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Netherlands: Decreasing occupancy of nursing homes?

Warsaw

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Growing population 65+

2018: 3.241.000

2024: 3.679.000

2040: 4.758.000 (1.6 mln 80+)

Predictions: we need to build more houses for seniors and also more places in nursing homes.

Reality: empty places in some regions and shorter waiting lists

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Different forms of elderly care

WMO (Social Support Act) managed by municipalities: cleaning the house, wheelchairs, daycare, adjustments in the house, taxi;

Zvw (Health Insurance Act) managed by insurancecompanies: home care, community nurse for short medical support;

WLZ (Long term Care Act) managed by care-offices: long-term chronic care at home or in nursing home.

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Long term care act: not only in nursing homes

Also possible to receive long-term care in your own home, in assisted living or sheltered housing.

VPT (full package): personal care and nursing, guidance and daytime activities, treatment and transport to such treatment, provision of food and drink/meal services, cleaning of the house, respite care or 24-hour on-call availability.

MPT (modular package): less than VPT

PGB (personal budget): client can arrange the care him/herself

Report of National Institute for Public Health and the Environment 1

In period 2018-2024:

- Zvw (home care etc.): 257.000 —> 240.000
- WLZ (ltc) at home: 34.000 —> 78.000
- WLZ (ltc) nursing home: 112.000 —> 127.000
- less clients with low intensive care
- more clients with high intensive care

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Report of National Institute for Public Health and the Environment 2

- amount of residents > than 5 year: decreases
- amount of residents stay < than 3 months: increases
- clients enter nursing homes at older age with needs for higher intensive care
- at least 20% of nursing homes has empty rooms, probably underestimation.

Report of National Institute for Public Health and the Environment 3

What causes these changes?

- older adults value independence, a familiar environment and social relations in their neighbourhood. More informal care, technology, reablement, community care.

- policy of the government focused on as long as possible stay in your own home and community.

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Conclusions

1. Better housing for elderly people: yes;
2. Big growth of nursing homes: no. Because of shorter stay, more residents with the same amount of places;
3. There has not (yet) been a complete drop in demand for long-term care, but there has been a shift in demand.
4. Differences between regions due to certain causes.

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Thanks for your attention.

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EAN partners







