

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 (59%), fever (51%), fatigue (47%), nose cold/sneezing (42%), shortness of breath (31%), and gastrointestinal complaints (21%).

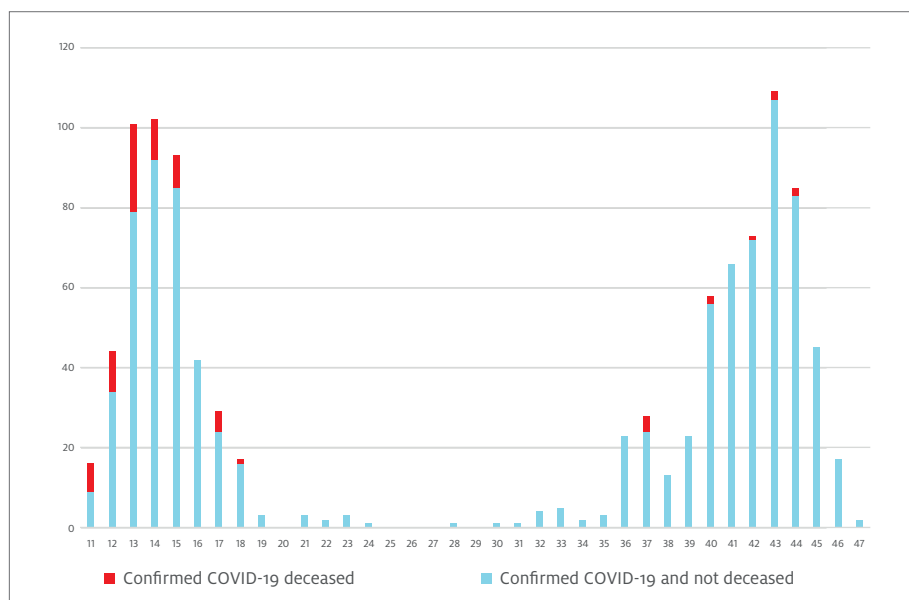
Figures



REGISTRATION

- 72 organizations have joined the registration system;
- **5.296** patients with intellectual disabilities with suspected COVID-19 infection have been registered (of which 56% are men and 44% women);
- 75 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 people 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 47 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

- 89% of the registered patients have been tested (4.735 patients);
- In total, 22% of patients tested positive (1.031 patients). That are 178 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 12% 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 47 as the second wave. In the intervening weeks, there were no confirmed COVID-19 infections in our registry.

	1st wave	2nd wave
Tested patients (in %)	75%	100%
Patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection	456 patients	559 patients
Age (in %)		
0-29 years old	9 %	21 %
30-49 years old	26 %	27 %
50-69 years old	49 %	42 %
70+	16 %	10 %
Degree of intellectual disability (in %)		
Mild/borderline ID	25 %	30 %
Moderate ID	36 %	35 %
Severe/very severe ID	38 %	35 %
Extra oxygen requirement (in %)	25 %	8 %
Hospital admission deemed necessary (in %)	16 %	4 %
Deceased	64 patients	11 patients

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