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Keynote Speech - Abstract

The role of financial factors for employment of older workers – evidence from ELSA cohort

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As in many OECD countries, labour market participation rates of older adults in the UK have been increasing steadily over the last twenty years. In this lecture I analyse this trend in more detail and discuss recent evidence on the various patterns and potential causes underlying it, looking at financial and socioeconomic circumstances, cohort levels of health and disability, and the role of specific policy change. Much of this evidence draws on data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing which crucially provides individual level longitudinal data covering, amongst other things, pensions, wealth, health, disability and family circumstances. The value of such data to researchers and policymakers seeking to understand employment of other workers is emphasised.