

Developments in Northern Europe

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Germany (82m)

Begun In 2004: "Crime and Violence in Older People's Lives"(Görgen, Herbst & Rabold, 2006; Görgen, Rabold & Herbst, 2006).

3.030 community-dwelling 40-85 year olds and an analysis of 303 police files on offences against persons aged 60 years+.

about one out of four subjects aged 60 y.+ reports experiences of verbal aggression by family and household members

1.3% of older men and 1.6% of women beyond age 60 report physical violence.

Prevalence of both physical and psychological abuse was about twice as high for middle-aged adults (40-59 y.) than 60+

United Kingdom (58m)

- Adult Protection ('Safeguarding') Services
- Registration and Inspection of Residential and Nursing Homes
- Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA) Lists
- Multi Agency Monitoring Arrangements
- Mental Capacity and 'wilful neglect'

UK One Year Prevalence of Mistreatment

	Total (%) (95% CI)	Estimated number in UK population ^a (95% CI)
Any mistreatment	2.6 (1.9 to 3.8)	227,000 (159,200 to 322,600)
Neglect	1.1 (0.6 to 1.8)	93,200 (55,300 to 156,500)
Financial	0.7 (0.3 to 1.3)	56,600 (27,600 to 115,800)
Psychological	0.4 (0.2 to 1.0)	38,600 (16,600 to 89,400)
Physical	0.4 (0.2 to 1.1)	38,100 (15,700 to 91,800)
Sexual	0.2 (<0.05 to 1.1)	13,100 (1,800 to 92,300)

^aBased on UK household population of 8,586,890 aged 66 and over
CI = Confidence Interval
Unweighted base: 2106 (bases vary slightly, base shown here for neglect)

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United Kingdom

- ‘No Secrets’ Guidance (2000) being reviewed and updated. (Multi-agency monitoring for vulnerable adults)
- ESRC funded research into Financial Abuse (Brunel University).
- DH/Comic Relief further research into Care Homes and Hospitals planned.

Nordic Countries (23m)

- Finland (5.5m), Sweden (8.8m), Norway (4.3m), Denmark (5.1m), Iceland (.1m)
- Studies in 1990s in Finland (Kivela et al) and Sweden (Saveman et al)
- Recent concern with over-medication, restraint and understaffing in care.
- Karolinska Institutet- Abuel EU study (begins 2008)

Norway

- Continues to lead the way in service innovation
- Oslo ‘Vern for Elde’ initiative rolled out to local councils
- A National Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (since 2004)
- Active Mediation and Rights-Based approach.
- Help-line, case support, counselling, problem solving.

Practice Innovation

- Consciousness raising (EJTL & Suvanto ry: Finland, Help the Aged: UK)
- Growth of Telephone Help Lines (AEA:UK, ALMA: Fr, Bel, HsM:De)
- Mediation, counselling and family work (Norway)
- Training materials restraint/over medication (Sweden)
- Some mediation projects and packs on financial abuse in development (UK)

Ways Forward

- Map different data sources
- Share schemes that work
- Go beyond monitoring
- From community to institutional prevalence
- Dementia and user voice