Time allocation for elderly care: changing trends and its determinants.

The central aim of the research is to investigate the changing patterns of distribution of time used for caring for elderly. It would be also interesting to investigate how these changes are associated with outsourcing of carrying activities, forms of labour market participation of women, and overall financial situation of the household.

One of the challenges facing Polish society is the aging population, which due to an increase of life expectancy, and lower fertility become distinguishing feature of Europe. More old people live in single households, or are in need of daily assistance and care nowadays than before. Extended families living in a share household are becoming less common, this induce changes in forms and manners of carrying for elder family members. Therefore there is a need for a study which will answer the following questions: how much time we spend on carrying for elder family members, does this pattern changed since 2004, what is the socioeconomic profile of the main care providers, and whether the carrying for old family member is associated with the risk of time poverty.

The study will be based on the quantitative data from the Time Budget Survey from 2004 and 2013, collected by Central Statistical Office. These data will be used in the analysis of sequence of the daily events, descriptive analysis of the accumulated time use, and the econometric analysis of the associations between the time budget division and socioeconomic characteristics, with special interest in time use for carrying activities. Use of complementary data sources is also foreseen, Structure of Earnings Survey will be used to asses the opportunity cost of elder-care, and the cost of hiring skilled professionals.

Study of the above mentioned topics will fill a gap in research of time use in Poland. In the light of changing patterns of time use, and demographic changes, an appropriate inside into the carrying activities should be an important source of information for evidence based policy.