Abstract of Master's Dissertation

Course	International Health Development (MPH)	Name	Ryuji Yoshino
Thesis Title	Population Ageing and living situation of older persons in Kwale County Kenya		

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Objective :

The main objective of this study is to describe population ageing and living situation of older persons in Kwale County. Specific objectives are

1) to identify the proportion of people aged 60 years or older and the aged 80 years or older

2) to describe population statistics and demographic transition

3) to evaluate the association between living arrangements, household size headship and demographic characteristic of older persons

Methods :

A secondary data analysis using the Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) data collected in 2013 and 2017 was conducted. There were 52,102 respondents in 2013 and 59,188 respondents in 2017. Population statistics were summarised by describing dependency ratio, proportion of older persons (60+ and 80+) by gender and community, birth registration, crude birth rate in 2013, and death records. Living arrangements were categorised into 'Alone', 'Skipped generation household (SGH)', 'Older only', 'With adult' and 'With adult and child'. Household size was categorized as 'one person', 'two to three persons', 'four to five persons' and 'more than six persons'. Headship was defined as "not head" or "head". Demographic characteristic and each outcome variables were examined with the cross tabulation and P-value, by using the Chi-square test. The association between those outcomes and exposure variables was determined by bivariate logistic regression analysis, which was performed using STATA 16 software.

＊ The abstract, containing the objective, method, result and conclusion should not exceed 300-500 words.

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Results :

The proportion of persons 60 and older increased from 4.57% in 2013 to 5.43% in 2017 for both sexes. A higher proportion (5.54%) was observed for females. Around 60% of older persons lived with more than six persons. However, older females were less likely to in such households (OR = 0.74 in 2013 and 0.71 in 2017) and more likely to live alone (OR = 1.53 in 2013 and OR = 1.29 in 2017). Furthermore, the persons who were 70 and over were more likely to live alone (OR = 1.80, 1.73 in 2013 and OR = 1.97, 1.98 in 2017). The number and proportion of living in a 'Skipped generation household (SGH) were significantly higher for older females than males (OR = 2.92 in 2013, OR = 1.72 in 2017). Older females were less likely to live in 'With adult and child' households (OR = 0.82 and 0.86). Older men were more likely to be the head of the household.

Conclusions :

Population ageing was observed in Kwale HDSS areas. Older females were more likely to live longer and to live alone compared to men. In addition, they were more likely to live in a 'Skipped generation household' (SGH). Therefore, older women were more likely to suffer from the double burden of being the breadwinner as well as the caregivers for the household members. Although population statistics and the living arrangements of older persons may be over- or underestimated, this is the first study to reveal the demographic characteristic and the living arrangements of the older persons who live in rural Kenya. (484 words)

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