

The Effect of Home- and Community-Based Services on Social Engagement

Sun, P.C.

INTRO

This study examined the association between home- and community-based services (HCBS) utilization and social engagement among community-dwelling older adults in the U.S.

METHODS

- Data: HCBS-utilization data from the 2012 Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and sociodemographic covariates from the 2010 HRS Core (n = 617)
- Missing Data: 8.9% of the sample had missing data in the model variables, therefore 10 imputed data sets via multiple imputations with chained equations were created
- Analysis: OLS regression with genetic matching to estimate the sample average treatment effect on the treated (SATT)

RESULTS

HCBS utilization was found to be positively and significantly associated with social engagement (SATT = 0.28, SE = 0.13, p < .05). A sensitivity analysis using propensity score weighting, with the generalized boosted model-based propensity score weights multiplied by the survey weights, yielded similar results (PATT = 0.11, SE = 0.05, p < .05).

DISCUSSION

The possibility of a causal link between HCBS utilization and social engagement warrants further investigation.

Home- and Community-Based Services May Increase Social Engagement among Community-Dwelling Older Adults in the U.S.

