

# 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 2020 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: fever (42%), fatigue (41%), nose cold/sneezing (40%), cough (38%) and shortness of breath (25%).

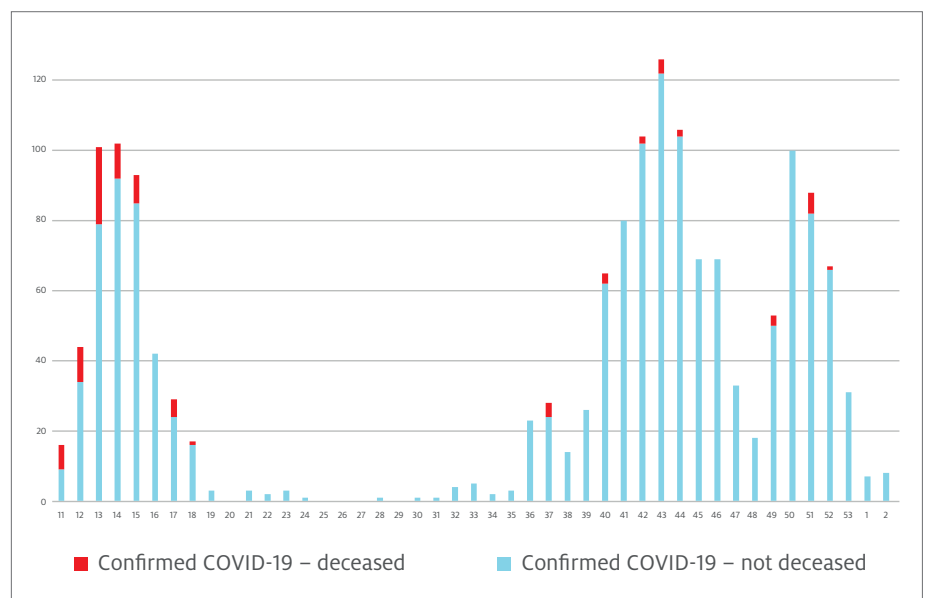
## Figures



### REGISTRATION

- 72 organizations have joined the registration system;
- 7.097 patients with intellectual disabilities with suspected COVID-19 infection have been registered (of which 57% are men and 43% women);
- 89 patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection have died;
- The mortality rate in people with a confirmed COVID-19 infection is 6%.

**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 2, 2021, 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

- 92% of the registered patients have been tested (6.523 patients);
- In total, 25% of patients tested positive (1.617 patients). That are 490 more patients since the previous fact sheet of 11 December 2020;
- 84% 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

The data below apply to the total group of patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection.

- In 8% of patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection, hospitalization was deemed necessary;
- 8% of patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection have Down syndrome.

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**). We consider week 11 to week 24 as the first wave, week 28 to week 2 as the second wave. In the intervening weeks, there were no confirmed COVID-19 infections in our registry.

- In the first wave of COVID-19 480 patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection were registered, in the second wave 1.117 patients;
- In the first wave, hospitalization was deemed necessary in 15% of the patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection, in the second wave this was 5%;
- The mortality rate in patients with a confirmed COVID-19 infection was in the first wave 14%, 2% in the second wave.