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The effects of postponing the legal retirement age on couples' retirement decisions:
the case of the French 2010 reform

This paper evaluates the impact of postponing the legal retirement age by considering both the direct and the spillover effects, through the partner, on the probabilities of retirement of both spouses. A sharp regression discontinuity design with a double treatment, through being concerned and having a spouse affected by the reform, is used. Results highlight retirement strategies at a household level. It is proved that the reform produces not only direct effects but also spillover effects on retirement probabilities of spouses. Especially, wives appear more sensitive than husbands to postponement of the legal retirement age because of the combination of direct and spillover effects.

Key words: *postponement of the legal retirement age, household decisions, spillover effects, policy impact evaluation*

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