

**Effects of Elderly Caregiving on Employment Status:
A Panel Study of Individuals in Their 50's to 60's in Japan¹**

Yoshimi Adachi², Toshiyuki Uemura³, and Tomoki Kitamura⁴

2015/12/15

<Abstract>

The raising aging population in Japan has led to increase the elderly people who need nursing care. Elderly care is one of the most important policy problems. This paper focuses on the employment and caregiving behaviors for 50's to 60's years old individuals, using micro data from a Japanese government survey. We especially consider family structure, residence, their employment status, characteristics of companies that they work for, and health conditions in order to investigate their retirement and caregiving behavior. We find that caregiving does not impact of both labor participation rate and workhours for male employees. On the contrary, long-time caregiving significantly reduce both labor participation rate and workhours for female employees. Even relatively short-time caregiving significantly decreases the probability of labor participation for both unmarried and married female. The results imply that policy development should be considered for middle-age caregivers. The policies include improvement of work-life balance for working female employees while caregiving for family members and parents.

Keyword: Elderly caregiving, employment, retirement, panel data

JEL code: D12, J14, J26

¹ We appreciate the financial support of the Health and Labour Sciences Research Grant of Japan (H27-Statistics-General-004).

² Department of Economics, Konan University, 8-9-1 Okamoto, Higashinada-ku, Kobe 658-8501 Japan. Tel:+81-078-435-2399, E-mail: adachi@center.konan-u.ac.jp

³ School of Economics, Kwansai Gakuin University, 1-155 Uegahara Ichiban-cho, Nishinomiya, Hyogo 662-8501, Japan. Tel: +81-798-54-6204. E-mail: uemuratoshi@hotmail.com

⁴ Finance Research Group, NLI-Research Institute, 4-4-6. Kudan-kita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0073 JAPAN. Tel: +81-3-3512-1854. E-mail: PXL03406@nifty.ne.jp