

Journal of Aging & Social Policy >

Volume 20, 2008 - [Issue 1](#)

924 | 70 | 15  
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

INTERNATIONAL VIEW

# Future of Long-Term Care Financing for the Elderly in Korea

Soonman Kwon PhD

Pages 119-136 | Received 01 Jan 2006, Accepted 01 Jun 2006, Published online: 11 Oct 2008

 Cite this article  [https://doi.org/10.1300/J031v20n01\\_07](https://doi.org/10.1300/J031v20n01_07)

Sample our  
Health and Social Care  
Journals  
>> [Sign in here](#) to start your access  
to the latest two volumes for 14 days



 References

 Citations

 Metrics

 Reprints & Permissions

[Read this article](#)

 Share

## ABSTRACT

With rapid aging, change in family structure, and the increase in the labor participation of women, the demand for long-term care has been increasing in Korea. Inappropriate utilization of medical care by the elderly in health care institutions, such as social admissions, also puts a financial burden on the health insurance system. The widening gap between the need for long-term care and the capacity of welfare programs to fulfill that need, along with a rather new national pension scheme and the limited economic capacity of the elderly, calls for a new public financing mechanism to provide protection for a broader range of old people from the costs of long-term care. Many important decisions are yet to be made, although Korea is likely to introduce social insurance for long-term care rather than tax-based financing, following the tradition of social health insurance. Whether it should cover only the elderly long-term care or all types of long-

term care including disability of all age groups will have a critical impact on social solidarity and the financial sustainability of the new long-term care insurance. Generosity of benefits or the level of out-of-pocket payment, the role of cash benefits, and the relation with health insurance scheme all should be taken into account in the design of a new financing scheme. Lack of care personnel and facilities is also a barrier to the implementation of public long-term care financing in Korea, and the implementation strategy needs to be carved out carefully.

#### KEYWORDS:

Korea

elderly

long-term care

financing

social insurance

## Related research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by  
70

[Health and Long-Term Care Systems for Older People in the Republic of Korea: Policy Challenges and Lessons >](#)

Boyoung Jeon et al.  
Health Systems & Reform  
Published online: 5 Sep 2017



[Long-Term Care Needs of the Elderly in Korea and Elderly Long-Term Care Insurance >](#)

Suk-Hee Kim PhD et al.  
Social Work in Public Health  
Published online: 9 Mar 2010

[Public Long-Term Care Insurance for the Elderly in Korea: Design, Characteristics, and Tasks >](#)

Jae Eun Seok  
Social Work in Public Health  
Published online: 9 Mar 2010

[View more](#)

## Information for

[Authors](#)

[R&D professionals](#)

[Editors](#)

[Librarians](#)

[Societies](#)

## Opportunities

[Reprints and e-prints](#)

[Advertising solutions](#)

[Accelerated publication](#)

[Corporate access solutions](#)

## Open access

[Overview](#)

[Open journals](#)

[Open Select](#)

[Dove Medical Press](#)

[F1000Research](#)

## Help and information

[Help and contact](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[All journals](#)

[Books](#)

## Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up



Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#)

[Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#) [Accessibility](#)

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954  
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG



**Taylor & Francis**  
by informa