

THE IMPACT OF CONTINENCE OF THE DEPENDENCY SCALE, ON THE CARE PROFILE AND THE FINANCING OF BELGIAN NURSING HOMES

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INTRODUCTION

BELGIAN NURSING HOMES ARE FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE AMOUNT OF SUBSIDIES A NURSING HOME GETS, ARE BASED ON THE CARE PROFILES OF RESIDENTS. RESIDENTS CAN BE CLASSIFIED INTO DIFFERENT CARE PROFILES BY THE “KATZ – SCALE” CONSISTING OUT OF DIFFERENT ITEMS.

OBJECTIVES

DETERMINE THE IMPACT OF THE ITEM “CONTINENCE” OF THE DEPENDENCY SCALE “KATZ” ON THE CARE PROFILE AND CONSEQUENTLY THE IMPACT ON THE FINANCING. WILL A CONTINENCE - CARE PROGRAM LEAD TO LESS FINANCING?

MATERIALS AND METHODS

EXTRACTION OF ANONYMOUS KATZ – SCALES, OF RESIDENTS THAT REMAINED IN BELGIAN NURSING HOMES, FROM THE DATABASE OF THE CHRISTIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE. THEORETICAL ADJUSTMENTS WERE MADE ON THE SCORE OF THE ITEM CONTINENCE OF THE KATZ –SCALE TO DETERMINE THE INFLUENCE OF THIS ITEM ON THE CARE PROFILE OF THE RESIDENTS.

IN A SECOND STEP THE INFLUENCE OF THAT ITEM WAS EXAMINED ON THE FINANCING OF NURSING HOMES. FOR THIS PURPOSE A MATHEMATICAL MODEL FROM PROBIS CONSULTANCY WAS USED.

RESULTS

THE HIGHEST FINANCING IS OBTAINED IN NURSING HOMES WHO ACCOMMODATE RESIDENTS WITH A HIGH DEPENDENCY STATUS. THIS MEANS THAT THE GOVERNMENT FINANCES ORGANIZATIONS WHO ACCOMMODATE RESIDENTS WITH HIGH CARE PROFILES. A CONTINENCE - CARE PROGRAM IS NOT PROFITABLE IN BELGIUM SINCE THIS LEADS TO PENALTIES IN GOVERNMENT FUNDING. THE LOWER THE CARE PROFILE OF RESIDENTS IN A NURSING HOME, THE LOWER THE GOVERNMENT FUNDING.

CONCLUSION

GOVERNMENT FUNDING WILL BE LOWER WHEN EFFORTS ARE TAKEN IN A CONTINENCE – CARE PROGRAM. QUALITY OF CARE IS NOT ENCOURAGED BY THIS SYSTEM. A PAY FOR PERFORMANCE SYSTEM WHERE FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE ASSIGNED TO GOOD PRACTICES IS RECOMMENDED.