

Changes in Transportation Behavior and Attitude toward Returning Driver's License by Unlimited Ride Public Transportation Policy for the Elderly

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We conducted a two-month unlimited-ride experiment of public transportation (railroads, buses, and cabs) for elderly people. As a result of the experiment, the frequency of going out, the frequency of conversation, and the frequency of public transportation use increased for many of the participants. This indicates that unlimited public transportation may contribute to the promotion of health among the elderly. On the other hand, some people did not increase their frequency of going out or using public transportation even if they had unlimited access to public transportation. However, even among those who did not increase their frequency of going out or using public transportation, almost all of them checked the timetables and the places they could go by public transportation. This result suggests that mobility management for future use of public transportation had a significant effect. The experiment increased and decreased the number of people who were willing to return their driver's license, respectively. This may be due to the fact that there were those who felt that they could live with public transportation in the future and those who felt that public transportation was inconvenient and could not be used in the future.