

Care homes for older people may provide personal care or nursing care. A care home which is registered to provide personal care will offer support, ensuring that basic personal needs, such as meals, bathing, going to the toilet and medication, are taken care of. In some homes more able residents have greater independence and take care of many of their own needs.

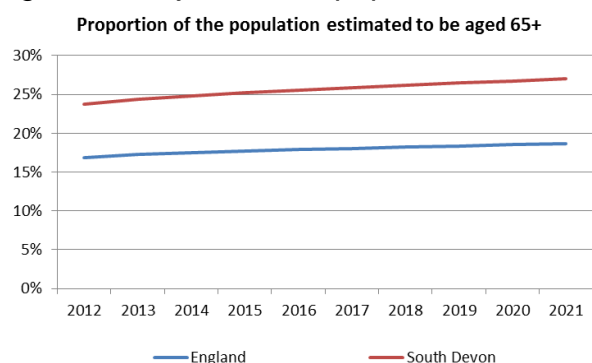
Some residents may need medical care and some care homes are registered to provide this. These are often referred to as nursing homes. Some homes specialise in certain types of disability, for example, dementia.

Age is the largest risk factor for disease.

As society ages, the burden of disease and the need for support and care will increase.

South Devon’s population has historically been one with a higher proportion of older people. This is expected to continue over the coming years. The latest subnational population projections show growth in the over 65 population. There are currently around 70,000 people aged over 65 across South Devon, however by 2020 this is expected to be nearer 80,000.

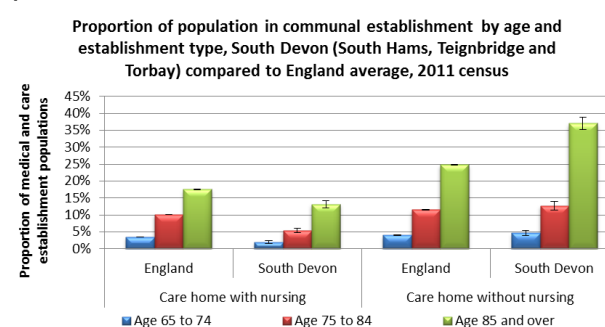
Figure 1: Projected 65+ population



Source: ONS, Torbay Council

At the 2011 census there were some 4,200 identified as living in a communal establishment that was a medical and care establishment. The age profile of these people is shown in figure 2.

Figure 2: Communal establishment age profile



Source: 2011 Census ONS, Torbay Council

South Devon has a noticeably larger proportion aged 85+ in care homes without nursing.

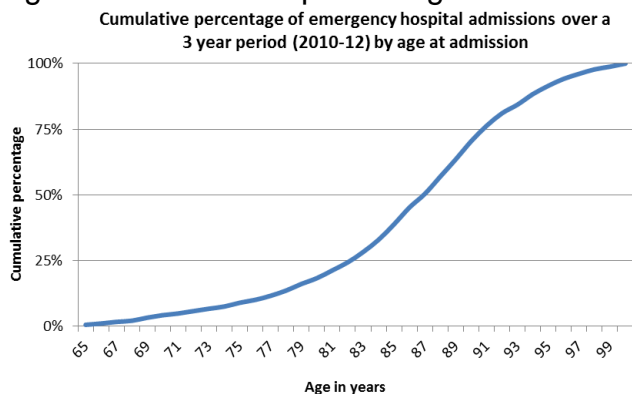
Hospital admissions

Around 85% of all admissions from care homes for those aged 65 and over are for non-elective (emergency) admissions. This is considerably higher than the wider over 65 population who are not resident in a care home, where around 40% are admitted for an emergency admission.

There were some 4,423 emergency admissions to hospital from care home residents aged over 65 (first consultant episode) over the three year period 1st Jan 2010 to 31st Dec 2012. This is around 1,474 per year, or **around 4 per day**.

Of those aged over 65 years admitted to hospital as an emergency admission, around half (2,194) were aged 87 and over at the time of their admission.

Figure 3: Cumulative percentage

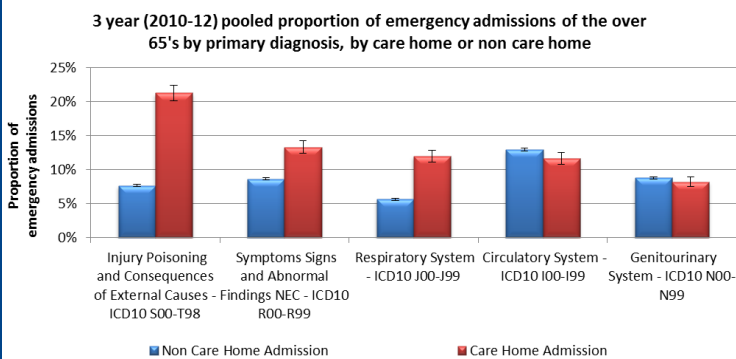


Source: Hospital admissions data

A continued comparison between reasons for an emergency admission for those aged 65 and over in both the wider population, and for those from care homes, shows some noticeable differences.

Just over 20% of those admitted from care homes are admitted due to injury, poisoning or consequence of external causes – primary diagnosis ICD10 code S00 – T98. This compares to around 7% in the wider over 65 population registered across South Devon.

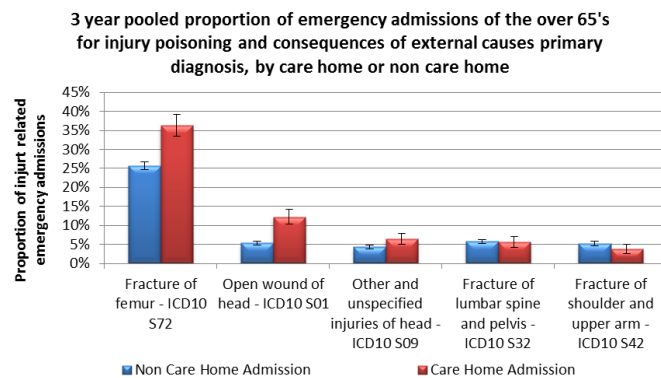
Figure 4: Top 5 admission reasons by disease chapter



Source: Hospital admissions data

The largest contributing reason is a fracture of the femur (over half of these are for a fractured neck of femur - hip), which accounts for around a third of injury related admissions.

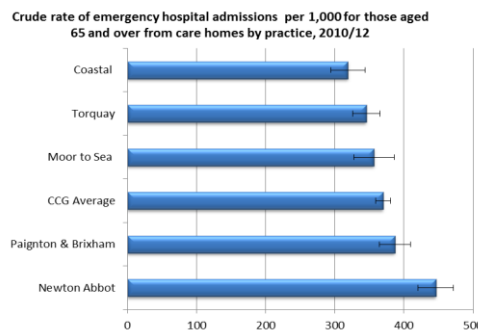
Figure 5: Injury related admissions by disease



Source: Hospital admissions (SUS)

The Newton Abbot locality has the highest rate of emergency hospital admissions across South Devon for care homes, for those aged 65 and over.

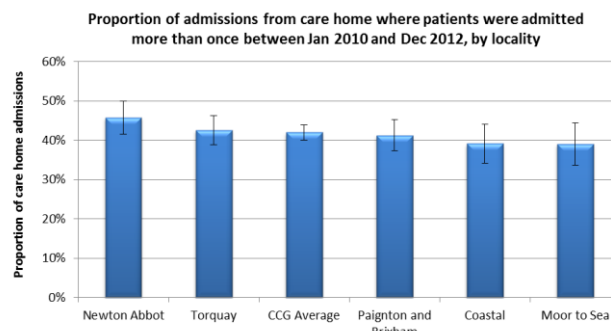
Figure 6: Rate of admissions by locality



Source: Hospital admissions (SUS)

Persons in Newton Abbot also have the highest levels of being an emergency admission more than once.

Figure 7: Multiple admissions



Source: Hospital admissions (SUS)