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Ageism in healthcare and access to services

Abodunrin Aminu

Early-Stage Researcher, Robert Gordon University

@Aminumal

Work package 2

- WP2 explores ageism in access to goods and services: social and health services (formal, informal) and appropriate drug treatment. This work package include five projects.
- **Project 8** examined the association between age discrimination (ageism) and development of frailty among individuals aged 65 years and over by longitudinally analysing the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. It also examined the impact of social isolation and loneliness on frailty among older adults.
- Frailty is a concept used to describe susceptibility to physical and psychosocial stressors and can considerably increase the risk of adverse event among older people.

Findings from project 8.

- Prevalence of frailty was 12% among the ELSA participants.
- Prevalence of age discrimination was 38.5% among individuals aged 65 years and over.
- The risk of frailty increased by 50% among those who reported age discrimination.
- Women who reported age discrimination had 73% increased risk of frailty compared to men.
- Both social isolation and loneliness have significant impact on frailty development among older adults.

Recommendation

- **ADDRESSING AGEISM TO FOSTER HEALTHY AGEING**
 - Raising awareness about the detriment of ageism to healthy life among older people.
 - Educating and training of health and social care staff and also reinforcing positive health behaviours among older adults.
 - Intergenerational contacts.
 - To address gendered ageism.



No
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to
Ageism

Thank you