

### COVID-RELATED PERCEPTIONS OF THE FUTURE AND WELL-BEING AMONG OLDER CANADIAN WOMEN

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Socioemotional Selectivity Theory (SST; Carstensen, 1993) posits that time horizons - or Future Time Perspective (FTP) - change with age and/or the priming of endings. Fung and Carstensen (2006) found that SARS-CoV in 2003 naturalistically primed fragility, with consequences for both FTP and well-being. The current SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic provides a similar context: During the early months of COVID-19, age and time horizon were related to greater emotional well-being for American adults (Carstensen et al., 2020); Dozois (2020) found that, for Canadian adults, anxiety and depression rose. The current study examines relationships between FTP, COVID-19 impact, and psychological well-being in older Canadian women (N = 190; Mage = 70.38). We found that COVID-19 impact and FTP were both related to well-being; additionally, COVID-19 impact moderated the relationship between FTP and well-being. The complexity of what remains or becomes increasingly important for older women during a global health crisis is discussed.

### THE PANDEMIC AND OLDER WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES: IMPACTS ON SOCIAL NETWORKS AND WELL-BEING

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The current study examines the unique impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic on the well-being of middle aged to older women from the 2020 Health and Retirement Study (n = 1252) and how their reports of social contact during the pandemic compare to age-matched women from 2018 (n = 2063). Although up to a third of women across age categories reported changes in social contact due to the pandemic, their rates of communication with friends and family were not significantly different from their counterparts in 2018. Results find expected age patterns in satisfaction with life during the pandemic), where the young-old report the highest levels. However, the association of life satisfaction with the extent to which women reported more loneliness during the pandemic was only significant among the young old and oldest old. Age differences in pandemic-specific experiences in relation to well-being are discussed within a life course developmental framework.

### RACE DIFFERENCES IN COVID-19 STRESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS

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The experience of the COVID-19 pandemic may vary widely by race. This study examined race differences in pandemic-related stress, social isolation and the implications for well-being. Participants included 1260 adults (45% women) ages 18 to 97 from the May and June 2020 nationally representative Survey of Consumers and 562 who

completed a 6 month follow up in November/December. A total of 76% were White, 10% were Black, 3% were Asian, and 11% were Hispanic. Participants reported experiences of pandemic-related stress, social isolation and depressive symptoms in the last month. Analyses showed that minority groups reported greater pandemic related stress that had negative implications for depressive symptoms over time. The implication of social isolation for the stress-depressive symptoms link also varied by race. Overall this study showed racial inequities in the implications of COVID-19 pandemic and that reducing social isolation may only be beneficial for certain racial/ethnic groups.

### Session 4325 (Symposium)

#### A MODEL TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES TOWARD BECOMING DEMENTIA INCLUSIVE

Chair: Jennifer Drost

Discussant: Margaret Sanders

As the US population ages, the prevalence of people living with dementia will also increase. It is estimated that by 2050, 13.8 million American's 65 and older will be diagnosed with dementia, and currently only 40% of those living with dementia receive an official diagnosis. 70% of people living with dementia live in the community. In order to optimize quality of life and extend each person's ability to remain living in their homes for as long as possible, it is important for communities to educate consumers and providers alike about Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias, focusing on behaviors and interventions. This education must cross multiple sectors to effectively increase awareness, decrease stigma, and enable participation in community living for people living with dementia and their caregivers. Dementia Friends USA offers a framework for implementation of dementia friendly inclusive community initiatives that spans professions and incorporates patient and caregiver perspectives. The four symposia will 1) lead us through the evidence that supports the Dementia Friends USA approach, 2) demonstrate how this approach can be operationalized in a truly integrated fashion at the community level using HRSA's Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP), 3) provide step-by-step instructions for implementing Dementia Friends Community sessions, focusing on one sector at a time (in this case the Developmental Disability population), and 4) discuss the individual and community level outcomes of Dementia Friends implementation.

#### CREATING DEMENTIA-INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES USING A GERIATRIC WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

Jennifer Drost,<sup>1</sup> and Margaret Sanders,<sup>2</sup> 1. *Summa Health System, Akron, Ohio, United States*, 2. *Northeast Ohio Medical University, ROOTSTOWN, Ohio, United States*

The Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) sponsored by HRSA provides an organizing framework around which dementia inclusive community initiatives can be successfully implemented and sustained. The overarching goal of all GWEPs is to improve outcomes for older adults by promoting evidence-based education that spans the continuum of care. This includes integration of academic, clinical, and community-based providers. By their very nature, all GWEPs partner across agencies throughout the state to deliver