

Sociodemographic and health characteristics of older chinese on admission to a nursing home: A cross-racial/ethnic study

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Reference: Huang, Z., R. Neufeld, . Likourezos, A., B. Breuer, A. Khaski, E. Milano and L. Libow (2003) "Sociodemographic and health characteristics of older chinese on admission to a nursing home: A cross-racial/ethnic study" Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 51(3):404-409

Key Words:

Long-term care, health status, minimum data set, USA, Chinese

Research aim:

To investigate sociodemographic characteristics (SDCs) and health status of older Chinese newly admitted to a nursing home (NH) and to compare them with the characteristics of residents from other racial/ethnic groups.

Results/Conclusion:

This is the first systematic report of the SDCs and health status of a group of newly admitted older Chinese to an urban Nursing Homes in the United States using the Minimum Data Set database. These findings suggest that Chinese residents are as frail as other racial/ethnic residents on admission.

Implications:

Nursing Homes caring for older Chinese need to be sensitive to the presence of dementia and require a staff that can speak Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese and is comfortable negotiating with families who are more likely to be the designated decision makers.

Cultural Group(s):

Chinese and three comparison groups

Location of study:

United States

Age group:

60+

Number included in study:

258

Type of participants:

125 Chinese, 57 white, 53 Hispanic, and 23 black) of 292 residents consecutively admitted from November 1992 to May 1997 were selected after excluding those younger than 60 or transferred from another Nursing Home

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Secondary

Secondary data sources used:

Nursing Home records, admission Minimum Data Set Plus

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

SDCs, health status parameters (cognitive performance, physical functioning, mood/behavior patterns, and psychosocial well-being), and morbidity information (most-frequent diagnoses/conditions and medication use) documented in or generated from the MDS

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: