**Appendix 2.** Characteristics of caregivers and their respective care recipients by countries

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Characteristica** | **Total****(n=255)** | **Belgium****(n=40)** | **Canada****(n=95)** | **France****(n=73)** | **Switzerland****(n=47)** |
| **Age of caregivers, years** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median (IQR) | 65 (57-74) | 58 (50.5-67) | 70 (63-76) | 65 (58-73) | 57 (51-65) |
| **Sex of caregivers, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 64 (25.1) | 11 (27.5) | 20 (21.1) | 20 (21.9) | 17 (36.2) |
| Female | 191 (74.9) | 29 (72.5) | 75 (78.9) | 57 (78.1) | 30 (63.8) |
| **Age of care recipients** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median (IQR) | 84 (78-89) | 83 (80-88) | 81 (73-85) | 86 (83-90) | 81 (73-85) |
| **Sex of care recipients, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 89 (35.0) | 14 (35.0) | 45 (47.9) | 21 (28.8) | 9 (19.1) |
| Female | 165 (65.0) | 26 (65.0) | 49 (52.1) | 52 (71.2) | 38 (80.9) |
| **Living arrangement of care recipients, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Community | 132 (52.2) | 34 (85.0) | 48 (51.6) | 50 (68.5) | 0 |
| Institutionb  | 121 (47.8) | 6 (15.0) | 45 (48.4) | 23 (31.5) | 47 (100) |
| **Number of regular medications taken by care recipients** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median (IQR) | 6 (4-8) | 7.5 (4.5-10.0) | 5.5 (4-8) | 6.0 (5-8) | 4 (4-6) |
| n (%) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1-4 | 55 (22.8) | 8 (21.6) | 24 (27.9) | 11 (15.5) | 12 (25.5) |
| 5-9 | 88 (36.5) | 15 (40.5) | 36 (41.9) | 30 (42.3) | 7 (14.9) |
| ≥ 10 | 34 (14.1) | 9 (24.3) | 14 (16.3) | 9 (12.7) | 2 (4.3) |
| Do not know (according to caregivers) | 64 (26.6) | 5 (13.5) | 12 (14.0) | 21 (29.6) | 26 (55.3)  |
| **Use of a pill box, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 116 (48.3) | 22 (55.0) | 38 (53.5) | 51 (60.0) | 5 (11.4) |
| No | 124 (51.7) | 18 (45.0) | 33 (46.5) | 34 (40.0) | 39 (88.6) |
| **Medication managementc of care recipients, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Caregiver | 75 (29.4) | 17 (42.5) | 27 (28.4) | 30 (41.1) | 1 (2.1) |
| Self-management | 53 (20.8) | 10 (25.0) | 32 (33.7) | 10 (13.7) | 1 (2.1) |
| Relative | 18 (7.1) | 6 (15.0) | 6 (6.3) | 5 (6.9) | 1 (2.1) |
| Paid carer | 134 (52.6) | 11 (27.5) | 37 (39.0) | 41 (56.2) | 45 (95.7) |
| Other non-relative | 11 (4.3) | 0 | 7 (7.4) | 3 (41.1) | 1 (2.1) |
| **Relationship of care recipient, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Spouse | 83 (32.7) | 12 (30.0) | 48 (51.0) | 18 (24.7) | 5 (10.7) |
| Children | 90 (35.4) | 17 (42.5) | 11 (11.7) | 36 (49.3) | 26 (55.3) |
| Sibling | 14 (5.5) | 0 | 11 (11.7) | 3 (4.1) | 0 |
| Other relative | 55 (21.7) | 8 (20.0) | 20 (21.3) | 12 (16.4) | 15 (31.9) |
| Other non-relative | 12 (4.7) | 3 (7.5) | 4 (4.3) | 4 (5.5) | 1 (2.1) |
| **Level of education of caregivers, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary education (elementary school) | 21 (8.3) | 3 (7.5) | 6 (6.3) | 10 (13.9) | 2 (4.3) |
| Lower secondary education | 63 (24.8) | 6 (15.0) | 28 (29.5) | 24 (33.3) | 5 (10.6) |
| Upper secondary education | 86 (33.9) | 14 (35.0) | 26 (27.4) | 19 (26.4) | 27 (57.4) |
| Higher education (university) | 84 (33.0) | 17 (42.5) | 35 (36.8) | 19 (26.4) | 13 (27.7) |
| **Level of education of care recipients, n (%)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| No schooling | 2 (0.8) | 0 | 2 (2.1) | 0 | 0 |
| Primary education (elementary school) | 104 (40.8) | 13 (32.5) | 30 (31.6) | 41 (56.2) | 20 (42.6) |
| Lower secondary education | 64 (25.1) | 9 (22.5) | 30 (31.6) | 22 (30.1) | 3 (6.4) |
| Upper secondary education | 48 (18.8) | 9 (22.5) | 14 (14.7) | 6 (8.2) | 19 (40.4) |
| Higher education (university) | 28 (11.0) | 6 (15.0) | 16 (16.8) | 2 (2.8) | 4 (8.5) |
| Do not know (according to caregivers) | 9 (3.5) | 3 (7.5) | 3 (3.2) | 2 (2.7) | 1 (2.1) |

aIndividuals without missing data for this question.

bResidential aged care facilities, institutions for independent elders and community organizations.

cMultiple responses to this question were allowed.