

## **THE IMPACT OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION ON HEALTH INDICATORS ON GERIATRIC POPULATION**

The phenomenon of polymedication is an emerging reality and relatively little studied among the elderly. Commonly described as a practice of four or more pills in-take daily, polymedication in older people could be an extreme risk factor in older population.

To know more about this subject we developed a pilot test in our residential care centres in Catalonia during 2017 where 28 centres with approximately 1.000 residents participated in the test. During the time the project was running, centres send their records on medication of their residents during three certain periods: just before institutionalization, 6 months after and 12 months after. We studied the most common drugs used by geriatric population, included in 10 therapeutic areas with 41 active ingredients.

We found that consume of drugs 12 months after institutionalization goes down a 6% of average of total. Some drugs fell down approximately 15% to 20% after 12 months. This project led us to establish a database on drug use within the residential environment.

Once we had the results of our pilot test, we look forward to develop the project in other regions in Spain. To do so, we designed a web tool that allows residential centres to introduce data on drug uses during three periods of time and see the impact of institutionalization on geriatric population' health.

ACRA has partners all over Spain and we find two more regions to participate: Madrid (Regional) and Navarra. Health Department of Spanish government funds our project and we try to do a comparison between the uses of drugs in three different regional states within the same health and social system.

**Our intention is to continue with the project during the next years and integrate other countries within Europe. To do so, we invite other countries' organizations to join this project and study, compare and share information on drug use in our residential centres. We hope that we this information in hand, our public and private decision-makers can establish new objectives and achieve new goals to the best of our society.**