INPEA: Mistreatment of Older Persons, Residential Care Homes, and COVID-19

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Part 1
Countries’ Current Data on COVID-19
Respondents

Answers from 16 countries

- Argentina (x2)
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Dominican Republic
- France
- India (x2)
- Ireland
- Italy
- Liberia
- Malta
- Nigeria
- Serbia
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- United States
## Number of Deaths due to Covid-19 in the 65 years + by Country

### Deaths per 100,000 Citizens 65+

- **Argentina**: 2.42
- **Australia**: 0.40
- **Brazil**: 20.00
- **Canada**: 4.01
- **Dominican Republic**: 5.52
- **France**: 40.75
- **India**: 0.73
- **Ireland**: 31.92
- **Italy**: 51.33
- **Liberia**: 0.27
- **Malta**: 1.81
- **Nigeria**: 0.10
- **Serbia**: N.a.
- **Turkey**: 5.77
- **United Kingdom**: N.a./67,8 (GP)
- **United States**: 16.67
Containment and Mitigation Directives

- Social distancing: 18/18 (100%)
- Use of alcohol-based sanitizers: 18/18 (100%)
- Use of face masks: 17/18 (94.4%)
- Use of hand soap: 16/18 (88.9%)
- Partial lockdown: 12/18 (66.7%)
- Nationwide lockdown: 10/18 (55.6%)
Specific Measures - Older Persons

Yes: 12/18 (66.7%)  No: 6/18 (33.3%)

Examples:

- Elderly banned from going out to the streets (x2)
- Declaration of the state of emergency (lockdown) (x2)
- High recommended being at home in isolation
- Social distancing and isolation for 3 months

- Military help to compensate the lack of workers

- Swabbing of health care professionals was mandatory prior to assuming duties

- Additional financial support for older persons
Part 2
The Response to COVID-19 in Residential Care Facilities
Degree of Confidence in Countries’ Leadership

- Extremely confident: 0/18 (0.0%)
- Very confident: 5/18 (27.8%)
- Somewhat confident: 5/18 (27.8%)
- Not so confident: 4/18 (22.2%)
- Not confident at all: 4/18 (22.2%)
Staff and Equipment in Residential Care Facilities

- Very well staffed and equipped: 2/18 (11.1%)
- Well staffed and equipped: 0/18 (0.0%)
- Somewhat staffed and equipped: 6/18 (33.3%)
- Poorly staffed and equipped: 4/18 (22.2%)
- Very poorly staffed and equipped: 6/18 (33.3%)
Speed in Putting in Place Specific Measures to Protect Older Persons Living in Residential Care Facilities

- Very fast: 2/18 (11.1%)
- Fast: 3/18 (16.6%)
- Adequate: 2/18 (11.1%)
- Slow: 8/18 (44.4%)
- Very slow: 1/18 (5.6%)
- No measures were put in place: 2/18 (11.1%)
Part 3
Mistreatment of Older Persons in the Context of COVID-19
Types - Mistreatment in Residential Care Facilities

- Psychological: 18/18 (100.0%)
- Neglect: 14/18 (77.8%)
- Financial: 8/18 (44.4%)
- Physical: 7/18 (38.9%)
- Social (Refusing visits from family): 2/18 (11.1%)
- Sexual: 0/18 (0.0%)
Media Coverage - Mistreatment in Residential Care Facilities

Yes: 8/18 (44.4%)  No: 10/18 (55.6%)

Examples:

- Media talked more about the neglect of older adults in residential care facilities than mistreatment (x2)
- They reported cases of abandonment and neglect
- The government makes fear to older people about mortality
- Covering related to the lack of leadership responses
- Some examples of financial and physical abuse
Violation of rights of older persons [1]

- Ageism (x3)
- Refusing visits from family (x2)
- No distinction between “hot zone” and “cold zone” (x2)
- Not enough staff into long-term care facilities to take care of them (x2)
- No specific guidelines for the mental and physical health of older persons
- Civil rights denial (safety, dignity, etc.)
- Limitation of social contacts (which might have been more important to them than to younger age groups)
Violation of rights of older persons [2]

- Not allowing visitors in residential aged care or facilitating other means of contact
- Not keeping family/caregivers up to date with information about residents during this time
- Ban on going outside
- No provision of emergency or otherwise medical aid to older persons
- Not facilitating the collection of pensions digitally for example and they fell into Banks halls
Government didn’t compile correctly the death numbers of older adults before a long time after the beginning of the pandemic

Lack of gender and age disaggregated public data which is not direct violation of rights but on the other hand undermine evidence-driven response to the Covid19.

Access to non COVID health services (kidney dialysis, treatment for cancer, etc.)

No provision of home-based services to them: groceries, bills, household chores, etc.
Thank you!

Please consult our webpage:
www.maltraitancedesaines.com
• During the Covid-19, please point out 2 issues that you have observed that allows us to make links between quality of care and services in residential care homes and elder abuse?

• From a human rights perspective, what can INPEA push forward at the UN or elsewhere to ensure a better quality of life and care for all older persons in care settings?