

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Community care in Europe. The Aged in Home Care project (AdHOC)

Iain Carpenter¹, Giovanni Gambassi^{1,2}, Eva Topinkova², Marianne Schroll³, Harriett Finne-Soveri⁴, Jean-Claude Henrard⁵, Vjenka Garms-Homelova⁶, Palmi Jonsson⁷, Dinnus Frijters⁸, Gunnar Ljunggren⁹, Liv W. Serbye¹⁰, Cordula Wagner¹¹, Graziano Onder¹², Claudio Pedone¹², and Roberto Bernabei¹²



The study population consisted of a random sample of elderly patients admitted to the Home Care programs in eleven different European Home Health Agencies (2001-2003) who participated in the Aged in Home Care (AD-HOC) project, under the sponsorship of the European Union. The AD-HOC Project aimed to identify a model of HC for the elderly through the analysis of the structural and organizational characteristics of HC Services, along with the clinical and functional characteristics of their clients.

interRAI

Reykjavik
(IS)

Amsterdam
(NL)

Maidstone
Ashford
(UK)

Amiens (F)

Monza (I)

Copenhagen
(DK)

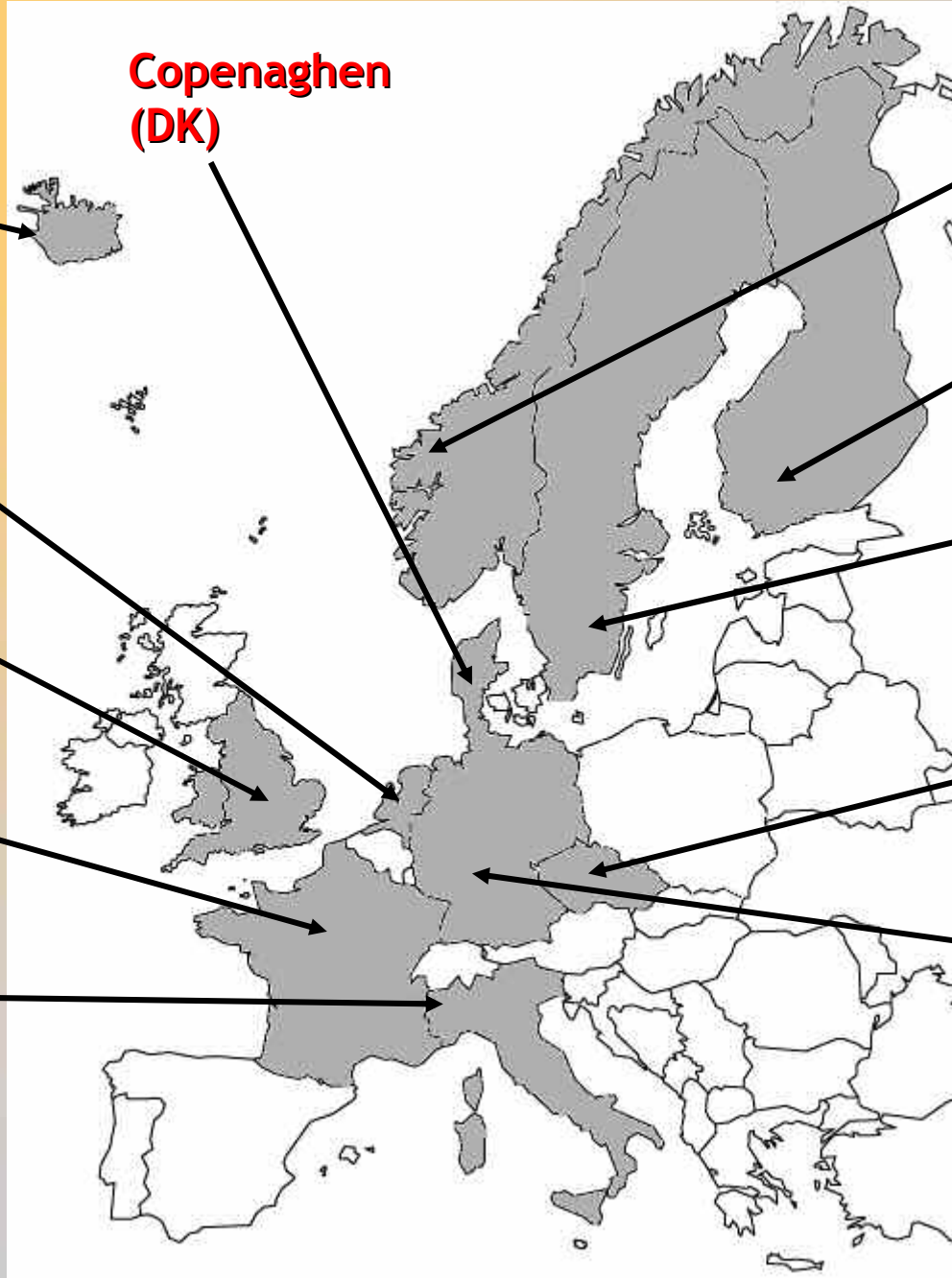
Oslo (N)

Helsinki
(FIN)

Stockholm
(S)

Prague
(CZ)

Bielefeld (D)



Minimum Data Set for Home Care

- Cognition
- Communication/Hearing
- Vision
- Mood and Behaviour
- Social Functioning
- Informal support services
- Physical functioning
- Continence
- Disease diagnoses
- Health status
- Preventive health measures
- Nutrition/Hydration status
- Dental status
- Skin condition
- Environmental Assessment
- Service Utilisation



Death registries

Health Services Use

- ER
- Hospital and nursing home



European Home Care Services (EUHCS) assessment form

Setting:

- Demographic characteristics
- Hospital and nursing care beds

Service structures:

- Financial structures
- Management structures
- Range and organization of services provided

Service delivery:

- Eligibility criteria
- Referral systems
- Provision of integrated service
- Health/social professionals and administrative personnel per patient
- Total number of patients per year
- Mean duration of service provision per patient
- Days per week of service provision
- Night and respite care services
- Waiting lists availability
- Use of any validated assessment instruments
- Application of any specific guideline

Table 3 - Characteristics of services of home care agencies, by country.

	CZ Rep	Denmark	Finland	France Health care	France Social care	Germany	Iceland	Italy	NL	Norway	Sweden	UK
Administrative characteristics:												
Eligibility criteria:												
Physical function level	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cognitive level	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Presence of psychiatric diseases	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family support level	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moans tested	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Medical prescriptions	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Comprehensive geriatric assessment												
Team meetings:												
Never				✓	✓							
Sometimes				✓	✓							
Always	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GP participating in team meetings							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Participation of informal carer		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Multidisciplinary team approach						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Case manager												
Administrative status:												
Profit				✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Non-profit	✓			✓	✓							
Public		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

HC were centered on case management approach in five countries: Finland, Iceland, Italy, Sweden and United Kingdom (CM group). The CMs, trained on the “core tasks” of case management, represented the operational arm of GP and community geriatric evaluation unit. HC was based on a traditional approach, not including the presence of CM in six countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway (no CM group).

Association between case manager and nursing home admission

	Number of events (%)	Unadjusted OR (95% CI)	Adjusted* OR (95% CI)
NH admission			
No case manager	274 (13)	1	1
Case manager	81 (6.8)	0.40 (0.23-0.72)	0.49 (0.28-0.85)

During 1 year follow-up, 7% of patients in the case manager group and 13% of those in the no case manager group were admitted at nursing home ($p < 0.001$). After adjusting for potential confounders the risk of nursing home admission was lower for those patients under a case management approach compared to those assisted in a traditional home care model (Adjusted OR 0.49, 95% CI: 0.28 - 0.85).

Case Manager and institutionalization

