

# Elena Bassoli

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## Research Interests

Primary: Labour economics, Public economics

Secondary: Health economics, Economics of Ageing, Gender economics

## Job Market Paper

**Working longer or opting out? Women's costly response to a recent pension reform (joint with Y. Brilli)**

This paper assesses how a recent and unexpected Italian pension reform changed the incentive to early retirement for women. The analysis uses rich Italian administrative data and it is based on a differences-in-discontinuities design. Identification exploits the facts that (i) women with just above 35 years of contributions are eligible for early retirement; (ii) women born in 1952 are the first cohort affected by the retirement age increase, while women born in 1951 are unaffected. The results indicate that treated women above 35 years of contribution, for whom age increased unexpectedly from age 60 to 64, retire early by 8 months compared to the unaffected cohort. As this option entails a penalty in the annuity, we also evaluate the reform's effect on women's pension amount. The findings indicate a reduction in the benefit of about 15% compared to the unaffected group. This paper is the first to highlight how tightening pension rules could push women to exit the labour market earlier at the price of smaller annuities.

## References

**Prof. Agar Brugiavini**  
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## Current Position

Fall 2022 - Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Paris School of Economics

## Past Position

2022 Research Fellow at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, project SHARE-COVID (health and ageing themes)

2020 - May 2021 Research Fellow at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, project SSHOC (labour and ageing themes)

## Education

**Ph.D., Economics (*With Honors*), Ca' Foscari University of Venice, February 2020**

Advisors: Professor Agar Brugiavini, Professor Irene Mammi

Thesis: “The effect of health on the marginal utility of consumption expenditures and on attitudes towards risk”

Committee: Proff. Cinzia Di Novi, Marteen Lindeboom, Giacomo Pasini

**Visiting PhD Student at the University of Manchester, 2018**

Advisor: Professor James Banks

**M.Sc., Economics and Economic Policy, (110/110), University of Bologna, March 2016**

**B.S., Political Science, *summa cum laude*, University of Bologna, July 2013**

## Further Education

2021: **Summer School in new methods for Difference in Difference** by Pedro Sant’Anna, virtual, Statistical Horizon

2019: Summer School of Ageing, San Servolo, Venice International University

2017: Panel Data Econometrics Summer School, SIDE Bertinoro (FC); Summer School of Ageing, San Servolo, Venice International University

## Publications

- 1 **Bassoli E.**, (2022) “An Empirical Analysis of Health-Dependent Utility on SHARE and ELSA data” in *Italian Economic Journal* DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40797-022-00208->
- 2 **Bassoli E.**, Bonsang E., Brugiavini A., Pasini G., (2022) “End-of-Life Care and Depression” *Applied Economics Letters* DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2022.2099516>
- 3 Banks J., **Bassoli E.**, Mammi I. (2020) “Changing attitudes to risk at older ages: The role of health and other life events”. *Journal of Economic Psychology*. doi: 10.1016/j.joep.2019.102208

## Chapters in books

- 4 **Bassoli E.**, Brugiavini A., Pasini G., “Disease prevalence across Europe: new evidence from SHARE” (2021) in Baltagi B.H., Moscone F., *The Sustainability of Health Care Systems in Contributions to Economic Analysis*, Emerald Publishing
- 5 **Bassoli E.**, Belloni M., Brugiavini A., Gao Y., “Did the pandemic change retirement trends?” (2023) In “Social, health, and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the epidemiological control measures”, De Gruyter DOI: 10.1515/9783111135908-014

## Working Papers

1. **Bassoli E.** and Brugiavini A. “Unequal care provision: evidence from the Share-Corona Survey” Working Papers Department of Economics Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, No. 5/WP/2023 [under review]

This paper brings new evidence on the differences in informal care provision across individuals, supporting the hypothesis that women and people aged 50-64 are more likely to be caregivers. We exploit exogenous changes in the demand for care following the COVID-19 outbreak and make use of variations in lockdown policies across Europe. We use the SHARE Corona survey, which involves about 50000 respondents of age 50 and over in 28 countries and has detailed information on the provision of care, characteristics of the caregiver and of the care recipient. We link the SHARE Corona Survey data with an individual specific “stringency index”, which measures the intensity of the lockdown policies and the degree of individual’s exposure to these restrictions. We propose a new methodology to measure the degree of rationing of care that older people experienced during the pandemic (and after) and find that women, low income and people in the age group 50-64 were indeed more likely to provide help/care, and also document the multi-facet interaction with the labour market status of caregivers.

## Work in Progress

1. **Bassoli E.**, Brugiavini A., Carrino L., “What is the monetary cost of dementia in Europe? Evidence from the SHARE and ELSA dataset”

This paper aims at addressing several questions about the cost of long-term care in Europe by focusing on the onset of dementia on a panel of older people, which is representative of the ageing population. We exploit a rich set of information based on the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and the English Longitudinal Survey of Ageing (ELSA). We are able to build a panel of individuals aged 50 and above for a period of more than 15 years, covering 11 countries. By applying a linear fixed effect methodology, we shed light on the short-term impact of a cognitive diagnosis at older ages. We show that individuals change their basket allocation promptly by reducing food and increasing housing and out-of-pocket expenditures. At the same time, the demand for care, both formal and informal, increases, thus likely putting pressure on the healthcare system in future times. Further analyses disentangle heterogeneous effects based on gender, education and income level. Different groups are exposed to this type of shock in different ways, thus likely calling for more social protection. Finally, older retirees appeared to be more affected in consumption variation to face the health shock.

## 2. Bassoli. E, “The direct effect of gender norms on women’s and men’s health”

Men and women differ in their self-reporting health status and conditions; however, what is the role of social norms on individuals’ health status is still an open issue. Combining the Survey of Health Ageing and Retirement in Europe and the European Value Study, this paper brings new evidence about this topic and finds that traditional gender norms in the family and work context impact the individual’s health status both for men and women. Results are heterogeneous by sexes: women are more likely to report depression and poor health status when gender norms are more traditional, i.e., women are seen as homemakers and caregivers. Results are robust to controlling for women’s labour participation rate and when grouping individuals by age. This evidence suggests that gender norms play an essential role in differences in health conditions across sexes.

## Teaching Experience

A.Y 2023/2024 (Fall): Lecturer Health Economics (in French), Master level (M1), Paris Dauphine

A.Y 2020/2021 (Spring) : TA for Microeconomics (undergraduate), TA data analysis at the Summer School of Ageing (Venice International University, June 2021)

A.Y 2019/2020 (Fall) : Tutor for Econometrics (Master) and Introductory Econometrics (undergraduate), Senior TA for Microeconomics (undergraduate)

A.Y 2018/2019 (Spring) : TA for Econometrics (Master) and Microeconomics (undergraduate)

A.Y 2017/2018 (Fall) : TA for Macroeconomics (undergraduate)

A.A 2016/2017: Tutor for “Job Discrimination and the gender pay gap”, Harvard-Ca’ Foscari Summer School (undergraduate)

## Seminars and Conference Presentations

**2023:** SISEC (Brescia, February), Seminar at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice (February), Invited Seminar at Paris Dauphine, Legos Lab (March), Workshop GENDHI (March), Workshop PSE-Paris Dauphine (April), Internal Seminar Labour and Public Economics, PSE (April); Invited Seminar at University of Modena (May), JMA, Strasbourg (June), ASHECON (June), AFSE (June), Netspar (June), AIEL (September), EALE (September), University of Southern Denmark (invited seminar, October), Colloque Retraites & Vieillessement, Paris.

**2022:** NETSPAR (discussant, January); Labor Revelli, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino (poster, February); ESPE, UniCal., (June); VisitINPS internal seminar, Rome (June); EUHEA, Oslo (July); CINCH Mental Health Workshop, RWI, Essen (July); Workshop at Uni Paris Dauphine (December); Workshop at Centre LIVES Uni Lausanne (December)

**2021:** Society of the Economics of the Household Conference (SEHO), poster presentation, (May); Invited Seminar at the Institute of Gerontology, King’s College London, (June); American Society of Health Economists Conference (ASHEcon), (June); Essen Economics of Mental Health Workshop (chair of one session), (July); Gateway Summer Workshop on Comparative Studies on Aging (August); Society for Social Medicine Conference (SSM) (September)

**2020:** invited at BOMOPAV in Bologna (postponed due to COVID), AIES in Milan (virtual conference) (October)

**2019 :** Workshop CINTIA in Venice (poster) (May); 3rd CEPRA/NBER Workshop on Ageing and Health in Lugano (June); Ca’ Foscari Department Internal Seminar (June); Lunch Seminar (invited), Pisa University

(October); AIES in Pisa, (October); Workshop on Labour Administrative Data, Bank of Italy, (audience) (November)

**2018:** Ca' Foscari Phd Students Workshop in Economics and Management (June); 6th Econometrics and Empirical Economics Workshop in Perugia (August); AIES in Naples (September); Manchester Phd Students Seminar series (December)

## Organisation of international workshop

EDEEM Doctoral Summer Workshop in Venice 2019 (1st Edition) - Scientific and Organisational Committee

## Referee Experience

Health Economics, Social Science and Medicine - Population Health, Economics and Human Biology, *PlosONE*, PharmacoEconomics, Applied Economics

## Fellowships and Awards

2022 **Marie Curie Post-doctoral Fellowship**, Role PI, co-PI: Prof. Geoffard (PSE), €195.900

2022 **Research Grant as Visitinps Fellowship**: access to the Italian Labour administrative data, Role PI. (co-PI Prof. Ylenia Brilli), awarded November 2021

2016-2019 Italian PhD Student Grant from MIUR

2017 Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Carpi award (Among the best Master students in town)

2013 Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Carpi award (Among the best Bachelor students in town)

## Computer Skills

Statistical Software: Stata (advanced)

Other: Qualtrics, Latex, Word, Excel, Power Point

## Language Skills

Mother tongue: Italian

Others: English (fluent), French (fluent)