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PhD Project Title: Community Implementation Behaviour in the Context of Support Services for Caring Relatives of People with Dementia

Abstract:

Introduction: According to official figures, about 1.7 million people in Germany are currently living with dementia. Approximately two-thirds of them are cared for by relatives at home. However, the exact number for both figures is assumed to be even higher as there is an unknown number of unreported cases. The municipal communities with their stakeholders and local authorities are one entity responsible for offering adequate support for caring relatives. The Seventh Report on the Elderly published by the German Federal Government called on municipal communities to create opportunities for developing and implementing support and care for caring relatives. However, the degree to which this is actually implemented varies greatly between communities. Frequently, offers are only carried out on a project basis and long-term implementation fails. Discussions and research have shown that the level of support is highly dependent on individual actors in the communities. Next to structural determinants such as time or money, (personal) characteristics of actors in communities play an important role in implementing support services for caring relatives of people with dementia.

Aim: The aim of the following study is to investigate which (personal) characteristics of those actors are influencing their implementation behavior in order to subsequently derive recommendations for its optimisation.

Methods: A quantitative online survey of different actors in German communities will be conducted. The survey instrument is based on the Theoretical Domains Framework of Michie et al. (2005).

Results: Not yet available.

Discussion: Not yet available.