

# Is elderly care socialized in Japan? Analyzing effects of the 2006 amendment for the LTCI on female labors

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## Abstract

This paper evaluates the Japanese Long-Term Care Insurance(LTCI) after the decade from its launch, focusing on effects of its 2006 amendment. The radical program induced birth of markets for various care services such as home care, daycare and temporary institutional care, in addition to permanent institutional care which composes only a formal care sector in many developed countries. We analyze behavior of female labors when they face requirement for elderly care in their household, under the availability of the various formal care services. Our empirical analysis shows that the 2006 amendment reduced the negative impacts of care requirement both on the rate of labor force participation and working hours. However, our results also indicate that regular workers are more likely to utilize formal care, while many non-regular workers provide informal care by themselves.

**JEL classification;** Elderly care; Female labor; Japanese Long-Term Care Insurance program

**Keyword;** J15; J21; I18

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