

Transitions in Coresidence with Adult Children among Older Adults in Beijing

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Background

- Adult children are a primary source of support for older adults**
- Coresidence underpins the support system**
- Fewer children and socioeconomic change can reduce levels of coresidence and hence levels of support**

Three perspectives

Demographic:

Availability of children

Modernization:

Values on privacy and living independently

Altruistic:

Needs of family members

Conceptual Model

Demographic:

of Children, Has a Son

Modernization:

Education, Occupation

Altruistic:

Health (functional disability,
chronic conditions),
Income, Living with a spouse

**Coresidence
Status**

Controls

Conceptual Model

Demographic:

of Children, Has a Son

Modernization:

Education, Occupation

Altruistic:

Changes in Health (functional disability, chronic conditions),
Income, Living with a spouse

Controls

Coresidence
Status T1

Coresidence
Status T2

Beijing Multidimensional Longitudinal Study on Aging

- Capital University of Medical Science**
- Representative sample aged 55+ in 3 districts**
- Three waves: 1992, 1994, 1997**
- N= 3,257**
- 64% coresiding with a child in 1992**

Determinants of Coresidence (1)

(N=7,670)

<u>Demographic</u>	β	<u>Altruistic</u>	β
# of children:		Has disability	+.28**
1	---	Has chronic condition	ns
2	+.32^	Receives income	-.26**
3	+.33*	Lives with spouse	-1.03**
4	ns		
5	ns	<u>Modernization</u>	
6+	ns	Education	ns
Has a son(s)	ns	While-collar occupation	-.29**

* p < .01 * p < .05 ^ p < .10

Determinants of Coresidence (2)

(N=7,670)

<u>Year of Observation</u>	β	<u>Controls</u>	β
Wave 1 (1992)	---	Age:	---
Wave 2 (1994)	ns	55-59	---
Wave 3 (1997)	ns	60-64	-.51**
		65-69	-.82**
		70-74	-1.02**
		75+	-1.00**
		Female	-.23*
		Rural Residence	-.59**

*p < .01 * p < .05 ^ p < .10

Coreidence Status at Wave 3 by Wave 2 & 3 Status (N=1,951)

Wave 1 Status	Wave 2 Status	Wave 3 Coresiding	N
Coreside	Coreside	83.1	1020
Not	Not	13.6	584
Coreside	Not	39.6	192
Not	Coreside	53.3	155

Predicted Probability of Moving in with a Child between Waves 2 & 3 (N=1,951)

Wave 1 Characteristics	Wave 2 Characteristics	Move in bet Waves 2 and 3
No disability	No disability	0.149
	Has disability	0.279
Receives income	Receives income	0.135
	Receives no income	0.203
Lives with spouse	Lives with spouse	0.137
	Does not live with spouse	0.236

Summary and Conclusion

- The family support system for older adults remains relatively intact for those who have greater needs
- Our results are supportive of the altruistic perspective
- For example, becoming functionally disabled increases the chance of coresidence
- Demographic and modernization perspective receive partial support