

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 most common complaints with a COVID-19 infection are: fever (82.4%), cough (72.1%), fatigue (59.1%) and shortness of breath (42.4%).

Figures



REGISTRATION

- In total, 63 organizations have joined the registration system;
- 999 patients with intellectual disabilities with suspected COVID-19 infections have been registered (of which 54,5% are men and 45,5% women);
- 59 registered patients have died, and a COVID-19 infection has been confirmed in 35 of those cases by means of testing;
- The mortality rate in people with a proven COVID-19 infection is 10.3%.



TESTING

- 666 of the registered patients have been tested;
- Of this group, 50.9% tested positive;
- 63.7% of proven COVID-19 infections occur in the 40 to 69 age group.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hospital admission was required in 8.9% of all registered patients;
- 15.8% of all registered patients required oxygen;
- 60.6% of deaths with a proven COVID-19 infection occurred in the 40 to 69 age group. The mortality rate in this age group appears to be much higher than in the general population. In the 70+ age group, the mortality rate is comparable to the general population. No deaths under the age of 40 have been registered.