



**Dr. Viola Angelini**

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**Focus: Justice**

# General introduction

Population ageing is the most important demographic trend of this century. The combination of declining fertility rates and increasing longevity implies that the share of the population above the age of 65 is rapidly increasing in all developed countries. Unfortunately, the rise in life expectancy has also resulted in an increase in the number of years that people spend in ill health or disability. Furthermore, there is substantial dispersion in health outcomes across different socio-economic groups. From both an academic and a policy perspective, the challenge is to make all people live longer in good health.

Healthy ageing is a lifelong process that starts even before birth. An expanding body of literature has documented that adverse socio-economic conditions even around the time of birth have a negative effect on a range of high-age mortality and morbidity outcomes. Yet, we still know very little about the mechanisms through which adverse socio-economic conditions early in life operate and whether it would be possible to intervene at some point between birth and old age to prevent that early-life disadvantages translate into poor health outcomes later in life.

The objective of this research theme is to identify potential targets for prevention and intervention strategies aimed at reducing socio-economic inequalities in health. Our approach has three distinctive characteristics:

1. It is multidisciplinary in nature.
2. It takes a life-course perspective.
3. It makes careful use of data to evaluate policies.

## **Expected impact in five years' time**

The theme will bring together international researchers from different disciplines to help the design of prevention and intervention strategies, aimed at reducing socio-economic inequalities. Therefore, the insights of the research theme are expected to benefit not only the research community, but also society at large.

Examples:

1. Co-organisation of the joint NIDI-RUG Workshop on Socio-economic Differences and Health Later in Life, Groningen, November 2016.
2. Various scientific articles in collaboration with demographers and epidemiologists.

## **Relevant event**

European Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, September 2018.

## **Requirements**

I need support in terms of organisation, grant writing and communication, in addition to a budget to organise events and invite international researchers.



Wil je meer informatie of direct aansluiten bij dit thema?  
Neem dan contact op via onderstaande gegevens met:

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