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COSTS FOR AGED CARE IN SWEDEN 2025 - AN EXPLORATION OF DIFFERENT SCENARIOS

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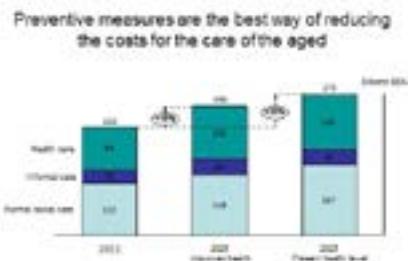


Statement of the Problem: The number of very old in Sweden as in all developed countries will increase rapidly in the coming decades. As a consequence, costs for aged care are expected to increase. Limited manpower and financial resources require that cost-effective solutions are found including means to reduce the needs by health promotion and disease prevention.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: Cost for aged care - social care, formal care and health care - in the year 2025 are calculated using different assumptions concerning the health development of older persons in Sweden and the mixture of old age care services provided - home help, sheltered housing and institutional care. Data for calculations are taken from the Swedish National study on Aging and Care (SNAC).

Findings: Assuming continued positive health trends among the older persons as compared with present status makes a big difference in future costs of care. Different scenarios concerning the amount of institutional care vs. home help mainly impact on the cost distribution between aged social care and health care.

Conclusion & Significance: The findings strongly support the emphasis on health promotion and increasing the possibilities for older persons to manage their activities of daily living. A strong case is also made for improving the co-operation between social and health care and to support informal care.



References

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Biography

M Lagergren is currently working as a Research Director in Stockholm Gerontology Research Center, Sweden. Since 2000 he has been National Coordinator of the SNAC study (Swedish National study on Aging and Care). Among earlier positions could be mentioned as Chief analyst, National Defense Research Institute from 1964-1972, Director of the National Future Study "Care in Society" from 1977-1982 and Chief analyst, Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs in 1990-2000. He has completed his PhD in Mathematics, Stockholm University in 1963 and PhD in Social medicine, Karolinska Institute in 1994. He has published more than 25 scientific papers as first name and three books in English language.

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