

Supporting Paper

Assessment Component 2

Lecturer Name: Diola Bijlhout

Student Name: Ronke Olomola

Student Number: 1916047

Course Name: Living with Care: The Older Person

Course Code: BMH6009

Date of Submission: April 8th, 2022

Word Count: 1,052

Table of Content

Page	Number
Introduction	4
The Ageing Population	4
The healthcare systems in the United Kingdom	4
The social care systems in the United Kingdom	4
An Overview of the debate	4
Statistics of the aging population in the UK	5
Assistance Needed by the Older People	5
Covid – 19 pandemic and the Elderly	5
Challenges in the services for the Elderly	6
Arguments and Questions asked by Group D	7
Conclusion	7
Reference	8
Bibliography	9

Academic Debate Between Group C and D



Introduction

This supporting paper will be discussing the debate that took place on the 23rd of March 2022. The topic was '**Does population ageing pose challenges for health and social care systems?**' My group were on the affirmative side, and we were Group C going against Group D.

The Ageing Population

According to the organisation for economic cooperation and development (2022), the ageing populations are 65 years and above. Individuals who are about to retire, already retired or slowing down as regards the amount of work they are doing, are referred to as the ageing population.

The Health Care Systems in The United Kingdom

These are hospitals' private and National health services; General Practitioner surgeries, healthcare in the community and home care, and hospices that undertake curative and palliative treatment.

The Social Care Systems That Support the Elderly in the United Kingdom

Residential homes: They assist the elderly in caring for themselves and have limited health issues; **Nursing homes:** These are nurse lead homes and assist clients with the activities of daily living and could sometimes have chronic illnesses such as diabetes or heart problems; **Sheltered accommodations:** These accommodations promote client's independence and promotes client's autonomy.

An Overview of the debate:

Statistics of the aging populace in the UK

Thompson (2015) expresses that by the year 2050 the ageing population will reach 8 million. This is a considerable amount of people, but the question remains will this increase lead to challenges for the care systems? The answer to this question is yes this is because a £16 billion reduction in government grants to social care systems has taken place since 2010, which has caused an adverse effect on the care that individuals receive. The King fund and Nuffield Trust (2016) agree with this line of thought and suggest that it has been difficult for

the Care Act (2014), which demands a high standard of care be given to individuals including the ageing population to be implemented due to lack of funds this has been impossible.

Raymond et al (2021) argue that England's populace is growing old and in the 25 years' time the number of individuals above the age of 85 will increase to 2.6 million. These individuals will need some form of assistance to have a good quality of life, as their health and needs for care will increase.

Assistance Needed by the Older People

The office of the National statistics (2021) highlights that in fifty years' time there is a likelihood of an additional 8.6 million elderly people. The implications of this are that the ageing populations become frail and need both social and health care due to the chronic diseases that they acquire as they age.

NICE (2015) highlights that '1 in 5 men and women aged between 75 and 84 years require assistance with washing and dressing. This rises to 34% of men and 42% of women.'

Hence the need for help in carrying out the activities of daily living. Ambagtsheer (2018) explains 'that because frailty is not properly monitored, there are several people who are not identified.'

Covid – 19 pandemic and the Elderly

Age UK (2020) did research recently and it showed that among the 46,800 people who died of coronavirus in the United Kingdom, 80% of these were elderly, this demonstrates that the issue of the coronavirus highlighted how the ageing populations pose challenges for the social care and health care systems. Group D believed it was the government that let the elderly down as regards a high number of the elderly dying due to coronavirus, this was rebutted by our team as our argument was the NHS even though is under the government directives is still a separate entity.

Challenges in the services for the Elderly

The failed discharge ombudsman (2016) stated that there was a lady that had dementia and was discharged from the hospital without the correct social care package, she was unable to take care of herself without her carers, yet she was discharged to an empty house, that meant that the patient was brought back to the hospital, this showed that communication was lacking between the social care system and the healthcare system which should not have been. This has caused a waste of resources as the patient was no longer a medical patient but was in the hospital due to social issues.

According to Independent Age (2021), The patients' waiting list has increased to 5 million and has not been this high since August 2007. Sharma, (2021) explains that one of such patients is an 81-year-old who was informed that she would have to wait 18 months before her surgery. This demonstrates that the ageing population is posing a challenge to the healthcare system.

Staff shortage contributes significantly to the problems of allowing the ageing population not to have good quality care within the social care sector. Kumar and Dempster (2021) explain that our ageing population will need 627,000 extra care staff by 2030/31, which may be a struggle going by the current trend.

Arguments and Questions asked by Group D

Group D posed the question to our group do we feel that the elderly are useless? This was promptly answered by me that we did not think so and are debating that an improved and well organised health and social care systems needs to be established for them as they have paid their dues. The argument that some elderly people were still working to as late as 80 years was rebutted by our group, that what the elderly were getting from the government was more than their contribution to the economy.

The argument of the negative side (group D) was that the ageing population is not the problem, but it is bad management that has brought the problem, it was emphasized by Group D that the elderly should be respected in the society as they have a wealth of knowledge which they are able to pass down to the younger generation.

Conclusion

Both debating sides agreed that the elderly populaces deserve a good quality of life. My starting the debate with the introduction and an overview of the topic was very satisfying, I felt it started our debate on a strong footing. It was my first time of debating academically and I look forward in partaking in many more.

Reference

Age UK (2020) *Age UK research lays bare the drastic impact of the pandemic on our older population's health and morale* online available at <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Ambagtsheer, C, R. (2018) *The challenge of aging populations and patient frailty: can primary adapt* british medical journal online available at <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.k3349> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Care Act, (2014)

Independent Age (2021) online available at <https://www.independentage.org/news-media> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

King Funds and Nuffield Trust (2016) *Social care for older people: home truths* available at <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/social-care-older-people> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Kuman, C. and Dempster, H. (2021) *Staffing shortages in the UK's care sector: a signs of things to come* online available at <https://odi.org/en/insights/staffing-shortages-in-the-uks-care-sector-a-sign-of-things-to-come/> [Accessed on 23/03/2022]

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2015) *Older people with social care needs and multiple long – term conditions* online available at <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng22> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Office of The Nation Statics (2021) online available at <https://www.ons.gov.uk/> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Organisation for economic cooperation and development (2022) online available at <https://www.oecd.org/unitedkingdom/united-kingdom-and-oecd.htm> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Parliamentary and health service ombudsman (2016) *a report of investigations into unsafe discharge from hospital* available at <https://www.ombudsman.org.uk> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Raymond, A. et al (2021) *Our aging population how aging affects health and care need in England* the health foundation available at <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/our-ageing-population> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Sharma, R. (2021) *She can't afford to wait: woman 81 told she'll wait months for hip replacement amid record NHS backlog* available at <https://inews.co.uk>news>health> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Thompson, C. (2015) *Meeting the challenges of an aging population* online available at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/blog/catherine-thompson/> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Bibliography

Age UK (2019) Briefing: *Health and care of older people in England 2019* online available at <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/health-wellbeing> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Centre for Ageing Better (2020) The experience of people approaching later life in lockdown the impact of covid – 19 on 50 – 70 o years old in England online available at <https://www.ageing-better.org.uk> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Government office for science (2016) *Future of an ageing population* online available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/816458/future-of-an-ageing-population.pdf [Accessed on 19/03/2022]

Lewis, A. and Barton, C. and Cromarty, H. (2021) *housing and ageing population*

UK parliament

National Health Service Framework: Older people (2001) *Set out the government's quality standards for health and social care services for older people* (online) available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/quality-standards-for-care-services-for-older-people> [Accessed on 19/03/2022]