

Elderly Care in Finland

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The Finnish Union of Practical Nurses SuPer (founded 1948)

- 83 000 members
- SuPer-members are practical nurses and practical nurse students
- 70 % in public sector, 30 % in private sector
- Negotiate collective agreements and salaries
- Great influence on social and health care
- Active influence on curricula etc
- Reports and researches about elderly care
- Theses for elderly care



Training of practical nursing

- 120 grades
- European level 3 of the EC classification
- Core subjects (20 credits)
- Vocational studies (90 credits)
(Support and guidance of growth, Nursing and care, Rehabilitation support)
- 10 studyprogrammes (30+10 credits): Care for the elderly



The amount of elderly people (over 65 years)

- 2010 17,4 %
- 2015 20,5 %
- 2020 22,9 %
- 2025 24,7 %
- 2030 26,3 %



Elderly care

- Home care
- Hospitals
- Health centres
- Home for elderly people
- Servicehouse for elderly



Producing and financing elderly care

- Municipalities
- Private sector (expanding)
- Voluntary organisations very rare (sc. Third sector)
- Municipalities and state (taxes, debts)
- Payments from patients and clients



Goals for over 75 years old

- 91-92 % are living at home independently or supported
- 13-14 % gets home care services
- 5-6 % gets support from close relative
- Only 3 % is living in homes for elderly (now 10%)



Challenges in finnish society

- The amount of elderly people is growing rapidly
- Elderly people are living alone
- The situation of economics (Finland vs EU)
- Illnesses of memory
- Lack of trained nurses
- Lack of interest to study or work in elderly care
- (18.000 practical nurse work elsewhere)
- Early retirement of nurses



Improving elderly care

- Recommendations of quality
- Law of elderly care (july 2013)
- Minimum standards of staff (not in law)
- Control of authorities
- Discussion of ethics
- Citizen movements
- Happenings



