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The ability to pay for long-term care in The Netherlands: a life-cycle perspective

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Overview comments suggestions

- Some clarifications
- Descriptive analysis
- (Presentation of) Method
- Discussion of some results
- Whole lifetime simulation
- Limitations => implications?
- Policy recommendations?

- (Some editorial comments)

Clarifications

- Unit of analysis: household/individual?

- Given the nature of this paper, useful to give some details about previous projections of LTC costs in The Netherlands

- More in later points

Descriptive analysis

- Expand? Useful to get to know more about to source data.
- Illustrate in descriptives relation between LTC expenditures and, especially, income
- Consider regression analysis of LTC on variables of interest to give idea of associations in source data

(Presentation of) Method (1)

- Combines comprehensive life-cycle perspective and household perspective; NNRA → Clarify advantages
- "Idiosyncratic risks"?
- Why
  - Exact matching (household type, marital status)
  - NNRA (income, LTC expenditures)
  - Stratifying by gender and age?
- Justify (implications of) other choices such as: k=2; income percentiles instead of deflated absolute income
- *Could also use time-to-death in simulations?*

(Presentation of) Method (2)

- “Institutionalized individuals may or may not have a registered partner”
  - How is this (lack of) info dealt with?
  - Also in standardised income

- Some more graphical representation of simulations? (especially transitions)

Some more discussion of (some) results

- Simulated individuals live longer and have lower LTC costs:
  - "Seems likely"
  - But does method do this deliberately?
- Expand on explanation of negative association LTC income, relevant for implications.
- Why greater association for females?
- Increase personal income females?

  Implications for results?

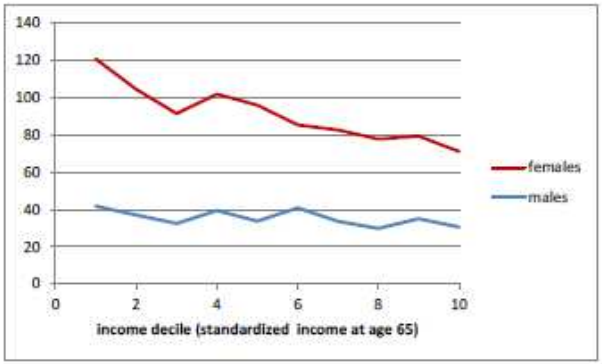

Figure 4.1 Income dependency of average lifetime LTC costs in 1,000 euro's

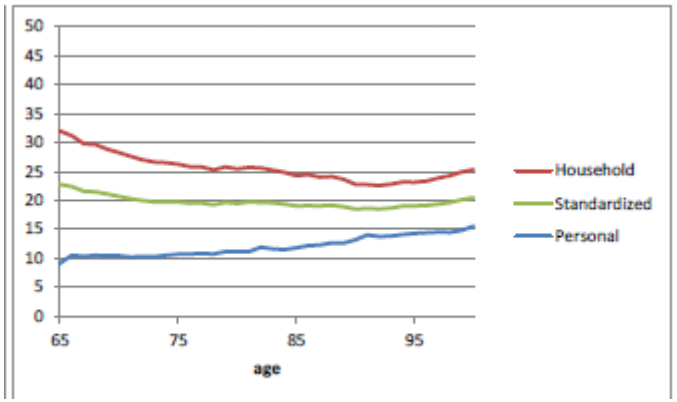

Figure 2.1: Alternative income concepts in 1,000 euros for ages 65+, average, females

Whole lifetime vs adult life

- Simulate whole lifetime since birth
- Why not start at later age?
- Does not seem to miss much at young ages, while
- Could save some trouble in simulations due to small cells

(Implications of) Limitations of analysis

- For example:
  - observation period before important reforms,
  - is narrow,
  - cohort effects

- More clarity about these limitations
- And especially how they might influence the results
- Ideally, main conclusion is robust

Policy recommendations (?)

- Introduction seems more ambitious about policy implications than conclusion

- Worth clarifying if this is a goal of the paper or merely to give an illustration, a “rough indication for the scope to…”