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Social Relationships, Leisure Activity, and Health in Older Adults

Po-Ju Chang, Linda Wray, and Yeqiang Lin

The Pennsylvania State University

Abstract

Objective—Although the link between enhanced social relationships and better health has generally been well established, few studies have examined the role of leisure activity in this link. This study examined how leisure influences the link between social relationships and health in older age.

Methods—Using data from the 2006 and 2010 waves of the nationally representative U.S. Health and Retirement Study and structural equation modelling analyses, we examined data on 2,965 older participants to determine if leisure activities mediated the link between social relationships and health in 2010, controlling for race, education level, and health in 2006.

Results—The results demonstrated that leisure activities mediate the link between social relationships and health in these age groups. Perceptions of positive social relationships were associated with greater involvement in leisure activities, and greater involvement in leisure activities was associated with better health in older age.

Discussion & Conclusions—The contribution of leisure to health in these age groups is receiving increasing attention, and the results of this study add to the literature on this topic, by identifying the mediating effect of leisure activity on the link between social relationships and health. Future studies aimed at increasing leisure activity may contribute to improved health outcomes in older adults.

Keywords

leisure activity; social relationships; health; older age; structural equation model

With aging, individuals often decline in physical and cognitive functions, and social networks may narrow (Chen & Feeley, 2013). Because much literature demonstrates that social relationships are positively associated with health status across the life span (e.g., Cohen, 2004; Uchino, Cacioppo, & Kiecolt-Glaser, 1996), the narrowing of social networks (as one measure of social relationships) may be problematic for health in older age and lessen subjective well-being, life satisfaction, and quality of life (Berkman & Syme, 1979; Cohen, 2004). Thus, identifying modifiable factors that may aid in more limited establishing social relationships is important: Health-promoting behaviors, such as leisure activity, may strengthen the link between social relationships and health.

Cohen and Wills (1985) proposed a main effects model to test that link: Positive social relationships (i.e., higher social support or lower social strain) benefit on health outcomes in

adults, regardless of the stress they experience, in part by motivating the use of healthpromoting behaviors (Smith & Christakis, 2008). Individuals with enhanced social relationships not only improve psychological well-being (e.g., by gaining a sense of belonging and lessening depression), but also physical health (e.g., by enhancing immune function and reducing heart attack risks) (Cohen, 2004). Employing this main effects framework, Chen and Feeley (2013) used structural equation modelling and 2008 Health and Retirement Study data to examine the link between social relationships and well-being, finding that well-being improves with higher levels of social support or lower levels of strain, which indirectly mediated individuals' loneliness. Although their findings supported a main effects model, their cross-sectional sample did not provide sufficient evidence of positive changes in well-being. Thus, they recommended that future research explore other potential mediators between social relationships and well-being.

Leisure activity has been examined as such a mediator (e.g., Cohen-Mansfield, et al., 2012). In this context, leisure activities are defined as preferred and enjoyable activities participated in during one's free time (Kleiber & Nimrod, 2009), and characterized as representing freedom and providing intrinsic satisfaction (Kelly, 1996). Individuals can recover from stress; restore social and physical resources (Pressman et al., 2009) through leisure activities. Leisure activities with others may provide social support and, in turn, mediate the stress-health relationship (Coleman & Iso-Ahola, 1993), enrich meaning of life (Carruthers & Hood, 2004), recovery from stress, and restoration of social and physical resources (Pressman, et al., 2009), as well as helping older adults adapt to potential restrictions of chronic conditions (Hutchinson & Nimrod, 2012) and overcome negative life events (e.g., losing a loved one) (Janke, Nimrod, & Kleiber, 2008).

Because engaging in leisure activities may affect different aspects of well-being (Gautam, et al., 2007), the specific type of leisure activity may be particularly salient, with some types of activities providing more benefit than others. Paillard-Borg and colleagues (2009) examined five types of leisure activities in older adults — mental, social, physical, productive, and recreational to assess how participation affects health status. They found that mental activities (e.g., writing, reading) were not only the most popular type of leisure activities, but also enhanced well-being the most In contrast, Silverstein and Parker (2002) divided 15 leisure activities into six domains: culture-entertainment, productive-personal growth, outdoor-physical, recreation-expressive, friendship, and formal-group. They found that engaging in friendship-type leisure activities (e.g., visiting friends) resulted in the highest quality of life in older Swedish adults. Finally, in a recent review of literature on social and leisure activities and well-being in older adults, Adams and colleagues (2011) concluded that informal social activity (e.g., going to clubs) benefited well-being the most.

Previous studies have widely investigated the link between social relationships and health, as well as between leisure and health, but comparatively little research has examined if leisure mediates the link between social relationships and health in older adults based on a main effects model. We adopted this model to examine both psychological (i.e., social relationships) and behavioral (i.e., leisure activities) influences on older adults' health, supplementing the findings of earlier studies. We investigate if leisure mediates the association between social relationships and health outcomes (i.e., physical health and

psychological well-being), using Health and Retirement Study data in 2006 and 2010 and structural equation modelling. Our conceptual model (figure 1) indicates that although social relationships independently predict both physical health and psychological well-being, we hypothesize that leisure activity will mediate these links. We posit that higher levels of positive social relationships are associated with better health, and that leisure activities will explain part of that relationship.

Methods

Participants

Data were drawn from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), originally launched in the U.S. in 1992, supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA U01AG009740) and the Social Security Administration, and designed to monitor health and related social roles in adults over age 50. Core interviews were conducted in the participants' homes in 1992; follow-up interviews were conducted by phone every two years thereafter. The HRS surveys a representative sample of 26,000 Americans every two years (http://

hrsonline.isr.umich.edu). Starting in 2006, the HRS also began collecting psychosocial data (e.g., life satisfaction and leisure activities) through self-administered questionnaires on a random sample of 50% of core interview participants (i.e., 13,000 Americans). One-half of those participants were interviewed in 2006 (n=6,500), and one-half in 2008 (n=6,500). Those who were interviewed in 2006 were re-interviewed in 2010. The present study was based on data from the subsample of HRS respondents in 2006 and 2010 core interviews who also completed the psychosocial questionnaire in 2006 and 2010 (n= 4,697). We eliminated cases for participants who had missing data on any of the key analytic variables (social support, social strain, and leisure activity in 2010; physical health and psychological well-being in both 2006 and 2010). The final analytic sample included 2,965 older adults between ages 50-96 (M=64.62; SD=9.92), most of whom were married (91.8%) and White (83.1%); half (50.2%) were female (Table 1). Compared to the overall sample in 2010 (average age = 69.79; female = 54.8%; married = 59%; White = 83.55%), the analytic sample was quite similar.

Measures

Our latent constructs were developed with scaled HRS data that assessed self-reported social relationships in 2010, leisure activities in 2010, psychological well-being in both 2006 and 2010, and physical health in both 2006 and 2010. Each scale was tested for reliability before conducting the main effects model; and factor analysis tested latent variable quality based on the main effects model (Cohen & Wills, 1985). For instance, the six health-related scales described below (i.e., number of comorbidities, body mass index, self-reported health, depressive symptoms, life satisfaction, and insomnia) were combined into two latent variables, physical health and psychological well-being, based on factor analytic results and previous literature (e.g., Hopman, et al., 2009). Detailed information on the study measure follows and is summarized in Table 2.

Social relationships—The independent latent variable 'social relationships' represents the quality of social integration: level of social support and strain experienced from a

spouse/partner, other family members, children, or friends, developed by Walen and Lachman (2000), and found to be reliable in previous studies (e.g., Chen & Feeley, 2013). Social support was measured by 3-point items, anchored by 1 (*not at all*) and 3 (*a lot*). A sample item of social support was "How much do they really understand the way you feel about things?" Social strain was measured with four 3-point items, anchored by 1 (*not at all*) and 3 (*a lot*). A sample item of social strain was measured with four 3-point items, anchored by 1 (*not at all*) and 3 (*a lot*). A sample item of social strain was "*How often do they make too many demands on you*?" A higher score represent higher social strain/social support. In order to combine social strain and social support into the latent variable 'social relationship', the social strain items were reverse-coded and summed so that a higher score indicated lower social strain. A factor analysis for all social support/strain and the concepts of main effect model supported combining this overall latent variable for two support and strain items.

Leisure activities—Frequency of leisure activities ranged from 1 (*never*) to 6 (*daily*), based on participants' previous leisure experiences with 18 separate leisure activities. A sample question was "How often you do each activity: Watch television?" The latent variable 'leisure activities, which was viewed as a mediator between social relationships and physical health as well as psychological well-being, measured four types of leisure activities (i.e., mental, e.g., read books, watch TV; social, e.g., do activity with grandchildren, go to a club; physical, e.g., do home maintenance, walk; and productive, e.g., cook, make clothes), based on previous literature (i.e., Adams, et al., 2011; Paillard-Borg, et al., 2009) and Exploratory factor analytic (EFA) results. Noting that leisure is defined as not involving paid employment (Kleiber, et al., 2011), we also included household chores (e.g., do home maintenance, cook) as a type of leisure activity (e.g., Paillard-Borg, et al., 2009). The scales were averaged as indicators for participation levels in the four types of leisure activities, with higher scores reflecting greater participation.

Physical health—The latent variable 'physical health' included body mass index (BMI), self-reported physical health, and number of comorbidities, measured as controls in 2006 and outcomes in 2010. Combining these variables into such latent variables was referred to in previous studies (e.g., Hopman, et al., 2009) and supported by our factor analyses. In order to create a BMI indicator where the larger score indicated riskier BMI, we calculated BMI by dividing respondents' self-measured weight by squared height and categorized it as: 1 (*normal*, *BMI* = 18.5 – 25), 2 (*underweight/overweight*, *BMI* = 16 – 18.5or 25 – 30), 3 (moderately to severely underweight/overweight, *BMI* = 15 – 16 or 30 – 40), and 4 (very severely underweight/overweight, BMI = 15 or > 40), according to the World Health Organization's definition and categorization of BMI. Self-reported physical health measured respondents' subjective health, ranging from 1 (*poor*) to 5 (*excellent*), derived from the National Health Interview Survey (Wallace & Herzog, 1995). The number of comorbidities was based on the total diagnosed chronic conditions (high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, lung disease, heart condition, and stroke) reported by participants ("Has a doctor ever diagnosed you with....?").

Psychological well-being—The latent variable 'psychological well-being' represented the effects of depressive symptoms, life satisfaction, and insomnia. Depressive symptoms were measured by the abbreviated 8-item Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression

Scale (CES-D; Radloff, 1977), the items summed to create an indicator for psychological distress, with a higher score reflecting greater depressive symptomatology. Life satisfaction was measured by Diener's (1994) 5-item Subjective Well-being Scale, with responses ranging from 1 (*strongly disagree*) to 6 (*strongly agree*). Total scores were created by reversing the scales and summing the responses with a higher score indicating a lower level of life satisfaction. Insomnia was measured by 4 items of yes/no questions regarding sleep quality and summed into a scale score with a higher score indicating a lower sleep quality. We included insomnia in our latent variable 'psychological well-being' based on its association with negative resources (e.g., stress, mental disorder) and psychological wellbeing (Bastien, et al., 2001), as well as our factor analyses. These scales are often established and found to be reliable (e.g., Gallo & Rabins, 1999).

Demographic—Variables found to be correlates of social relationships and health were also included in the model as control variables: age, race, and education at baseline in 2006. These data were drawn from the core interviews: age (50-64 = 0, 65-74 = 1, 75-84 = 2, 85 above = 3), race (*white* = 1, *black* = 2, *others* = 3), and highest degree of education (*less than high school* = 0, *some college* = 1, *four-year college* = 2, *more than college* = 3).

Analytic Procedures

Analyses were performed using structural equation modeling (SEM) in Amos (Version 20; SPSS, Chicago; Arbuckle, 2006). A two-step procedure tested the theoretically-based relationships among the four latent variables (i.e., social relationships, leisure activities, physical health, and psychological well-being).

First, in examining the hypothesized mediating effects of leisure activity in the link between social relationships and health, we used Baron and Kenny's (1986) four condition test: (a) the independent variable 'social relationships' must affect the mediator 'leisure activities'; (b) the independent variable 'social relationships' must affect the dependent variables 'psychological well-being' and 'physical health' without the mediator 'leisure activities'; (c) the mediator 'leisure activities' must affect the dependent variables of 'psychological well-being' and 'physical health'; and the independent variable 'social relationships' affects the dependent variables 'psychological well-being' and 'physical health'; and the independent variable 'social relationships' affects the dependent variables 'psychological well-being' and 'physical health' via the mediator 'leisure activities'; and (d) once the previously-stated conditions all hold as expected, the effect of the independent variable 'social relationships' on the dependent variables 'psychological well-being' and 'physical health' must be significantly smaller in the third condition than in the second. Additionally, the Sobel test is recommended to test the significance of the change in the coefficient in the fourth condition (Hsu, et al., 2010). The mediating role of leisure activities is supported if all four conditions are satisfied.

Second, SEM was used to test our conceptual model: (a) to examine the mediating effect of leisure activities in path models; and (b) to evaluate the tested conceptual model (Figure 1). Noting that the mediation SEM analysis was developed to examine if the effect of one variable (e.g., social relationships) on another (e.g., physical health and psychological wellbeing) is mediated by an intermediate variable (e.g., leisure activities), it is "inherently noncausal" (Bollen & Pearl, 2013, p.1). Furthermore, because the purpose of SEM is to

examine relationships between variables and to analyze relationships between latent variables (Stoelting, 2002), its focus is on understanding this mechanism rather than establishing causal relationships (Stavola & Daniel, 2012). The final structural model was constructed with a directional path leading from the latent independent variable (social relationships in 2010) impacting the mediator (leisure activities in 2010), in turn impacting the latent dependent variables (psychological well-being and physical health in 2010). Additionally, latent variables measured in 2006 (psychological well-being, and physical health) were included as control variables, which help to avoid potential biases that participants' previous health conditions may pose to their current health conditions. Model fit was evaluated with three goodness-of-fit indices: the comparative fit index (CFI; Bentler, 1990), the Tucker-Lewis index (TLI; Tucker & Lewis, 1973), and the root-mean-square error of approximation (RMSEA; Steiger, 1990). Minimum TLIs and CFIs of .90 were required for model acceptance, and values of .95 or greater were regarded as an indication of good model fit. RMSEAs of less than .06 were indicators of a good-fitting model (Hu & Bentler, 1998).

Results

Descriptive Statistics

As shown in Table 3, nearly all variables are significantly correlated with each other, and in the expected direction. Physical health (BMI, self-reported health, the number of comorbidities) and psychological well-being (CES-D, insomnia, life satisfaction) were coded so that the larger the value, the lower the level of physical health and psychological well-being. Therefore, for example, the negative correlation between leisure mental activities and CES-D can be interpreted as if individuals increase their frequency of engaging in mental leisure activities, their levels of depressive symptoms decrease or, in contrast, if individuals report lower levels of depressive symptoms, they may engage in more mental leisure activities.

Path Models for Mediating the Effect of Leisure

According to Baron and Kenny's (1986), the first three conditions were met with significant path coefficients between social relationships, leisure activities, and psychological and physical health (Table 4). For the fourth condition, the Sobel test indicated that changes in the coefficient once the mediator was introduced were significant for psychological well-being (t= -2.410, p<.05) and physical health (t= -2.993, p<.001). Therefore, our analyses indicated that leisure activity partly mediated the relationships between social relationships, psychological well-being, and physical health.

SEM Evaluation of the Tested Conceptual Model

The final model (Figure 2) represented a good fit for the data: χ^2 (148, N=2965) = 1210.774, p < .001, CFI = .937, TLI = .919, RMSEA = .049. As illustrated in Figure 2, there were significant direct effects between (a) social relationships and leisure activities; (b) social relationships and psychological well-being; (c) social relationships and physical health; (d) leisure activities and psychological well-being; and (e) leisure activities and physical health, controlling on education, race, psychological well-being, and physical health in 2006. As

posited, social relationships predicted psychological well-being and physical health, and leisure activity partially mediated these relationships. More specifically, the levels of contribution from social support (standardized $\beta = 1.000$) and social strain (standardized $\beta = 1.194$) to the latent variable 'social relationships' were similar to each other. While psychological well-being was positively affected by social relationships and leisure activities more than was physical health, the coefficient for physical health changed the most when leisure activities were added as a mediator to this model. Furthermore, physical leisure activities (standardized $\beta = 1.541$) contributed the most while productive leisure activities (standardized $\beta = 3.117$) in 'psychological well-being' and self-rated health (standardized $\beta = 5.675$) in 'physical health' were the two most impacted outcome variables.

Discussion and Conclusions

The results of this study confirmed our hypothesis that the links between social relationships and physical health or psychological well-being were enhanced in the presence of leisure activities as a mediator, supporting a main effect model (Cohen & Wills, 1985), where adults with higher quality social relationships may be motivated to engage in healthpromoting behaviors such as leisure activity and, in turn, reap more health benefits. Their social networks may value and so encourage participation in leisure activities as a vehicle to maintain health (e.g., Coleman & Iso-Ahola, 1993). Additionally, the physical type of leisure activity contributed the greatest effect to the latent variable 'leisure activity.' The contribution of physical leisure activities may be most important for improving health when emotional or psychological needs have been satisfied by the high quality of older adults' social relationships.

The results that leisure activities, especially physical ones, mediate the link between social relationships and health replicates findings in previous studies which examined the main effect model in leisure and health (e.g., Cohen-Mansfield, et al., 2009). Differences in specific criteria used to define leisure could contribute to the differences between the present and previous studies: Many researchers only examined "leisure-time physical activity" in their models (e.g., Bassett & Martin, 2011), whereas the present study included four types of leisure activities. Indeed, physical leisure activity is most beneficial among the four types of leisure activities, while mental leisure activity also significantly correlated to health in our model. Since older adults may be involved in fewer and fewer physical activities during aging process, mental activities may be an alternative to improving health.

Although the positive effect of leisure activity on psychological well-being was greater than on physical health in the overall model, the coefficient change in physical health was greater when leisure activity was added as a mediator. Physical decline is a common and largely progressive outcome of the aging process (Chen & Feeley, 2013), whereas psychological well-being may vary by person. Noting that self-reported physical health measurement contributes most to the latent variable 'physical health' in the presented model, there may have been bias because it is a self-reported measurement. Individuals may report their physical health as better than it actually was.

The results provided additional evidence that leisure activity is a health-promoting behavior that may mediate the link between social relationships and health, which have both research and practical implications. First, leisure provides a broader concept of health-promoting behaviors, including more than physical activity. In a meta-analysis study reviewing articles relating to the NIH Cognitive and Emotional Health Project, Hendrie and colleagues (2006) indicated that physical activity may protect against cognitive decline in older adults, but did not discuss other health-promoting behaviors. Our findings also suggested that other types of leisure activities may provide insightful information when examining the link between social relationships and health outcomes. Second, engaging in leisure is a healthy lifestyle that most prevention research and interventions are designed to promote (e.g., Hutchinson & Nimrod, 2012). Leisure activity is a relatively inexpensive and easy accessible for older adults' health improvement. Leisure activity may also help explain the impact of positive social relationships on physical health improvements in older adults. Intervention programmers may create environments to develop friendships in older participants as a first step. Adding regular leisure activities, especially physical types of leisure activities (e.g., walking), into the intervention could be the second step to broaden the positive effect of social relationships on physical health. Finally, as a health-promoting behavior, leisure, may improve long-term psychological well-being and physical health in older adults, such as improvements of physiological and cardiovascular fitness (Iwasaki, et al., 2005). The present study not only provides evidence as to how older adults can improve their health, but also how researchers can inform healthcare delivery. For example, interventions for older adults-such as support for clinical assessments and treatment services-may be developed whereby leisure activities are defined as "behavioral medicine" aimed at improving older adults' health. The findings may also help to identify which types of leisure activities may provide the greatest health benefit as part of those clinical assessments or treatment services. Finally, future intervention researchers may examine the effect of different physical types of leisure activities on the link between social relationships and health improvement for older adults.

Despite the large number of participants (N =2,965) and the variety of measurements involved in, the design of the present study was not without limitations, First, although we controlled for age, race, education, and health status at baseline, other unmeasured factors, such as gender and marital status, may have influenced the results. Given that the power of personal characteristics in health has been widely discussed in, future research is necessary to explore differences across population subgroups based on a life-span developmental perspective in order to appreciate the power of early-life, ascribed and achieved social status (Alwin & Wray, 2005). Second, the psychosocial data used in the current study were only from the first wave in 2006, the year the HRS started collecting data on leisure activity and life satisfaction. Although data in 2006 were included as controls, those in this tested model were cross-sectional. Causal relationships cannot be examined in a cross-sectional data since SEM only tests directionality in longitudinal data (Stoelting, 2002). Future research could examine a longitudinal change and causality in the current model once the HRS launches next wave of psychosocial data in 2014.

The present study underscores the contributions of leisure in the link between social relationships and health among older adults based on the main effect model. An improved

understanding of the mediating effect of leisure activities in such a link is important for improvement and maintenance of health among the older population, which can be applied to effective intervention development to help older adults during aging process. Leisure is a much broader concept than physical activity, which as shown in the present study other types of non-physical leisure activity mediated the link between social relationships and health as well. The findings have demonstrated the complex relationships between social relationships and health, and highlighted the power of leisure activities for developing future health policies and/or clinical interventions for older adults in the health promotion area.

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Figure 2.

Final main effects model in the current study. All paths significant at the p < .05 level. Note: Controlling for education, race, physical health and psychological well-being in 2006.

Table 1 Sociodemographic Characteristics of Study Sample, 2006, Health and Retirement Study

Variables	Frequency (%)
Age	
50-64	1029 (34.7)
65-74	1142 (38.5)
75-84	667 (22.5)
Over 85	127 (4.3)
Education	
Less than high school	585 (19.7)
High school	1491 (50.3)
Some college	152 (5.1)
4-year college	437 (14.7)
More than college	300 (10.1)
Sex	
Male	1476 (49.8)
Female	1489 (50.2)
Marital Status	
Never married	17 (0.6)
Widowed	76 (2.6)
Separated	147 (5.0)
Married	2725 (91.9)
Race	
White	2608 (88.0)
Black	276 (9.3)
Others	81 (2.7)

Note: N=2965.

			Та	able 2
Summary	of Latent	Variable	Descri	ptions

Latent Variables	Measurements	Years	Coding
Social	Social support	2010	Sum score of all items
relationships	Social strain	2010	Reversed all items then sum score of all items
Leisure activities	Mental	2010	Mean score of all items
	Physical	2010	Mean score of all items
	Social	2010	Mean score of all items
	Productive	2010	Mean score of all items
Physical health	BMI	2006, 2010	1 (normal) to 4 (very severely underweight/overweight)
	Number of comorbidities	2006, 2010	Total number of chronic conditions
	Self-reported physical health	2006, 2010	Reversed the item [*]
Psychological well-being	CES-D	2006, 2010	Sum score of all items*
	Insomnia	2006, 2010	Sum score of all items [*]
	Life satisfaction	2006, 2010	Reversed all items then mean score of all items [*]

*Note: A higher score means a lower level of health/well-being.

Table 3

1. Social support 2. Social strain 21^{46} 2. Social strain 21^{46} 3. Menual activity 07^{46} $.03$ 4. Social activity 09^{46} $.06^{48}$ $.29^{46}$ 5. Productive activity $.13^{46}$ $.20^{48}$ $.27^{48}$ 6. Physical activity $.13^{46}$ $.07^{46}$ $.29^{48}$ 7. CES-D 10^{48} $.17^{48}$ $.20^{48}$ $.27^{48}$ 7. CES-D 10^{48} $.17^{48}$ $.00^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.24^{48}$ 8. Insomnia 07^{48} $.00^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.24^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ 9. Life satisfaction 20^{48} $.03^{48}$ $.24^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ 9. Life satisfaction 20^{48} $.01^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.32^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ 10. BMI 07^{48} $.01^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ 11. Self-reported health 10^{48} $.01^{48}$ $.02^{48}$ $.03^{48}$ $.18^{48}$ 11. Self-reported health 10^{48} $.01^{48}$ </th <th>Variables</th> <th>1</th> <th>7</th> <th>3</th> <th>4</th> <th>S</th> <th>9</th> <th>7</th> <th>×</th> <th>6</th> <th>10</th> <th>11</th> <th>12</th>	Variables	1	7	3	4	S	9	7	×	6	10	11	12
2. Social strain 21^{4*} 21^{4*} 21^{4*} 23^{4*} 23^{4*} 23^{4*} 33^{4*	1. Social support												
3. Mental activity 07^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 23^{**} 4. Social activity 13^{**} -07^{**} 21^{**} 28^{**} 3^{**} 5. Productive activity 13^{**} 00^{**} 21^{**} 28^{**} 31^{**} 28^{**} 6. Physical activity 13^{**} 02^{**} 21^{**} 27^{**} 27^{**} 42^{**} 7. CES-D -10^{**} -17^{**} -03^{**} 24^{**} 30^{**} 32^{**} 18^{**} 7. CES-D -10^{**} -17^{**} -03^{**} 03^{**} 21^{**} 42^{**} 8. Insomnia -07^{**} -17^{**} -08^{**} 03^{**} 13^{**} 13^{**} 13^{**} 9. Life satisfaction -22^{**} -04^{**} -08^{**} 03^{**} 18^{**} 18^{**} 9. Life satisfaction -22^{**} -10^{**} -11^{**} -12^{**} 13^{**} 13^{**} 13^{**} 9. Life satisfaction -22^{**} -11^{**} -16^{**} 21^{**} <td< td=""><td>2. Social strain</td><td>.21**</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>	2. Social strain	.21**											
4. Social activity $.09^{44}$ 06^{44} $.29^{44}$ $.29^{44}$ 5. Productive activity $.13^{44}$ 07^{44} $.31^{44}$ $.29^{44}$ 6. Physical activity $.13^{44}$ $.02$ $.34^{44}$ $.29^{44}$ 7. CES-D 10^{44} 17^{44} 09^{44} $.03$ 24^{44} 8. Insomnia 07^{44} 17^{44} 09^{44} $.03$ 24^{44} 9. Life satisfaction 22^{44} 13^{44} 08^{44} $.03^{44}$ $.24^{44}$ 9. Life satisfaction 22^{44} 11^{44}^{44} 08^{44} $.03^{44}$ $.03^{44}$ 9. Life satisfaction 22^{44} 16^{44} $.03^{44}$ $.03^{44}$ $.03^{44}$ 10. BMI 02^{44} 16^{44} 16^{44} $.03^{44}$ $.03^{44}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{44} 10^{44} 16^{44} $.16^{44}$ $.03^{44}$ $.13^{44}$ 13. Comorbidities 05^{44} 16^{44} 16^{44} $.16^{4}$ $.16^{4}$ $.16^{4}$ $.16^{4}$ $.16^{44}$	3. Mental activity	.07**	.03										
5. Productive activity 13^{**} -07^{**} 31^{**} 28^{**} 28^{**} 6. Physical activity 13^{**} 02 34^{**} 30^{**} 27^{**} 7. CES-D -10^{**} 17^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 24^{**} 8. Insomnia -07^{**} 17^{**} 17^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 13^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 03^{**} 9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} 03^{**} $.18^{**}$ 9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} $.08^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 10. BMI 05^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} $.08^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} $.08^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 13. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 16^{**} $.01^{**}$ $.03^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 14. Self-reported health 12^{**} 16^{**} 16^{**} $.01^{**}$	4. Social activity	** 60.	06**	.29**									
6. Physical activity $.13^{**}$ $.02$ $.34^{**}$ $.30^{**}$ $.27^{**}$ $.27^{**}$ $.21^{**}$ $.21^{**}$ $.27^{**}$ 7. CES-D 10^{**} 17^{**} 09^{**} $.03$ 24^{**} $.32^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 8. Insomnia 07^{**} 13^{**} 12^{**} 09^{**} $.03$ 12^{**} $.42^{**}$ 9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 04^{*} 03^{**} 13^{**} $.08^{**}$ $.08^{**}$ 10. BMI 05^{**} 10^{**} 01^{**} 0.2^{**} $.03^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 01^{**} $.02^{**}$ $.07^{**}$ $.07^{**}$ $.08^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 16^{**} $.03^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 12. Comorbidities 03^{**} 18^{**} $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ Mean 3.10^{*} 3.38^{*} $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$	5. Productive activity	.13**	07**	.31**	.28**								
· CES-D 10^{**} 17^{**} 09^{**} 03 24^{**} 3.24^{**} 3.24^{**} 3.2^{**} <td>6. Physical activity</td> <td>.13**</td> <td>.02</td> <td>.34**</td> <td>.30**</td> <td>.27**</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	6. Physical activity	.13**	.02	.34**	.30**	.27**							
8. Insomnia -07^{**} 13^{**} 04^{*} 05^{**} 03^{**} 12^{**} 23^{**} $.13^{**}$ 9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 20^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} 03^{**} 12^{**} 18^{**} 10. BMI 05^{**} 10^{**} 01^{**} 01^{**} 01^{**} 16^{**} 18^{**} 18^{**} 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 10^{**} 01 $.02$ $.03$ 15^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.08^{**}$ 8^{**} 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.03^{**}$ 15^{**} 16^{**} 18^{**} 12. Comorbidities 03^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} 16^{**} 16^{**} 18^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} 15^{**} <td>7. CES-D</td> <td>10**</td> <td>17**</td> <td>17**</td> <td>09**</td> <td>03</td> <td>24**</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	7. CES-D	10**	17**	17**	09**	03	24**						
9. Life satisfaction 22^{**} 20^{**} 14^{**} 08^{**} 08^{**} 08^{**} 08^{**} 18^{**} 10. BMI 05^{**} 10^{**} 01^{**} 01^{**} 01^{**} 01^{**} $.08^{**}$ $.08^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.03^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.18^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ 12. Comorbidities 05^{**} 033 15^{**} 16^{**} $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.18^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.14^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$	8. Insomnia	07**	13**	04*	05**	.03	12**	.42**					
10. BMI 05^{**} 10^{**} 01 $.02$ $.03$ 15^{**} $.04^{**}$ $.05^{**}$ $.08^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.33^{**}$ $.13^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ 11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.33^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ 12. Comorbidities 05^{**} 03^{**} 07^{**} 16^{**} 16^{**} $.16^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.42^{**}$ Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 $.66^{**}$ $.37^{**}$ $.42^{**}$ Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 $.87$ $.84$ 1.03 1.12 Note: $$	9. Life satisfaction	22**	20**	14**	08**	08**	20**	.32**	.18**				
11. Self-reported health 12^{**} 11^{**} 25^{**} 17^{**} 16^{**} $.37^{**}$ $.29^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ 12. Comorbidities 05^{**} 03^{**} 15^{**} 01^{**} 16^{**} $.16^{**}$ $.16^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.42^{**}$ Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 6.62 2.37 2.12 1.46 Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 6.62 2.37 2.12 1.46 Standard Deviation $.59$ $.53$ $.96$ 1.04 $.98$ 1.37 1.07 8.7 8.4 1.03 1.12 Note: $$	10. BMI	05**	10^{**}	01	.02	.03	15**	.04*	.05**	.08**			
12. Comorbidities 05^{**} 03^{**} 10^{**} 16^{**} $.16^{**}$ $.15^{**}$ $.19^{**}$ $.42^{**}$ Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 6.62 2.37 2.12 1.46 Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 6.62 2.37 2.12 1.46 Standard Deviation $.59$ $.53$ $.96$ 1.04 $.98$ 1.35 1.65 1.97 $.84$ 1.03 1.12 Note: $$	11. Self-reported health	12**	11**	25**	17**	16**	16**	.37**	.29**	.33**	.15**		
Mean 3.10 3.38 3.92 2.49 2.81 4.07 1.07 6.62 2.37 2.12 2.72 1.46 Standard Deviation .59 .53 .96 1.04 .98 1.35 1.65 1.97 .87 .84 1.03 1.12 Note: A higher mean score means a lower level of health/well-being. ** ** **	12. Comorbidities	05**	033	15**	07**	10^{**}	24**	.16**	.14**	.15**	.19**	.42**	
Standard Deviation .59 .53 .96 1.04 .98 1.35 1.65 1.97 .87 .84 1.03 1.12 Note:	Mean	3.10	3.38	3.92	2.49	2.81	4.07	1.07	6.62	2.37	2.12	2.72	1.46
Note: A higher mean score means a lower level of health/well-being. * **	Standard Deviation	.59	.53	96.	1.04	86.	1.35	1.65	1.97	.87	.84	1.03	1.12
A higher mean score means a lower level of health/well-being. * * **	Note:												
* p < .05 **	A higher mean score mean	s a lower h	evel of hea	lth/well-bu	eing.								
**	p < .05												
	**												

Path	Standardized β (S.E.)
First condition	
Social relationships \rightarrow Leisure activities	.182 (.023)
Second condition	
Social relationships \rightarrow Psychological well-being	598 (.103)
Social relationships \rightarrow Physical health	-3.795 (.407)
Third condition	
Social relationships \rightarrow Psychological well-being	488(.082)
Social relationships \rightarrow Physical health	-3.113(.349)
Social relationships \rightarrow Leisure activities	785 (.230)
Leisure activities \rightarrow Psychological well-being	137 (.022)
Leisure activities \rightarrow Physical health	252 (.074)

 Table 4

 Modified Path Model and Test of the Mediating Effect

Note: All paths significant at the p < .05 *level.*