

# **Is a Bayesian approach the solution for care transition research? Beyond descriptive analysis in a difficult to reach and drop-out prone population.**

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## **Briefly Explain Your Question (max. 100 words)**

The care transition research field suffers from systematic small sample sizes due to difficulties to reach older adults at such a pivotal life event. Furthermore, given the nature of the target population, longitudinal research encounters high drop-out rates. The resulting samples are so limited in size that with a classical statistical approach only descriptive interpretation of the data seems to be justified. Given the different function of sample size within a Bayesian approach, we wonder how Bayesian analysis can overcome this small sample size problem and whether cut-off criteria should still be taken into account to make meaningful conclusions.

## **Scientific field(s) of the author(s)**

Gerontology, aging research

Psychology of religion and spirituality

## **Relevance to conference theme (max. 50 words)**

The small sample size problem within care transition research illustrates the search for a balance between dealing with a methodological problem and ensuring the feasibility to make meaningful conclusions for the concerned research field.

## **Keywords (max. 3)**

Bayesian statistics

Longitudinal research

Drop-out prone population