



Home and health among different sub-groups of the ageing population: a comparison of two cohorts living in ordinary housing in Sweden.

<https://arctichealth.org/en/permalink/ahliterature277620>

Author: Henrik Ekström
Steven M Schmidt
Susanne Iwarsson

Source: BMC Geriatr. 2016 Apr 26;16:90

Date: Apr-26-2016

Language: English

Publication Type: Article

Keywords: Aged
Aged, 80 and over
Aging - psychology
Cohort Studies
Cross-Sectional Studies
Environment
Female
Health status
Housing - standards
Humans
Male
Perception
Personal Satisfaction
Population Surveillance - methods
Sweden - epidemiology

Abstract:

At present a majority of older people remain in their ordinary homes. Research has generated knowledge about home and health dynamics and increased the awareness of the complexity of housing as related to ageing. As this knowledge is based mainly on research on very old, single-living people in ordinary housing there is a need to study other sub-groups of the ageing population. Thus, the aim of the present descriptive study was to compare a younger old cohort with a very old cohort living in ordinary housing in Sweden in order to shed new light on home and health dynamics in different sub-groups of the ageing population.

Cross-sectional study of two population-based cohorts: one aged 67-70 years (n = 371) and one aged 79-89 years (n = 397) drawn from existing Swedish databases. Structured interviews and observations were conducted to collect data about socio-demographics, aspects of home, and symptoms. Besides descriptive statistics we computed tests of differences using the Chi-squared test and Mann-Whitney U-test.

Accessibility was significantly lower in the very old cohort compared to the younger old cohort even though the former were objectively assessed to have fewer environmental barriers. Those in the very old cohort perceived aspects of their housing situation as worse and were more dependent on external influences managing their housing situation. Although a larger proportion of the very old cohort had more functional limitations 22% were independent in ADL. In the younger old cohort 17% were dependent in ADL.

Keeping in mind that there were cohort differences beyond that of age, despite fewer environmental barriers in their dwellings the very old community-living cohort lived in housing with more accessibility problems compared to those of the younger old cohort, caused by their higher prevalence of functional limitations. Those in the very old cohort perceived themselves in a less favourable situation, but still as satisfied with housing as those in the younger old cohort. This kind of knowledge is indicative for prevention and intervention in health care and social services as well as for housing provision and societal planning. Further studies based on truly comparable cohorts are warranted.

Notes:

Cites: Can J Occup Ther. 1999 Dec;66(5):250-6010641377

Cites: Psychol Med. 2001 Oct;31(7):1159-6811681542

Cites: Gerontologist. 2003 Oct;43(5):628-3714570959

Cites: Disabil Rehabil. 2003 Dec 2;25(23):1316-2514617438

Cites: Aging Clin Exp Res. 2004 Apr;16(2):158-6815195992

Cites: Scand J Prim Health Care. 1990 Mar;8(1):9-172356375

Cites: J Gerontol. 1991 Nov;46(6):M210-51834726

Cites: Scand J Rehabil Med. 1991;23(4):193-2021785028

Cites: J Gerontol. 1993 Nov;48(6):M261-58227996

Cites: J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2005 Oct;60(10):1351-516282573

Cites: Acta Psychiatr Scand. 2006 May;113(5):372-8716603029

Cites: Acta Orthop. 2006 Dec;77(6):902-1117260199

Cites: Gerontologist. 2007 Feb;47(1):78-8417327543

Cites: Gerontologist. 2007 Feb;47(1):96-10717327545

Cites: Scand J Occup Ther. 2007;14(1):3-1517366073

Cites: Scand J Occup Ther. 2007;14(1):33-4317366076

Cites: J Rehabil Med. 2009 Feb;41(3):150-619229447

Cites: Gerontologist. 2009 Jun;49(3):355-6719420315

Cites: Arch Gerontol Geriatr. 2012 Jan-Feb;54(1):146-5021632126

Cites: Gerontologist. 2012 Jun;52(3):306-1622419248

Cites: JAMA. 2013 Nov 27;310(20):2191-424141714

Cites: J Aging Stud. 2014 Apr;29:9-1924655669

Cites: Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2014 Jul;11(7):7060-8025019267

Cites: Arch Gerontol Geriatr. 2015 Nov-Dec;61(3):529-3426199206

Cites: Am J Occup Ther. 2016 Mar-Apr;70(2):7002270020p1-926943110

PubMed ID:

27117314 [View in PubMed](#) 

