

New Insights into Place of Death for People with Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia and Senility

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1. Introduction

- Dementia is a syndrome due to disease of the brain, usually of a chronic or progressive nature, in which there is disturbance of multiple higher cortical functions, including memory, thinking, orientation, comprehension, calculation, learning capacity, language and judgement.
- Dementia UK estimates a prevalence of people living with dementia of >600,000 (1.2% of the population).
- By 2030 it is estimated that there will be over 1,000,000 people living with dementia in the UK.

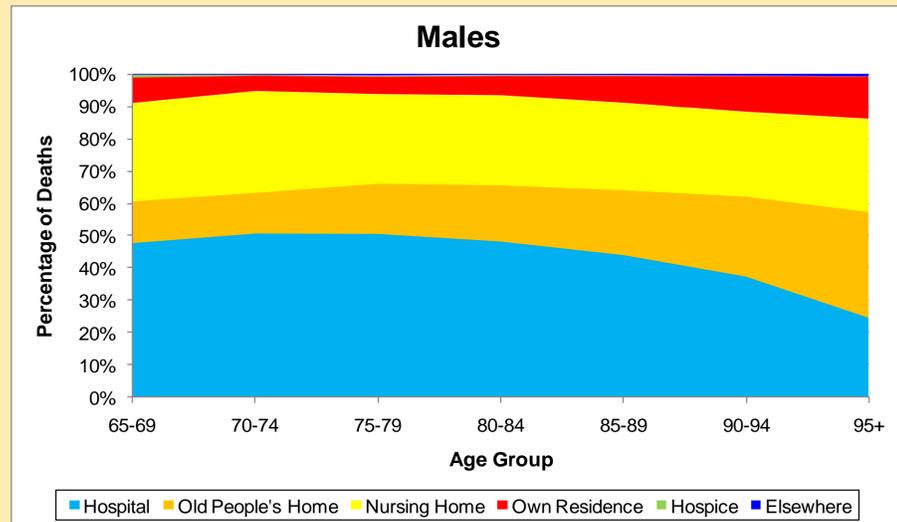
2. ICD Classification and definitions

Cause of death	ICD 10 codes
Dementia (includes vascular and unspecified dementia)	F01, F03 (any 4th digit)
Alzheimer's disease	G30 (any 4th digit)
Senility (without mention of psychosis)	R54 (any 4th digit)

Underlying cause of death, defined as:

- the disease or injury that initiated the train of events directly linked to death; or
- the circumstances of the accident or violence that produced the fatal injury.

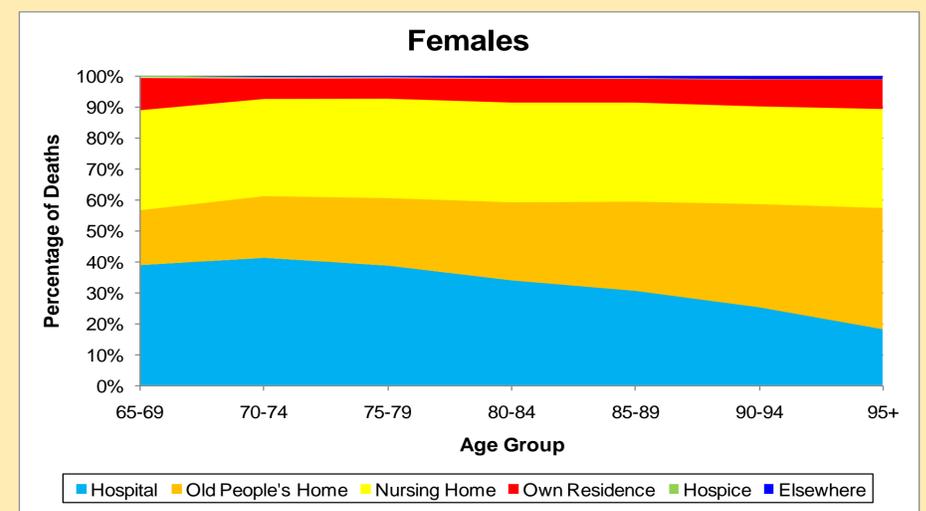
Figure 1: Place of death distribution for males aged 65+ with underlying cause of death of Alzheimer's disease, dementia or senility, England, 2007 to 2009



Source: Office for National Statistics, annual mortality extracts

- From age 75+ there was a continual decrease in the percentage of males dying in hospital, from 51% for age 75-79 to 25% for age 95+.
- There was a corresponding increase in the percentage of males dying in old people's homes, from 13% for age 65-69 to 33% for age 95+.
- The percentage of males dying in nursing homes was approximately constant (circa 30%) across the displayed age range.
- The percentage of males dying at home gradually increased from 8% at age 70-74 to 13% for age 95+.

Figure 2: Place of death distribution for females aged 65+ with underlying cause of death of Alzheimer's disease, dementia or senility, England, 2007 to 2009



Source: Office for National Statistics, annual mortality extracts

- From age 70+ there was a continual decrease in the percentage of females dying in hospital, from 41% for age 70-74 to 18% for age 95+.
- There was a corresponding increase in the percentage of females dying in old people's homes, from 18% for age 65-69 to 39% for age 95+.
- The percentage of females dying in nursing homes was approximately constant (circa 32%) across the displayed age range.
- The percentage of females dying at home gradually increased from 7% at age 70-74 to 10% for age 95+.