**WP2\_Cohort trajectories of the providing informal care (PIC)**

Ricardo presented results of their analysis of SHARE data exploring the trajectories of PIC in Europe. The process generally followed the approach taken in WP1. Many information was presented with the goal of identifying what parts of the results ‘fit’ better for a paper. The focus of graphs was on cohort and gender differences, more specifically at what point amount of care provided by men overtakes women’s and the potential impacts of policy changes on these patterns.

Feedback from audience:

Stefan: Since strong cohort effects are apparent it is a good idea to focus on them, also to decide which information are more relevant we can start from literature and then go to charts.

Johan: Despite noticeable overlapping cohort ‘patterns’ all cohorts seem similar. Is it a modelling issue such as what we observe is an average of inside and outside home care that mask real differences?

Or maybe the quality of data in some regions (Stefania)?

Susan: Isn’t modeling trajectories by income with adjustment by education problematic? Usually either income or education will be use as a measure of socio-economic position.

Response: Particularly for women, income and education are not the same, also we are observing fewer people with elementary education the recent cohorts, hence the focus of the education remains on higher SES groups.

Afshin: What is exactly the purpose of these analyses? A descriptive report of trajectories or some etiological investigations?

Response: Mainly ensuring trajectories are not affected by the health status, changes in marital status, and education of the care providers, and exploring whether they are something policy/context related; hence adjustment for these factors.  
Susan: Did you use household or individual income? Response: Household

Also, some changes in the aesthetics of the charts may help, e.g., using rainbow orientation colour scheme for presenting the order of lines.

Q: As men get older, they tend to provide more informal care?

Stefania: Pattern is well known but the reason is unknown.

Ricardo: We are not trying to overinterpret these descriptive models but to know **when** men become main caregivers.

Next steps as agreed by the team:

Focus on income, gender differences or both.