

論文の内容の要旨

論文題目 Impact of Disaster-Related Relocation on Mental Health via Changes in Group Participation among Older Adults: Causal Mediation Analysis of the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake (災害に伴う転居が地域活動参加の変化を通じて高齢者の精神的健康に与える影響：熊本地震前後のデータを用いた因果媒介分析)
氏名 松岡 洋子

Disaster-related relocation is associated with depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), specifically in older adults. Disaster-related relocation often deprives disaster survivors of opportunities for group participation, potentially resulting in the deterioration of their mental health. This study explored the unproven mediation effects of disaster-related relocation on mental health via changes in group participation. I and co-authors analyzed the pre/post-disaster dataset of functionally independent older adults from the Japan Gerontological Evaluation Study. Following the 2013 survey, a follow-up survey was conducted seven months after the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake and floods. We utilized the pre/post-disaster dataset to make a causal inference of the natural direct and indirect effect estimates of disaster-related relocation on the mental health of participants via changes in group participation ($n = 828$). Results of the inverse odds ratio-weighted mediation analyses indicated that compared to no relocation, the relative risk (RR) of developing major depressive episodes (MDE) as the natural direct effect estimate of relocation to temporary housing was 3.79 [95% confidence interval: 1.70–6.64]. However, the RR of the natural indirect effect estimate via renewed (either ceased or started) group participation on MDE was 0.60 [0.34–0.94]. No clear associations were observed in relation to PTSD symptoms. The environment in the temporary housing built after the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake may have optimized social ties among residents, protecting them against depression.