



Adopt sound policies for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls (SDG 5)

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Funded by:



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



2019

I. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – SDG 5

“Gender is used to describe the characteristics of women and men that are socially constructed, while sex refers to those that are biologically determined.”

(WHO Europe, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-determinants/gender/gender-definitions>)

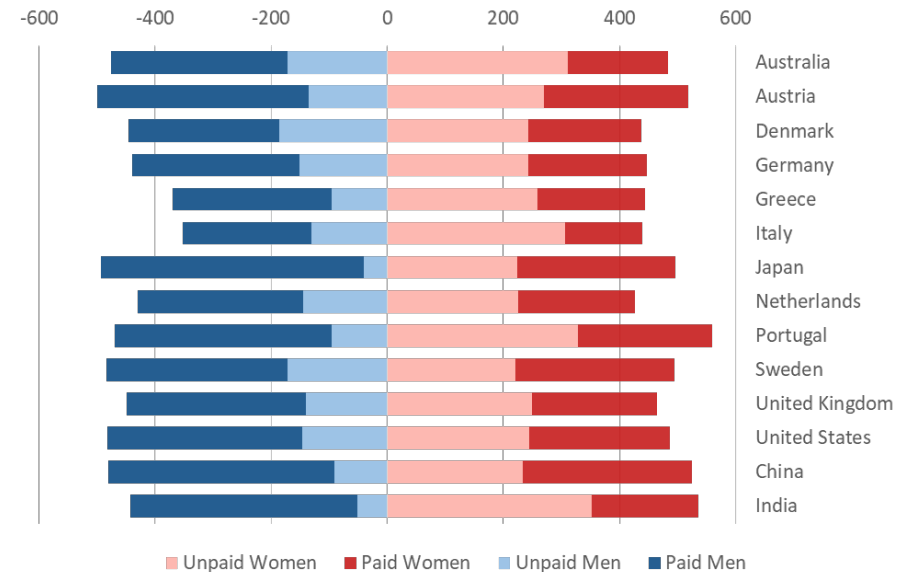


5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work



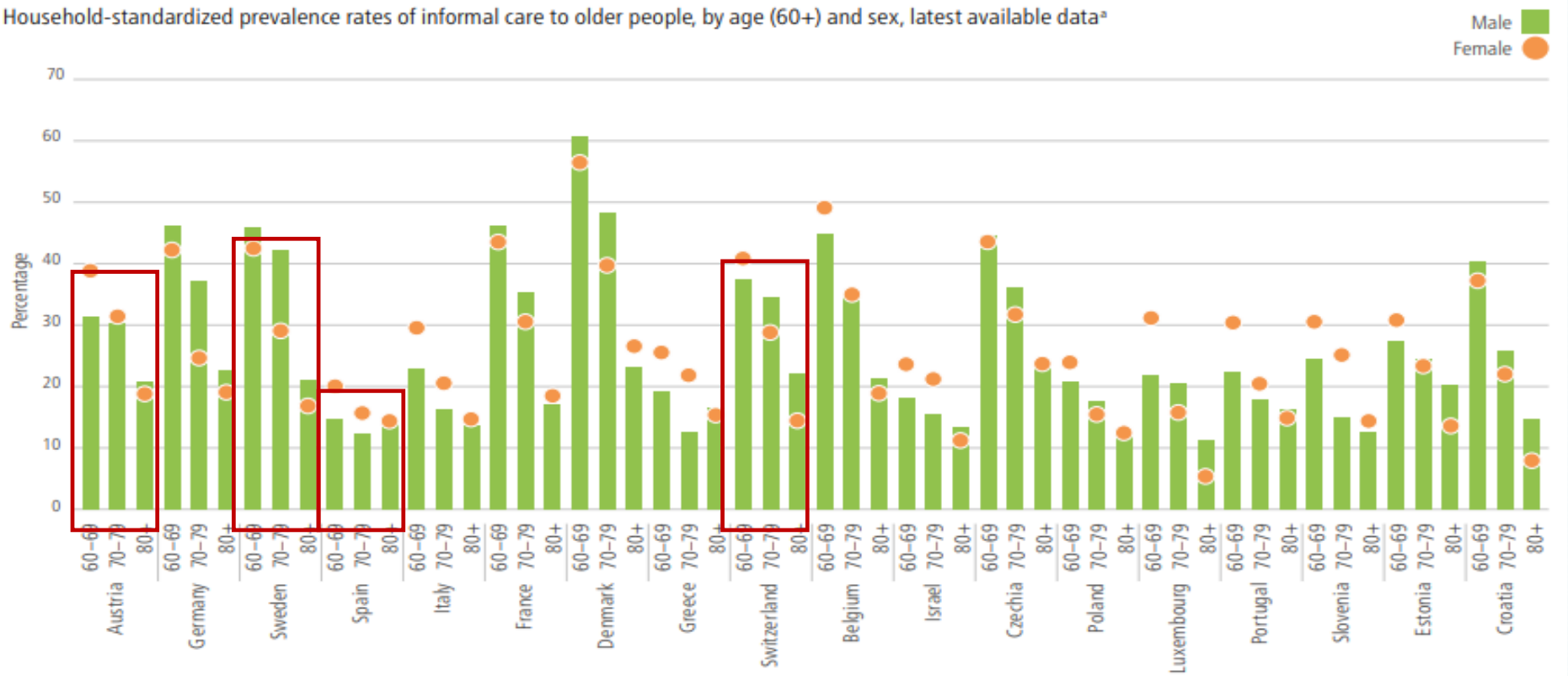
Women spend about **three times as many hours** in unpaid domestic and care work as men

Average time spent in unpaid and paid work by gender



How much care do men and women provide?

Household-standardized prevalence rates of informal care to older people, by age (60+) and sex, latest available data^a



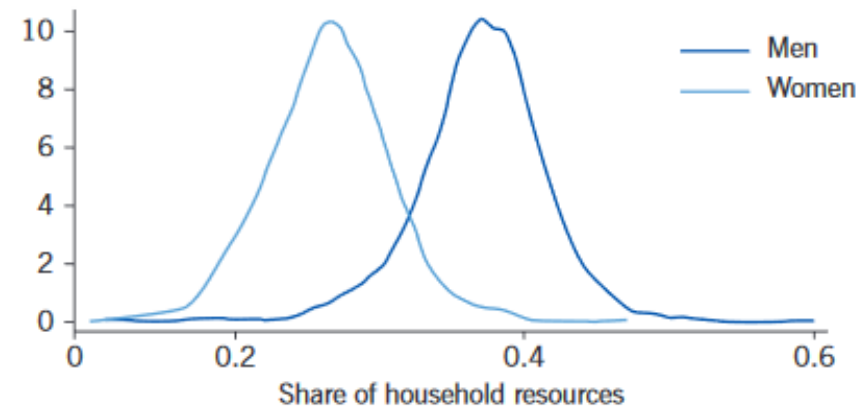
Informal carers: lagging behind in recognition and support

	Recognition/need assessment	Support
Denmark	No specific needs assessment Limited awareness of rights of informal carers	End-of-life care leave Counselling, training and information (mostly by NGOs) Respite care
Portugal	No specific needs assessment but informal carers are often assessed by care services	Respite care (albeit with limited availability) Limited counselling and training (mostly by NGOs) Legal statute of informal care currently under discussion in Parliament
Turkey	No specific assessment of needs	Cash benefits for those below poverty line
Romania	No specific assessment of needs	Very limited provisions for respite care Very limited counselling and training (mostly by NGOs)
Germany	No specific needs assessment	Several measures of respite care Care leave Pension credits and unemployment/accident insurance Counselling and training

Why carer's allowance is not enough

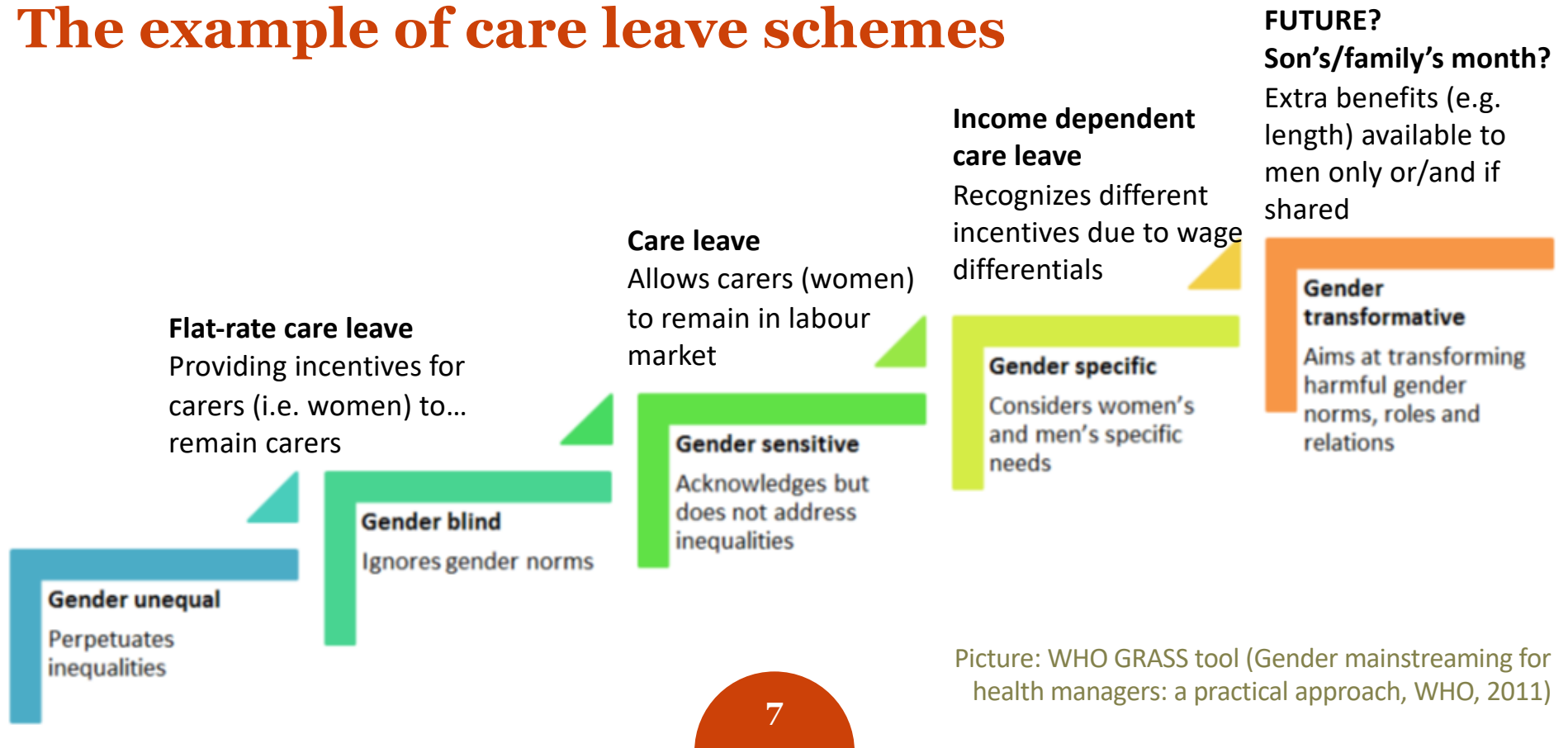
- Supporting carers recognizes gender inequalities
- Stereotypes and gender norms → caring roles
- Higher availability of services → greater gender equality among siblings (Brandt et al, 2009)
- Intra-household wage gap → gendered informal care
- Greater labour market equality → greater informal care equality (Henz, 2010, Glauber 2017)

Share of household resources (Albania)



Source: Picolli (2017) based on Albanian Living Standard Measurement Survey

Gendering policies in LTC: The example of care leave schemes



II. Achieve gender equality to deliver all SDGs



... ensure **that all men and women**, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, **have equal rights to economic resources** ...



... reduce **premature mortality from NCDs** through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

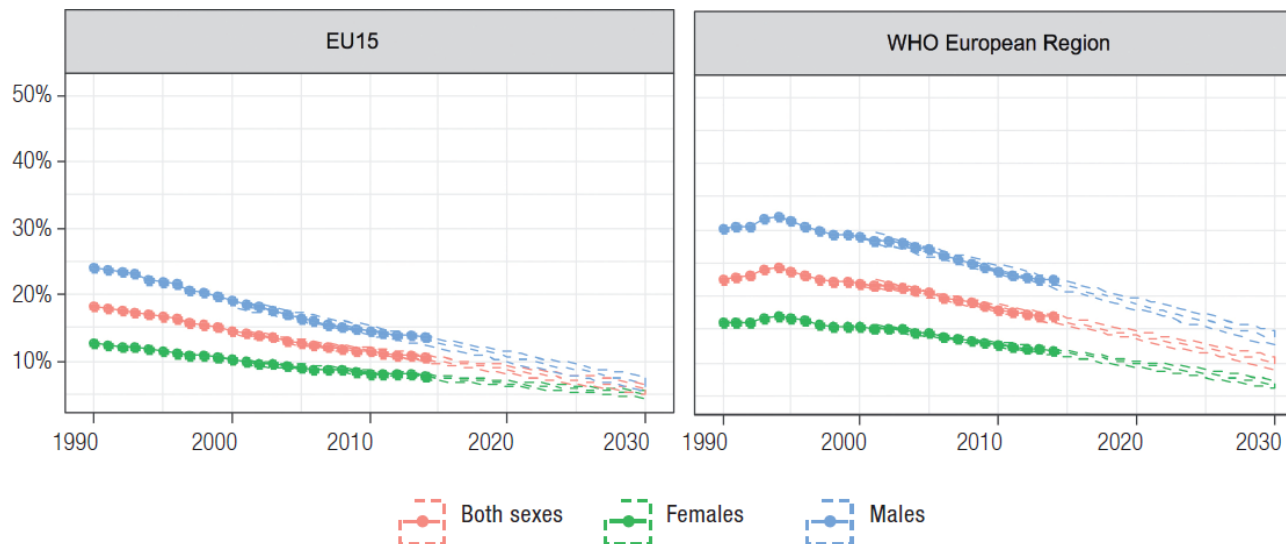
Achieve **universal health coverage**, including financial risk protection, access to health-care services and essential medicines **for all**



... eliminate **gender disparities in education** and ensure **equal access to all** levels of education and vocational training



3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from NCDs and promote mental health and wellbeing



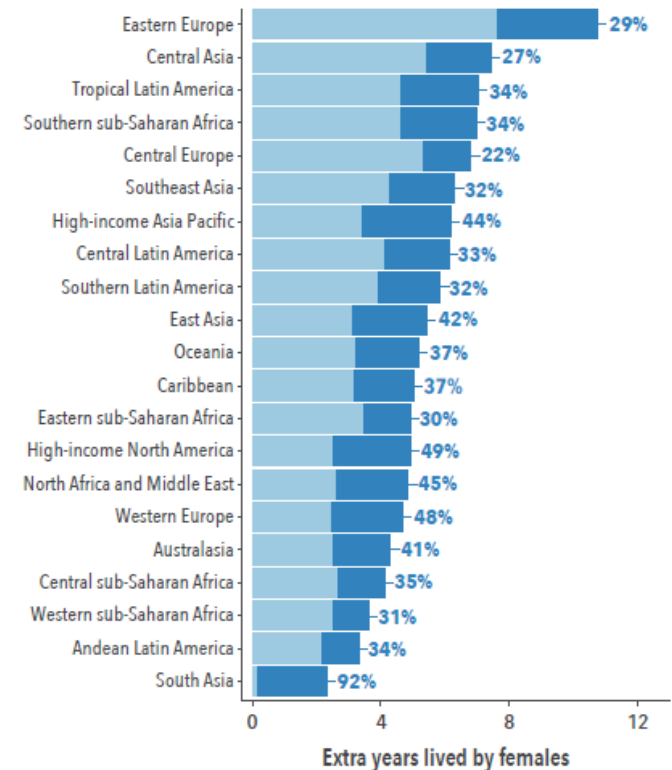
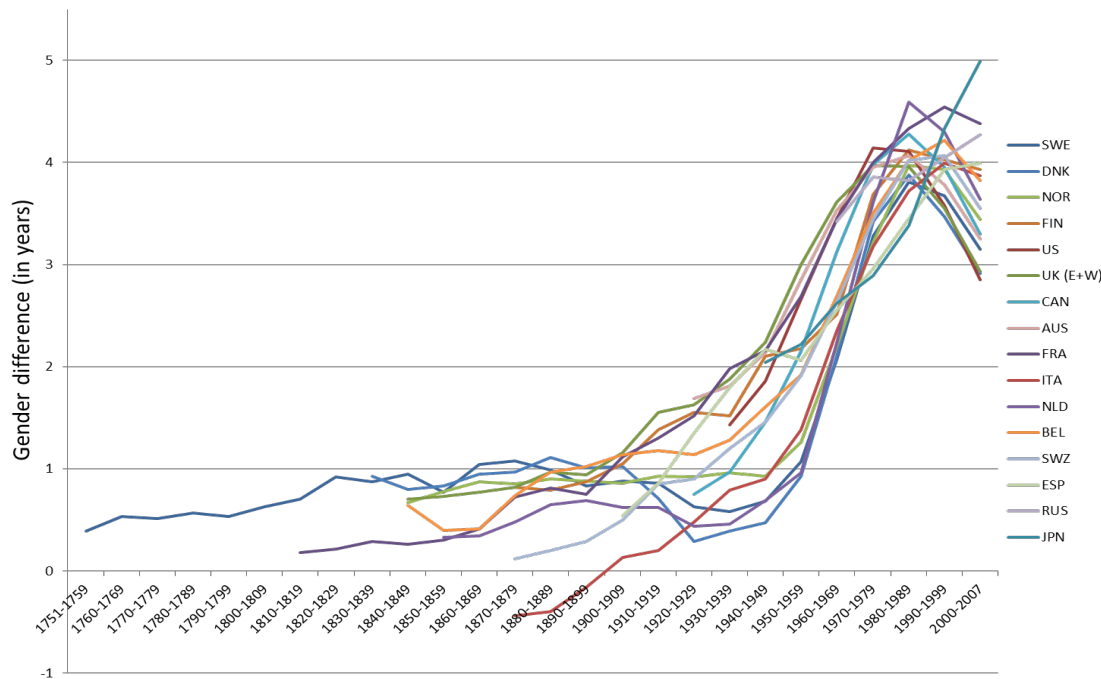
Unconditional probability of dying between 30 & 69 years from 4 major NCDs (time trends)

Source: The WHO Global Monitoring Framework on NCDs

Large gender differences in premature mortality rates from NCDs, although **absolute number of NCD deaths in women is similar to that of men** because women live longer

Women live longer than men but more years in poor health

Gender difference in life expectancy at 65 (all countries)

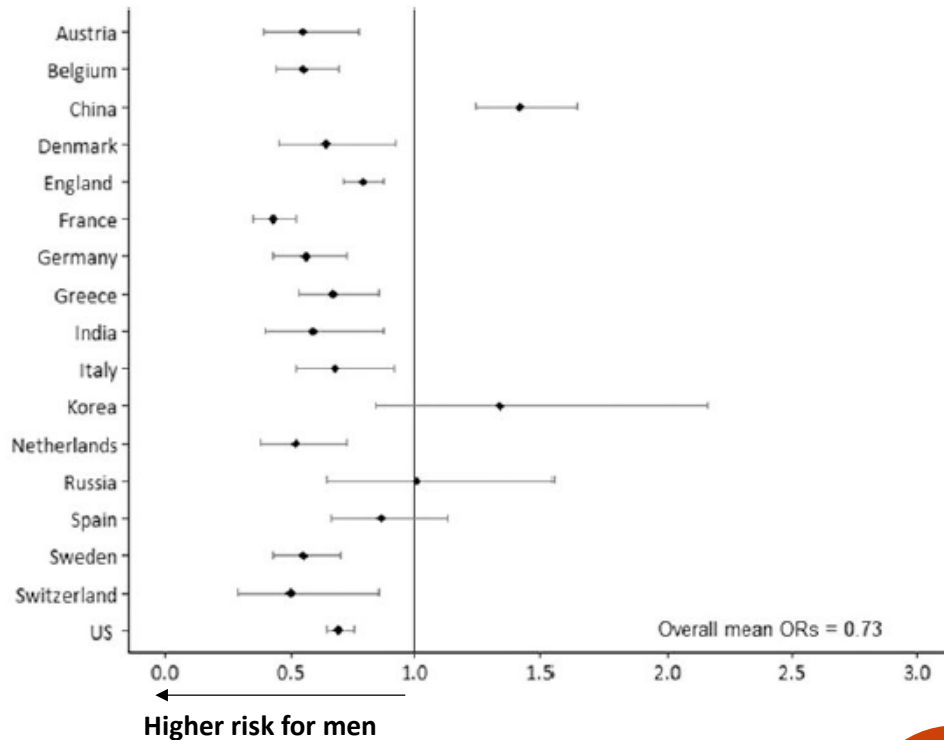


Sources: Thorslund et al., 2013; Global Burden of Disease Study, 2017

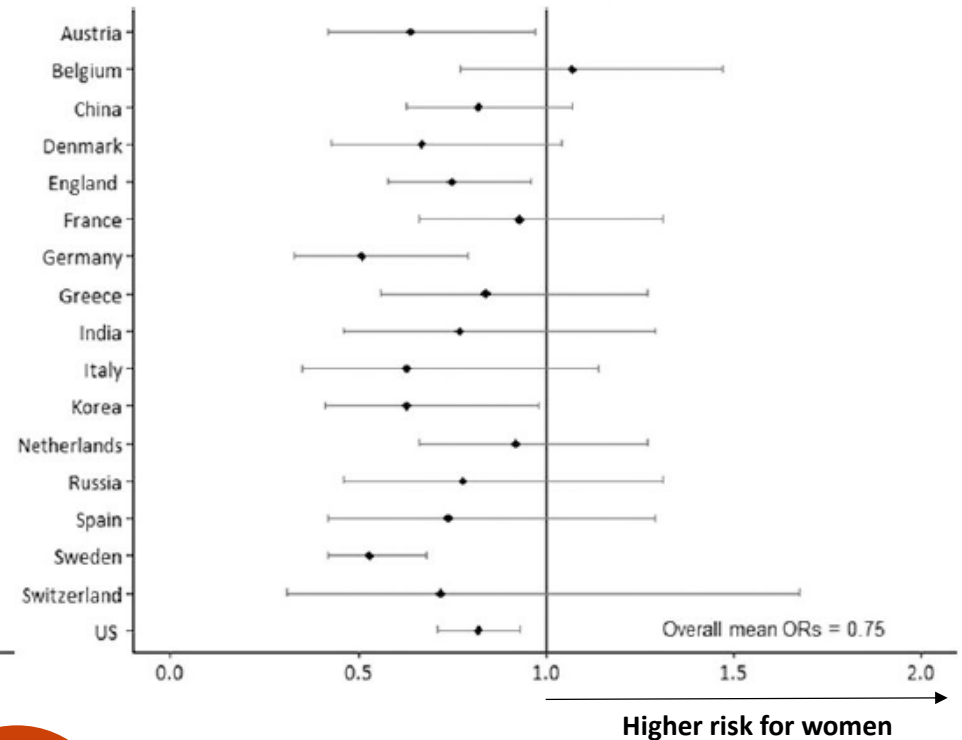
Male disadvantage in (some) NCD rates

Effect of being a woman on probability of reporting

Heart disease



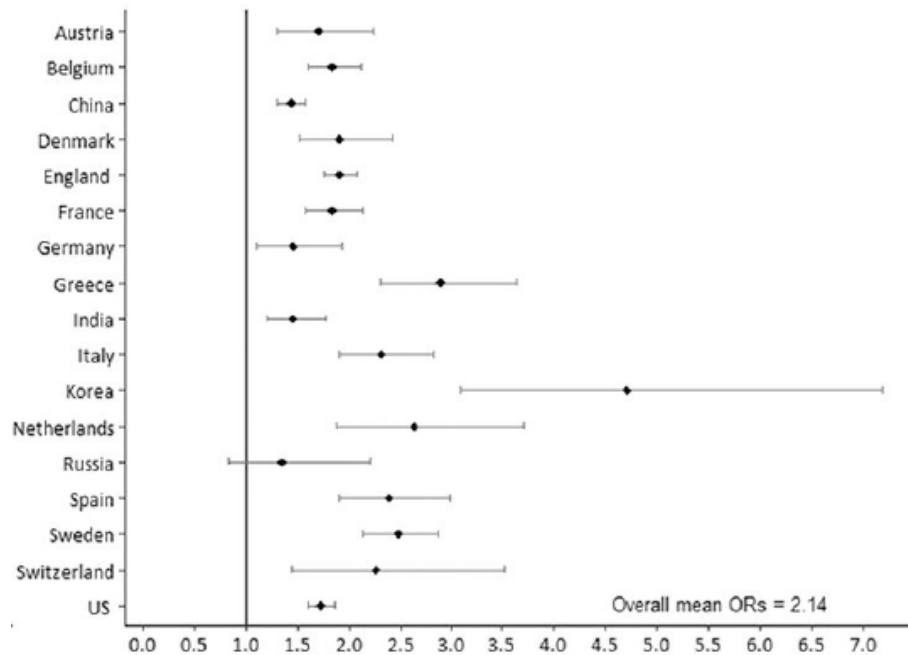
Stroke



Female disadvantage in others

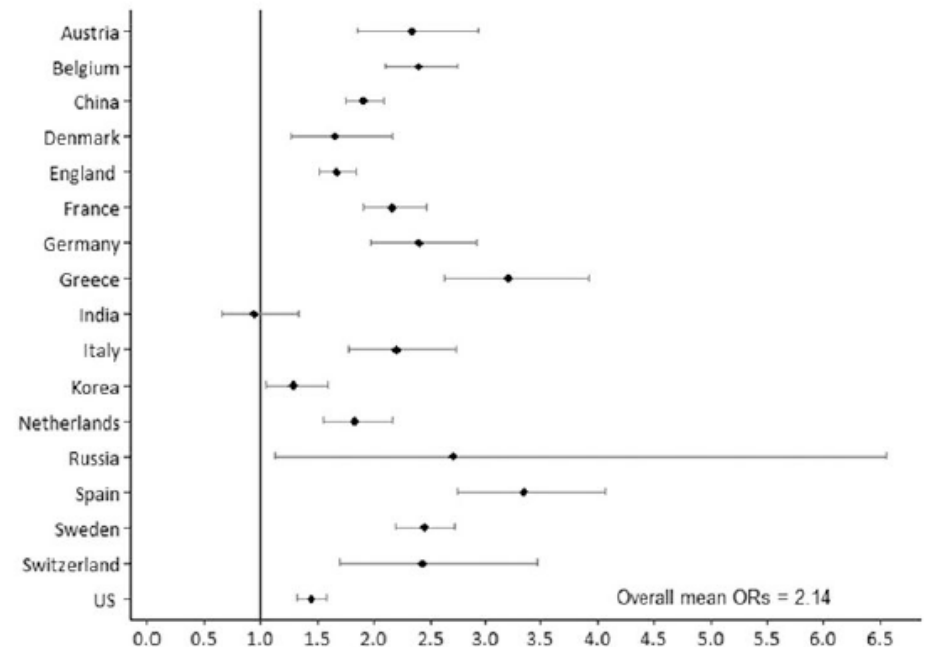
Effect of being a woman on probability of reporting

Arthritis



Higher risk for men

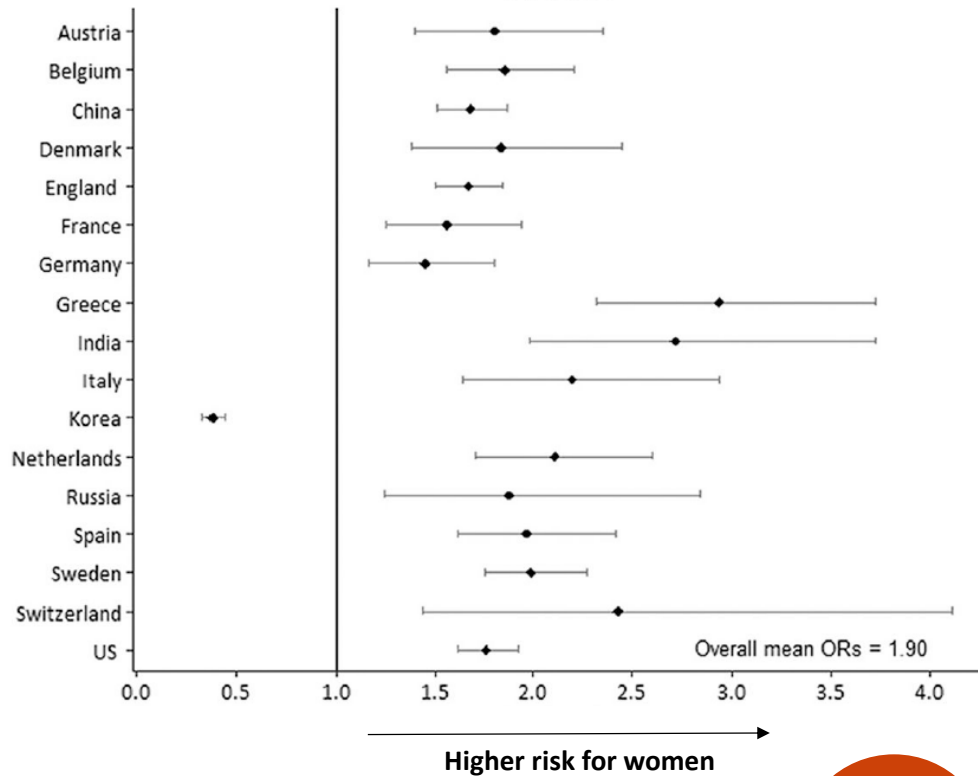
Depression



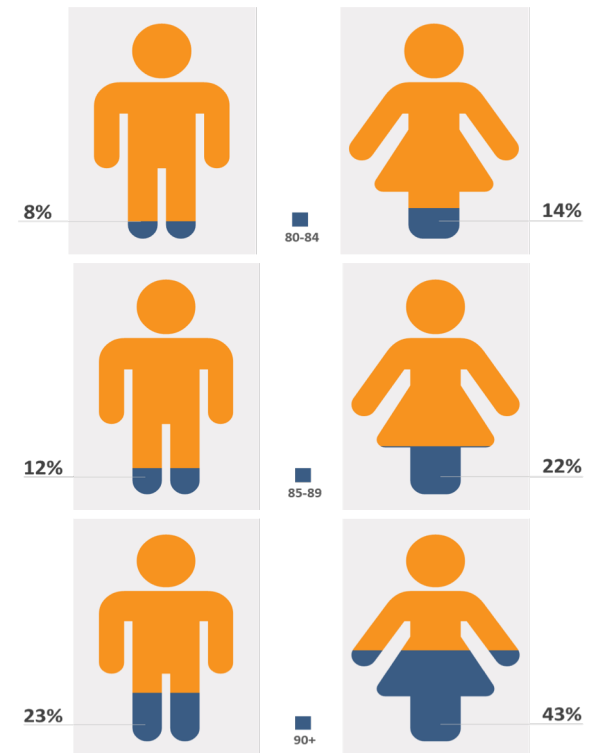
Higher risk for women

Women at higher risk of functional and cognitive decline

Limitations in IADLs



Age specific prevalence of dementia



Salient gender issues in addressing NCDs

Different gender-related **risk factors** for males and females

Differences in **access to care** (including prevention) and **care-seeking behavior** among men and women



Focus on **equity and fairness** in order to achieve gender equality

Differences in **care quality** (provider bias) and **treatment effectiveness**

Persistent **lack of sex-disaggregated data** and **gender-sensitive indicators**



Inclusiveness in research, care systems and policy making

III. Achieve gender equality through better understanding of intersectionality

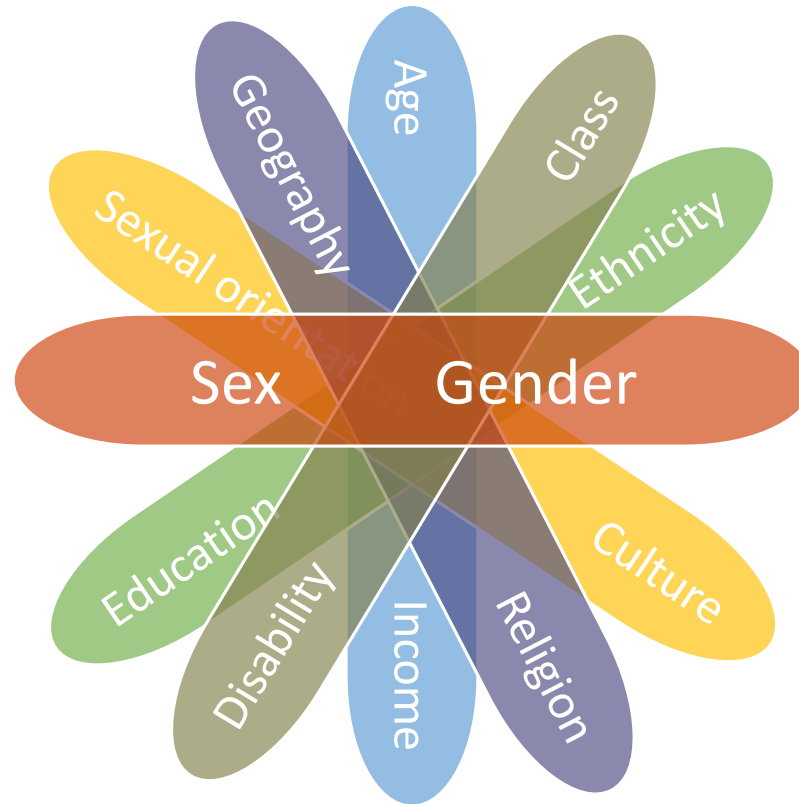
“In a world where inequalities of all kinds are on the rise, disaggregation by sex alone is insufficient for monitoring outcomes”

“Other forms of inequality intersect and compound gender-based inequalities, leaving certain groups behind across a range of development indicators”

(UN WOMEN - [Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#))

From single-issue analyses towards intersectionality: spotlighting the interplay of gender and education in care-giving

	Wave 1 (2004) Percentage	Wave 6 (2015) Percentage	p-value
Probability to provide care (women 50-64)			
Primary education	0.270	0.252	0.843
Secondary education	0.365	0.411	0.261
Tertiary education	0.336	0.438	0.186
Probability of high intensity care (women carers 50-64)			
Primary education	0.265	0.648	0.029
Secondary education	0.295	0.238	0.341
Tertiary education	0.295	0.166	0.260
Probability to give care (men 50-64)			
Primary education	0.306	0.145	0.180
Secondary education	0.357	0.331	0.574
Tertiary education	0.309	0.374	0.337



“Intersectionality can get used as a blanket term to mean, “Well, it’s complicated.” Sometimes, “It’s complicated” is an excuse not to do anything.”

Research that studies social categories such as gender not in isolation from other factors, but in its complexity...

... can help us to understand how intersecting inequalities impact on access to social rights and opportunities

- Improved data collection and data quality to facilitate intersectional analysis
- Identifying suitable research methods – **intersection is more than the sum of its parts**

Gender + Social class \neq intersection of gender and social class

... can inform context-specific development strategies and policies that are inclusive of all

- Recognising that inequalities are often mutually constitutive
- Risks of policies – by privileging the treatment of some inequities reinforcing/reproducing power mechanisms/biased social norms and marginalising some groups

New research project to identify opportunities to achieve SDG5 and SDG3 through improved policies



Website: <https://www.euro.centre.org/projects/detail/3374>

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Funded by:



Swedish Research Council
Canadian Institutes of Health Research