



Public Health
England

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Weekly Care Homes Evidence Digest

Prevention and control of COVID-19 in home care/care homes settings

9th April 2021

Summary

This weekly digest contains a selection of evidence published in the last 7 days, in relation to the prevention and control of COVID-19 in home care/care home settings. We search a number of Covid-19 review repositories, an existing PHE Covid-19 evidence digest, Ovid Medline and Embase, Social Care Online, medRxiv (pre-print server) and various websites. We select peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed publications (pre-prints), as well as systematic reviews, guidance and evidence summaries.

The digest is produced by PHE **Knowledge and Library Services** (KLS), in conjunction with a small editorial team.

We do not accept responsibility for the availability, reliability or content of the items included in this resource and do not necessarily endorse the views expressed within them. Our intent is to highlight early emerging research findings as well as research that has been subject to peer review and wider scrutiny.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Publication date	Title / URL	Journal / Article type	Digest
31.04.2021	Trends in survival of older care home residents in England: a 10-year multi-cohort study	Social Science & Medicine / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents findings of 10-year study into mortality risks for carehome residents in England, including the finding that mortality risk for older care home and community residents has diverged (2006-2015) • Mortality rose for 65+ care home residents but not for their community counterparts • These care-home survival trends present a baseline for comparison with post-Covid trends
31.03.2021	Centralized Management of the Covid-19 Pandemic in Long-Term Care Facilities in Israel	Journal of Long Term Care / study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 was first diagnosed in Israel in late February 2020. During the first month following the outbreak, it became clear that the most severe outcomes were occurring in the Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) and that the fragmented supervision of these facilities was a key weakness in the fight against the pandemic. • It was therefore decided to establish the Fathers and Mothers Shield taskforce, which included representatives from all of the relevant government ministries and which would facilitate communication and consultation with the representatives of the LTCFs and with the relevant public sector organizations.
31.03.2021	Older adults in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil: effects on health, income and work	Cadernos de Saúde Pública / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study aims to characterise the population of older adults in Brazil during the COVID-19 pandemic with regard to health, socioeconomic conditions, gender inequality, adherence to social distancing and feelings of sadness or depression • The COVID-19 pandemic widened the inequality gap by affecting the most vulnerable older people. Strategies to mitigate loneliness and social distancing should consider social vulnerability and the marked difference between men and women in terms of household composition and socioeconomic and working conditions. • The authors recommend the development of representative surveys of Brazilian older adults to determine the impact of the pandemic in more detail

05.04.2021	Fatal Underfunding? Explaining COVID-19 Mortality in Spanish Nursing Homes	Journal of Aging and Health / research article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The COVID-19 pandemic has exerted a disproportionate effect on older European populations living in nursing homes. • This article discusses the 'fatal underfunding hypothesis', and reports an exploratory empirical analysis of the regional variation in nursing home fatalities during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in Spain, one of the European countries with the highest number of nursing home fatalities.
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Preprints

Publication date	Title / URL	Journal / Article type	Digest
07.04.21	Outcomes of COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts in Florida from December 14, 2020 to March 15, 2021 on Older Individuals	MedRxiv	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on Floridian strategy of vaccine rollout based on the desire to most immediately reduce morbidity and mortality • Data shows that vaccination efforts directed at those 65 years of age and older results in accelerated rates of overall declines in COVID-19 hospitalizations and mortality.

Reports and other publications

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
01.04.2021	Resident Safety During Disasters: Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Hampton Roads Area Nursing Homes	Richardson, Tihara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster Presentation examining resident safety in nursing homes within the Hampton Roads region during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study seeks to examine the association between nursing home staffing ratings, resident care ratings, facility size, and federal fine amounts to the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 deaths in regulated nursing homes within the Hampton Roads region. • The population in this quantitative study includes CMS regulated nursing homes in Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach, Virginia. • The study found that facility size was significantly predictive of nursing home COVID-19 cases. Additionally, both nursing facility size and

			<p>staffing rating were significantly predictive of nursing home COVID-19 deaths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Findings from this study support additional research to identify specific challenges faced by medium to large facilities (115-222 certified beds) and facilities with below average and well below average staffing ratings when trying to ensure resident safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.
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Guidance

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
31.03.2021	Participants at Adult Day Services Centers and Their Caregivers	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDC has developed guidance for administrators, staff, and volunteers at ADSCs. Participants (adults who attend ADSCs) and their caregivers can also take steps to protect themselves and their loved ones by helping reduce the spread of COVID-19 at ADSC facilities and at home.
06.04.2021	Personal protective equipment (PPE): resource for care workers working in care homes during sustained COVID-19 transmission in England	Public Health England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This guidance is intended for all care workers working in care homes in England. It can also be applied to visitors or essential care-givers within the care home setting.

Evidence Summaries

Publication Date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
30.03.2021	Coronavirus: Adult social care key issues and sources	House of Commons Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This briefing provides an overview of key issues facing the adult social care sector during the coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak, and provides links to some of the key official guidance for the sector.

Statistics

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
04.04.2021	Number of deaths in care homes notified to the Care Quality Commission, England	ONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly updated provisional counts of deaths caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) by local authority
07.04.2021	Coronavirus (COVID-19): adult care homes - additional data	Scottish Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly data on COVID-19 in adult care homes in Scotland.
08.04.2021	Deaths registered weekly in England and Wales, provisional	ONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional counts of the number of deaths registered in England and Wales, by age, sex and region, in the latest weeks for which data are available. Includes the most up-to-date figures available for deaths involving the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Editorials and News

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
30.03.2021	Developments in COVID-19 long-term care measures in 8 European countries, November 2020 to March 2021 (Vilans, NL)	Henk Nies et al	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Vilans we have mapped out the measures taken by the governments of eight countries to deal with COVID-19 and its consequences for long-term care. The aim is to learn from these measures and to draw inspiration from them. In this third overview we show how Belgium (especially Flanders), Denmark, Germany (especially North Rhine-Westphalia), France, Norway, the United Kingdom (especially England), Sweden and the Netherlands have operated since November 2020 until March 2021.
01.04.2021	Social Care COVID Recovery & Resilience: Learning lessons from international responses to the	Adelina Comas-Herrera et al	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Care COVID Resilience & Recovery project will draw together learning from scientific evidence and from international experiences of long-term care systems COVID.

	COVID-19 pandemic in long-term care systems		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim is to inform policy and practice as the social care sector in England grapples with, and recovers, from Covid-19, and to put the sector on a more resilient footing for the longer-term.
01.04.2021	Vulnerability in light of the COVID-19 crisis	ten Have, Henk; & Gordijn, Bert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examines the nature and assumptions of vulnerable members of the population, including older people and healthcare workers, through the prism of the COVID-19 pandemic.