

# COVID-19 in people with intellectual disabilities

In the Netherlands, many people have expressed concerns about the coronavirus and its impact on people with intellectual disabilities. To gain more insight into this situation, on 24 March the Academic Collaborative 'Sterker op eigen benen' of Radboud university medical center made an on-line registration system available. The registration system was commissioned by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. The preliminary findings of the registration system are presented in this fact sheet.

The organizations of over 75% of clients with intellectual disabilities are now participating in the online registration system. A good national distribution of participating organizations appears to be achieved.

The most common complaints with a COVID-19 infection are: cough (58%), fever (49%), fatigue (47%), nose cold/sneezing (42%), shortness of breath (30%), and gastrointestinal complaints (21%).

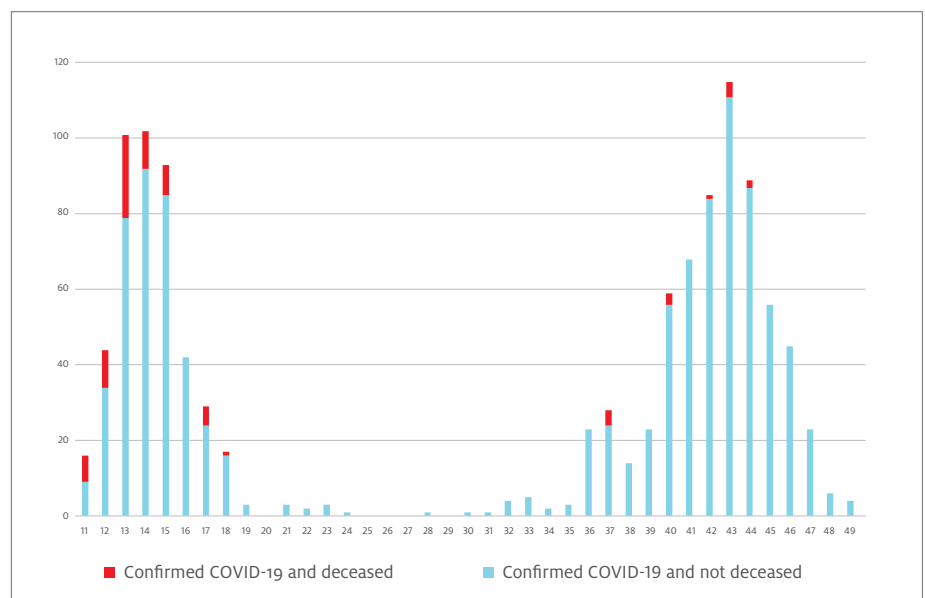
## Figures



### REGISTRATION

- 72 organizations have joined the registration system;
- **5.728** patients with intellectual disabilities with suspected COVID-19 infection have been registered (of which 56% are men and 44% women);
- 78 patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection have died;
- The mortality rate in people with a confirmed COVID-19 infection is 7%.

**Figure 1.** Number of patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection and the number of deceased per week



In **figure 1** the weekly number of patients with an intellectual disability with confirmed COVID-19 infection is displayed. The patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection are divided into deceased and not deceased. All registered patients in the database with confirmed COVID-19 infection till week 49 are included.

NB. Healthcare organizations have the possibility to register clients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection retrospectively. This means that the number of patients with a COVID-19 infection can be supplemented in the last few weeks.

## Figures continued



### TESTING

- 90% of the registered patients have been tested (5.158 patients);
- In total, 22% of patients tested positive (1.127 patients). That are 96 more patients since the previous fact sheet;
- 85% of patients with confirmed COVID-19 infections live in a group home and 14% in their own apartment;
- 58% of confirmed COVID-19 infections occur in the 40 to 69 age group and 13% in the 70+ age group.



### HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to the data above, we report here more details on the first and second wave of confirmed COVID-19 infections in people with intellectual disabilities (see **Figure 1 and Table 1**). We consider week 11 to week 24 as the first wave, week 28 to week 49 as the second wave. In the intervening weeks, there were no confirmed COVID-19 infections in our registry.

	1st wave	2nd wave
<b>Patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection</b>	456 patients	655 patients
<b>Physical complaints of patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection (in %)</b>		
Cough	69 %	50 %
Fever	71 %	35 %
Fatigue	62 %	38 %
Nose cold/sneezing	38 %	45 %
Shortness of breath	46 %	20 %
Gastrointestinal complaints	34 %	16 %
<b>Use of COVID-19 medication (in %)</b>	26 %	7 %
<b>Deceased</b>	64 patients	14 patients
<b>Duration until death</b>	7 days [9]*	11.5 days [8.75]*

**Table 1. Comparison between the first and the second wave of confirmed COVID-19 infections in people with intellectual disabilities**

\* The median is shown for the duration until death. The median is the middle number if you put the numbers in order from smallest to largest. Of all values, 50% is above and 50% below the median. The numbers in brackets indicate the interquartile range (IQR) that indicates how spread out the data are. The IQR is the distance between the 1st and 3rd quartile: the boundary of the 1st quartile is the value where 25% of the data are smaller; the boundary of the 3rd quartile is the value where 75% of the data are smaller.