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# CQC Quality Ratings and Care Home Residents' quality of life

British Society of Gerontology 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference 2018

Ann-Marie Towers, Sinead Palmer, Nick Smith and Grace Collins





## THE STUDY

- Measuring Outcomes of Care Homes study (MOOCH)
- Funded by NIHR School for Social Care Research
- 2015-2018
- Aims:
  - Understand the quality of life of care home residents
    - Including weekends and evenings
  - Explore the relationship between residents' outcomes and the new CQC quality ratings (controlling for confounding factors).

#### BACKGROUND

- Care Quality Commission introduced new quality ratings in 2013.
- All adult social care services were rated between October 2014 and February 2017.
- Greater focus on quality of life
- "Mum test" would you want someone you love to live in or use the service?
- Rated as outstanding, good, require improvement or inadequate.
- Previous research showed relationship with QoL in residential but not nursing homes.

#### **METHOD**

## Cross-sectional study:

- Aiming for 210-340 residents in 30 homes
- 2-4 days in each home (depending on size of home)
- Questionnaires completed by care staff about residents' needs and characteristics
- Researchers collected data about residents' social carerelated quality of life through interviews and observations
- Homes were being inspected with the new CQC quality during the fieldwork period.
- We recorded the quality rating at the closest time to the fieldwork.

#### DATA COLLECTED

#### Resident level data

- Demographic information (age, gender, marital)
- Health (diagnosis of dementia, continence)
- Cognitive performance (MDS cognitive performance scale)
- Ability to perform activities of daily living (washing, dressing)
- Communication (Dementia Communication Difficulties Scale)
- Social care-related quality of life (ASCOT)

#### Home level data

- Size (number of beds)
- Registration (residential/nursing)
- Sector (profit/not-for-profit)
- CQC ratings

### SAMPLE

- 34 homes from 2 local authorities (29% response rate)
  - 20 nursing, 14 residential
  - 20-120 beds (mean = 50 beds)
  - Most were 'for-profit' with only 7 being not-for-profit

#### • 293 residents

- Mostly women (67%)
- Aged between 50 and 103 (mean = 85 years old)
- Mostly white (98%)
- Mostly widowed (53%) (but around a quarter still married)
- Around half diagnosed with dementia (52%)

# RESIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

MEASURE	SCALE	RANGE	MEAN (SD)
ADL count (independently)	0–9	0-9	3.57 (2.96)
Cognition (MDS CPS)	0-6*	0-6	1.94
Communication (DCDS)	0-39*	0-38	8.54 (9.11)
Social care related quality of life (ASCOT)	-0.17-1	.31-1	0.77 (0.16)
*higher scores = worse cognition or communication			

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## DIFFERENCES BY TYPE OF HOME

Compared with people living in residential care, nursing home residents were:

- Younger
- More likely to be male
- More likely to be married (vs widowed)
- More likely to have a diagnosis of dementia
- In poorer health (e.g. continence, pain)
- Less able to self-care (washing, dressing)
- Less likely to be self-funding all of their care

# SCRQOL OF RESIDENTS

**MOOCH** homes

National care home data (2010)

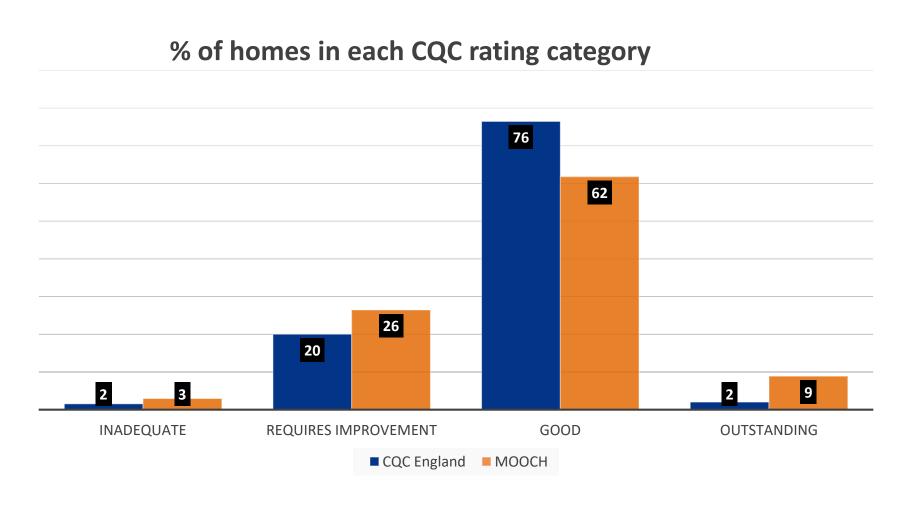




# CARE HOMES CQC RATINGS

- We were aiming for a range of quality ratings
- Most homes were rated as 'good'
- We managed to recruit some outstanding and requires improvement
- One home was rated inadequate before the research but was re-inspected and rated as 'requiring improvement' a week later

# HOW DO OUR HOMES COMPARE TO NATIONAL CQC RATINGS?



## CQC RATINGS AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Do people living in "outstanding and good" care homes have better care-related quality of life than people living in homes "requiring improvement"?

## Results of multi-level model

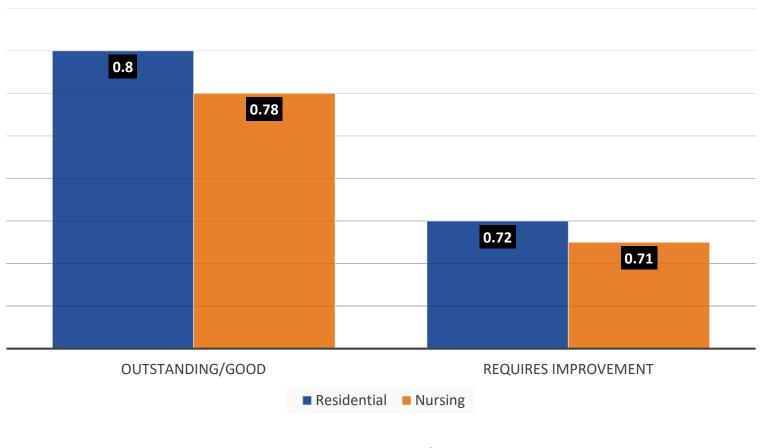
On average, people had better care-related quality of life in outstanding/good homes.

Even after controlling for other key variables (not significant (NS), p<.05\*, p<.01\*\*):



# SCRQoL BY CQC RATING

#### Residents' Care-related Quality of life



## CONCLUSIONS

- First look at the relationship between CQC quality ratings and residents' quality of life.
- Results indicate positive relationship with better quality of life in outstanding and good homes.
- Quality ratings are used by the public as an indicator of residents' quality of life so this is promising.
- But not a national study and no homes rated inadequate (very difficult to recruit and capture these homes)
- Important to try and replicate these findings for greater generalisability.

## DISCLAIMER

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