

Residential care for older autistic people

Cos Michael

<http://dart.ed.ac.uk/research/ageing-residential-care/>

Unanswered questions about residential care

- What happens when an older autistic person needs residential care?
- Do residential care home managers & staff get autism & ageing training? If not, how can they provide adequate and appropriate support?
- What do reasonable adjustments look like, for elderly autistic people in residential care homes?
- Do residential care homes make provision (time / space) for hobbies?
- What questions are autistic elders asked about their sensory & social preferences?
- Are ageing autistic people in residential care getting regular health checks?
- What are the CQC criteria for autistic older people in residential care?

What do autistic older people want from residential care?



If this is the future, take me out and shoot me now

Seniors House

A home for the elderly in Denmark, designed for autistic people



Residential Care for older autistic adults

Project led by Catherine Crompton

Autistic older adults, family members, residential care services providers for autistic people & for older adults, researchers & clinicians worked together to identify key components of good residential care for older autistic people:

Autonomy Ensure people can make meaningful choices about their life

Access to advocates & autism-specific support, if required

Understanding Make sensory environment as suitable & adaptable as possible

Deliver autism training to staff, led by an autistic person

Respect Provide additional support for transition into residential care

Support different social & communication styles

Support Ensure people can enjoy hobbies & interests in their home

Include healthy eating & accessible exercise opportunities