

Transitions in Giving and Receiving Financial Support among Middle- and Old-Age Populations

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Background: Financial support and/or exchange between parents and their adult offspring are common across economically advanced societies. The literature of intergenerational support in general and financial assistance in particular typically provides a **static picture**. Studies have shown that while such exchanges take place both “downward” from parents to offspring and “upward” from offspring to parents, the former is more prevalent than the latter (Albertini et al., 2007).

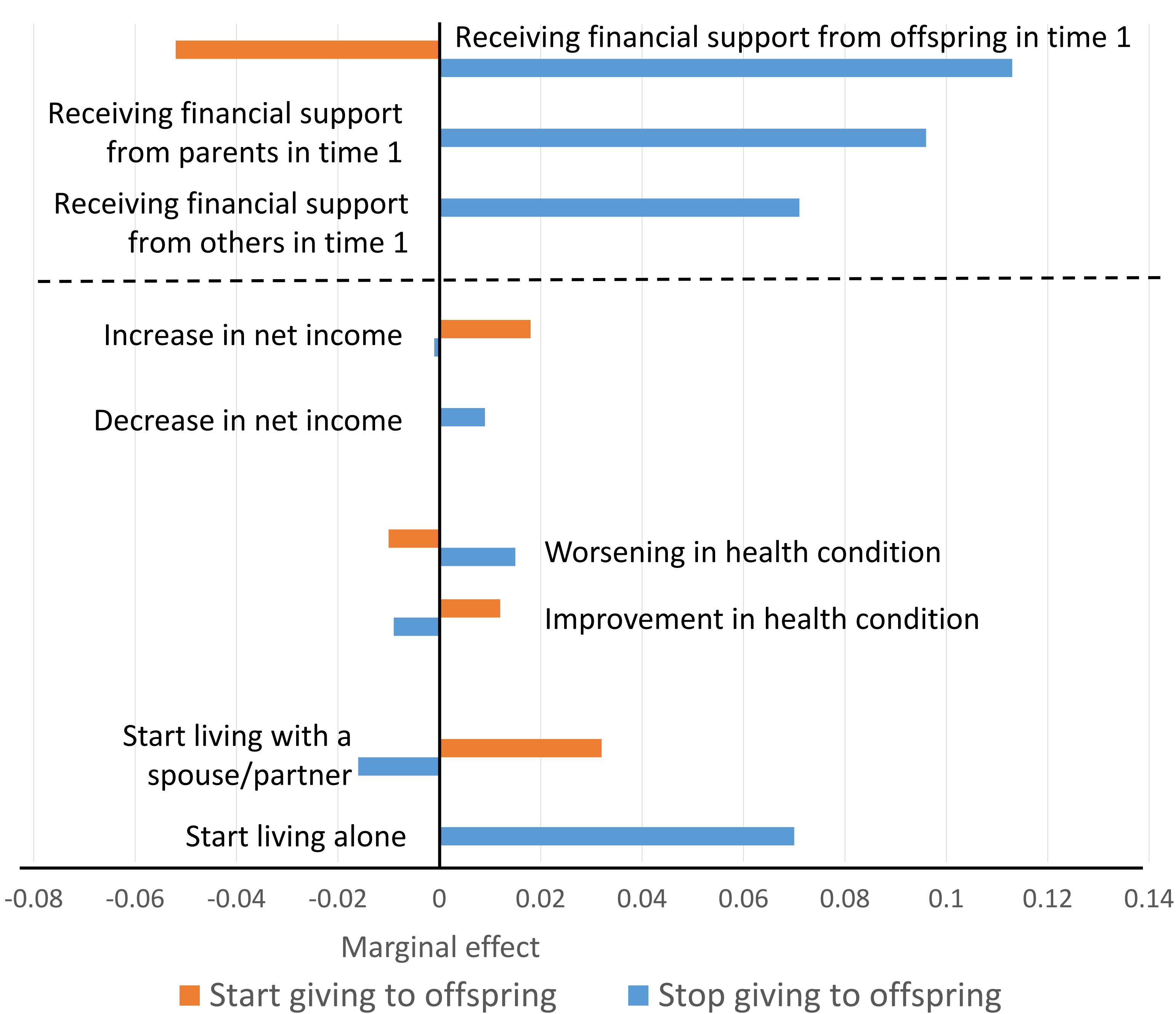
Research Issues: No research, to our knowledge, has conceptualized such support as contingent and **dynamic** and examined **change over time in financial support**, and the family attributes that affect it. Therefore, in our study we aim to expand the understanding of intergenerational assistance by **examining the stability of, and changes in, financial assistance**, both “downward” as well as “upward” among people 50 years and older.

Research Methods: Data from Wave II (Time 1) and Wave IV (Time 2) of SHARE-Europe. The study tracks the granting and receiving of financial support by persons 50 years and over who were interviewed in both waves. We use multinomial logit regression to model the change in financial support behavior.

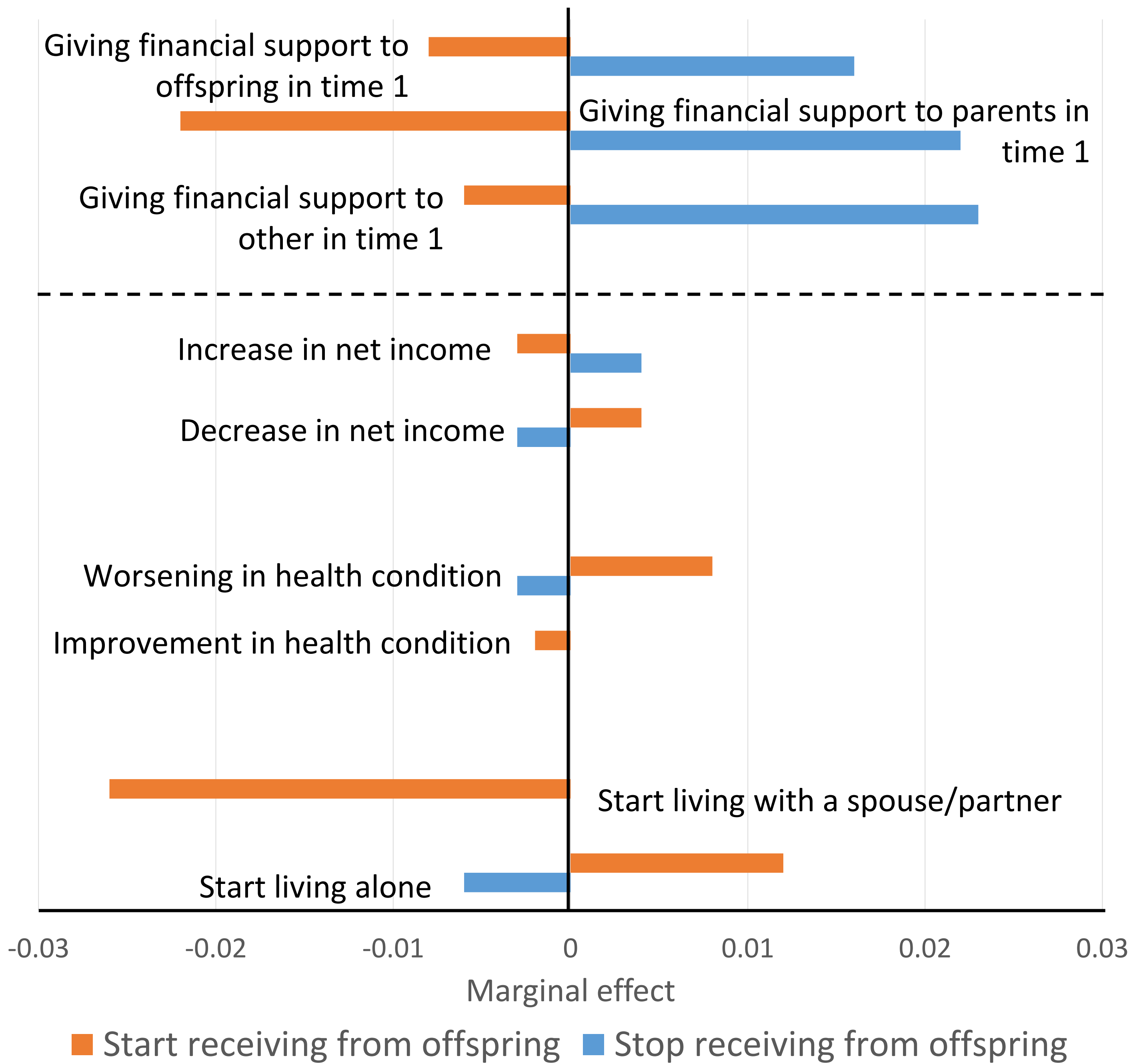
Table: Transitions in Giving and Receiving Financial Support, aged 50+ in Time 1 (pct.)

	Time 1- Yes, Time 2 - Yes	Time 1 – Yes, Time 2 – No	Time 1 – No, Time 2 – Yes	Time 1 – No, Time 2 - No
Giving to Offspring	7.7	14.8	10.1	67.3
Receiving from Offspring	1.5	5.5	5.0	88.0

Model I: Giving financial support to offspring*



Model II: Receiving financial support from offspring*



* Only significant value are presented.

Main Conclusions:

- we found considerable **volatility in intergenerational giving and receiving of financial support** (much greater than stable giving or receiving).
- Changes** are largely contingent on changing personal and household circumstances.