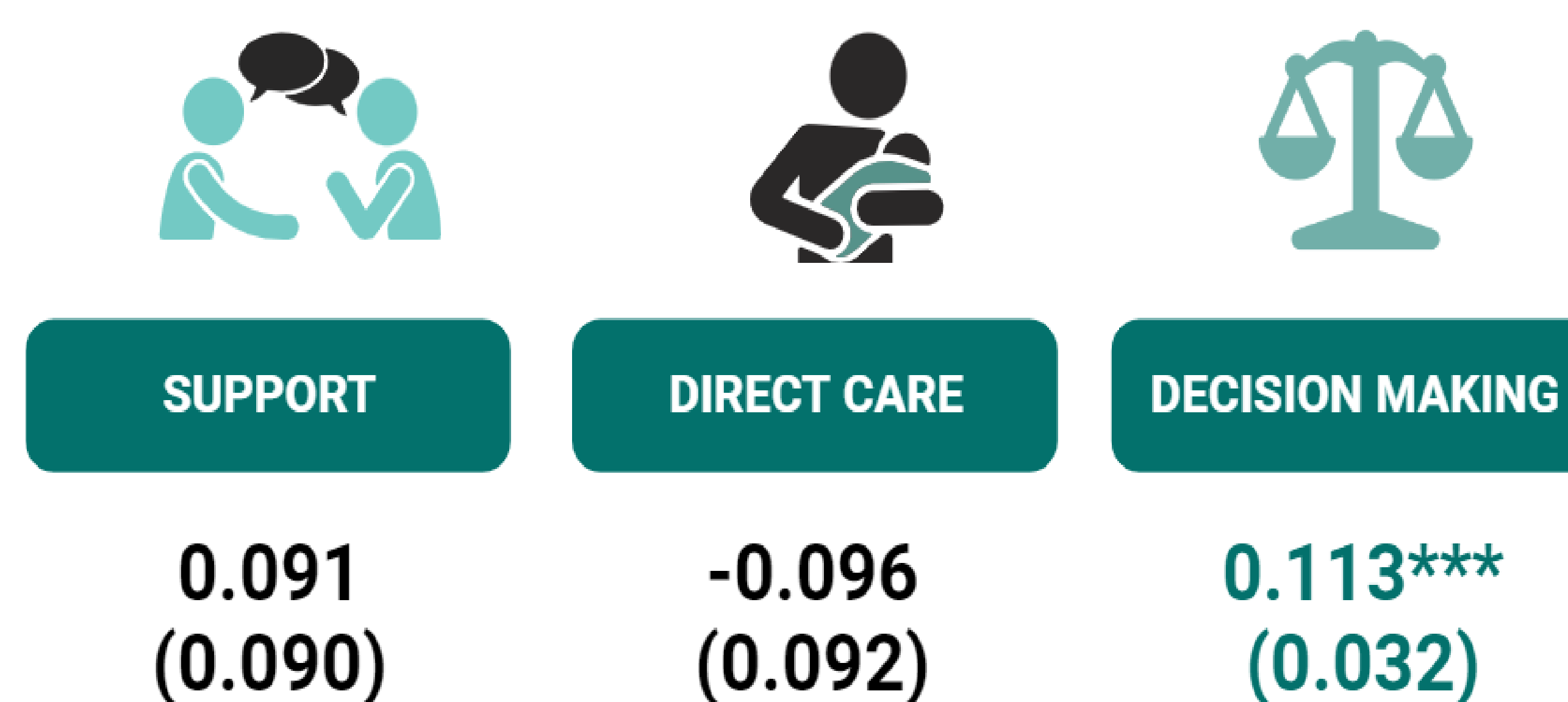
- 45 Caregiving dyads caring for children with rare and undiagnosed diseases
- Regression with Sandwich Estimator

## RESULTS

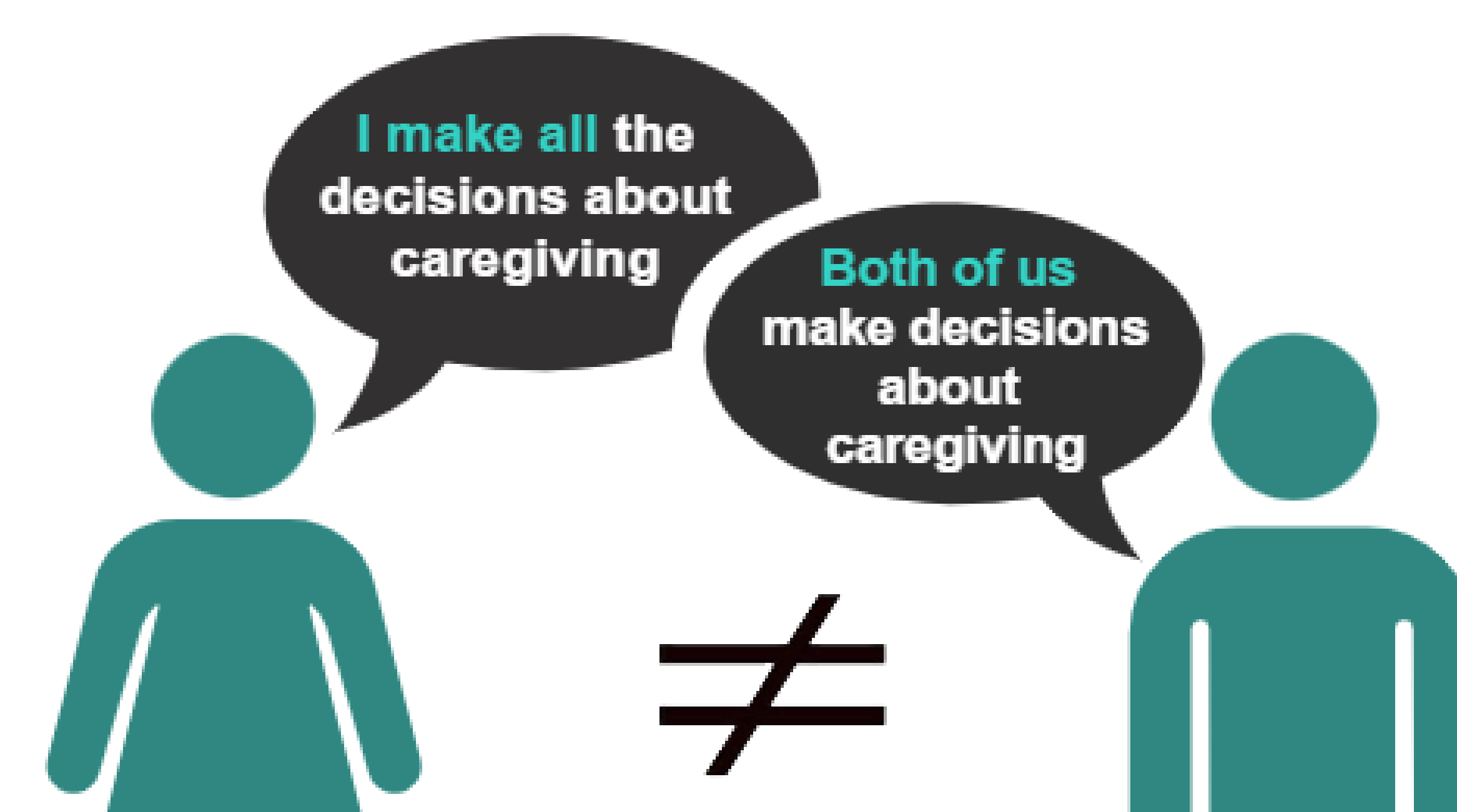
### Women have Larger Networks; No Significant Differences In Network Utilization



### Women Are More Likely to Participate in Decision Making

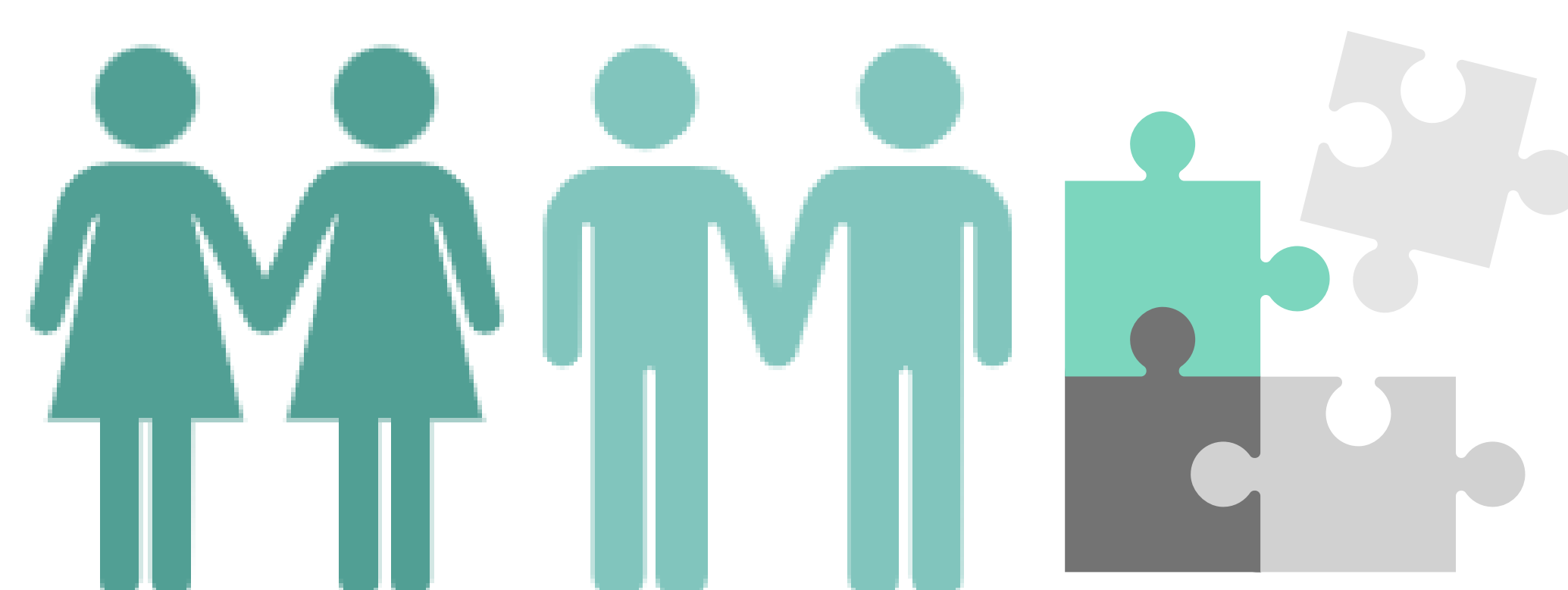


### Disagreement about Decision Making; Not Significantly Linked to Depression



## DISCUSSION

- Women typically have larger networks
- No gender differences in network utilization
- Women report greater involvement in decision making than men
- Disagreements about men's involvement in decision making
- Lack of consensus not associated with depressive symptoms
- Sample is exclusive to heterosexual couples
- Limited Demographic variability



## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Clarify disagreements about decision making (Medical, Daily, etc. Decisions)
- Examine gender differences in type of support elicited from network

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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