

Interrogating InterRAI (LTCF) data to see how well we meet the spiritual needs of residents in residential aged care

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Outline

The purpose of this discussion paper is to present the results of an interrogation of interRAI data with a view to answer the following questions:

1. Can we use the InterRAI data as an indicator of how well we meet the spiritual needs of the residents in our care?
2. To what degree do we meet the spiritual needs of our residents in residential care?

InterRAI Long Term Care Facility (LTCF)

- InterRAI Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) is an internationally developed and standardised assessment tool, used in Residential facilities.
- Used to inform research, best practice and improve outcomes for our elderly population.
- It also provides a common language of information.
- InterRAI (LTCF) has both qualitative and quantitative components.

Qualitative Aspects Of InterRAI (LTCF)

- Individual assessment tool used for the nursing process of assessing, planning, and evaluating individual care of our elder population.
- Capturing Spirituality:
 - religious denomination; overview assessment page.
 - Cultural information in Section B of Minimum Data Set (MDS); comments on ethnicity to include culture.
 - Spiritual preference and activity in section M; MDS coding and comments.

Quantitative Aspects Of InterRAI (LTCF)

- For management purposes at facility and organisation level.
- A 'Religion Report' can be extracted for each individual facility.
- InterRAI (LTCF) data is collected in Section M of MDS to explore activity preference and participation for 16 different activities, of which "Spiritual or religious activities" is one.
- Assessed over a 3 day "look back" period.

InterRAI (LTCF) Section M of MDS

The following coding options are given for “Spiritual and religious activities”:

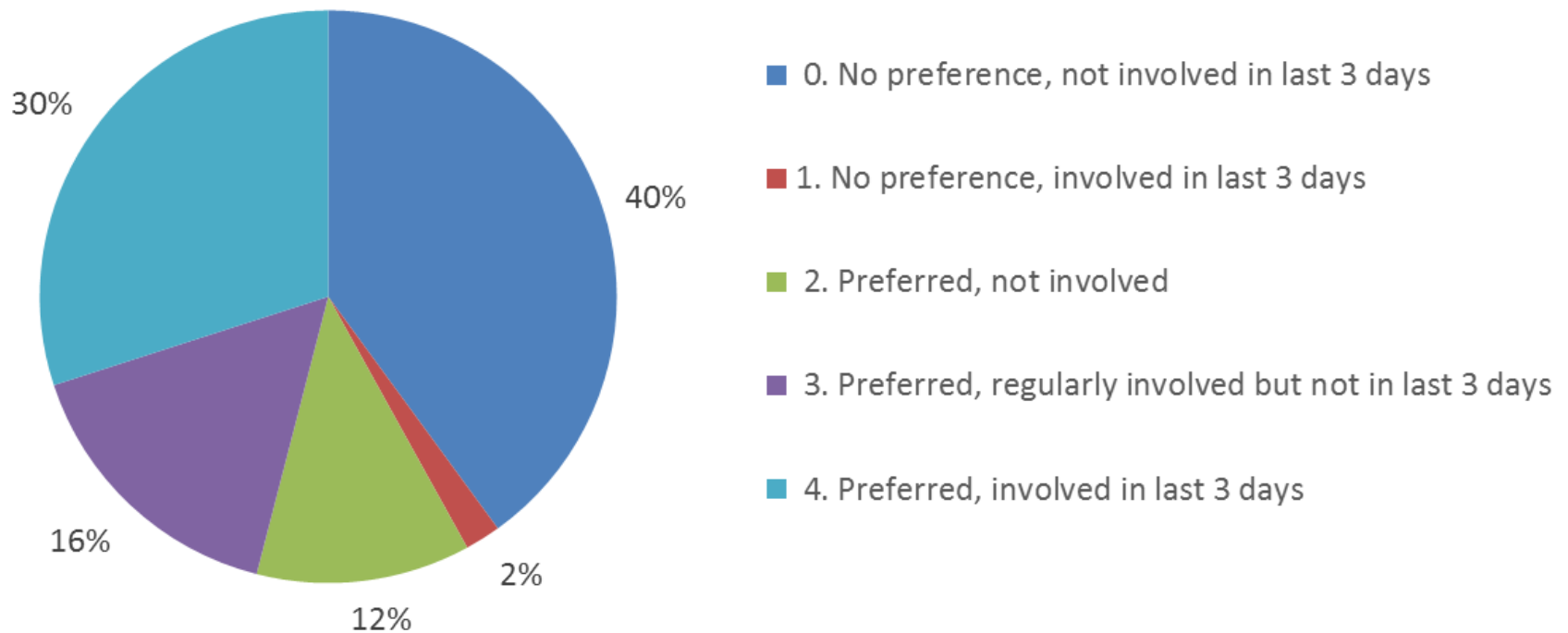
- 0-No Preference and not involved in the last 3 days,
- 1-No preference but involved in the last 3 days;
- 2-Preferred but not involved;
- 3-Preferred and regularly involved but not in the last three days;
- 4-Preferred and involved in the last 3 days.

InterRAI Data Warehouse

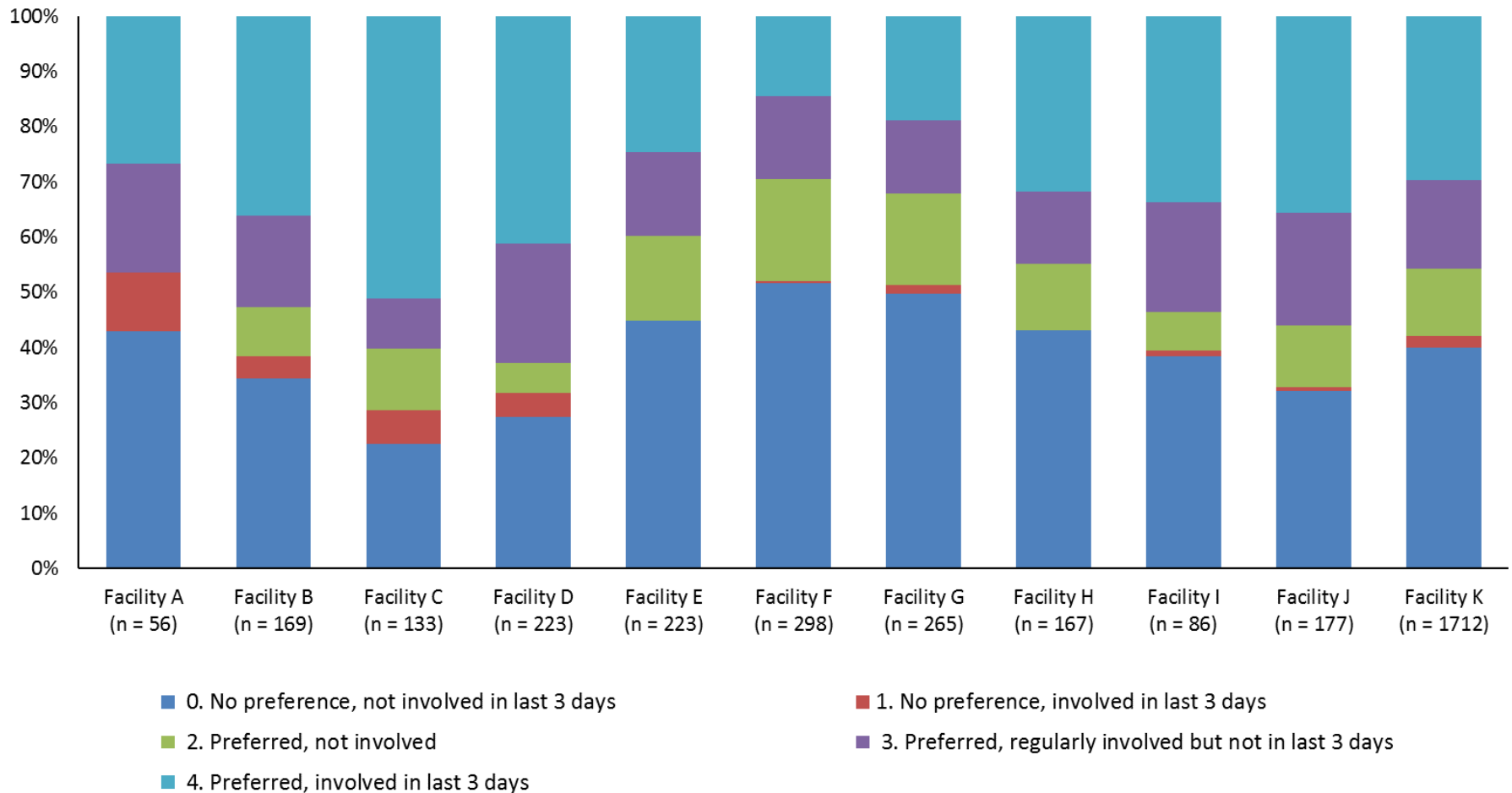
The InterRAI data warehouse can be used to extract data on spiritual and religious activity.

- by facility
- by organisation
- by country

Selwyn - Total Organisation; Spiritual Activity 2016 - May 2017



Selwyn - Internal benchmarking of results



Resident Unmet Need?

- 12% of assessments (208) showed a preference for spiritual activity, but the resident was not involved in spiritual activity (response code 2).
- Compared with the national data of 14%, Selwyn Foundation was marginally better.

Drilling Down

New Query completed to explore recent assessments in one area, which showed code 2 for spiritual activity; “preferred not involved”.

- 7 assessments found; qualitative investigation completed and interview with our Chaplain.
- 6 of the assessments appeared to be potential coding errors; the residents were receiving spiritual care.
- 1 resident could have had an unmet need, which was followed up by our Chaplain.

Opportunity

Why did the potential coding errors occur in Selwyn Waikato?

- Lack of understanding by the nurse assessor?
- Lack of communication between assessor and resident, activity staff and chaplain?

Understanding the answers could assist in increasing awareness, communication and delivery of spiritual care for our residents.

Challenges

“It seems to me this has huge potential, as interRAI is a platform for recording assessment, observation etc., but the challenge is in what is asked and recorded. This comes back to what the history taker (nurse or other) understands as spiritual...”

Dr Richard Egan (2017)

Next Steps To Meet The Challenges

- Review of Selwyn's RN education and development regarding spirituality, spiritual care for older people; and make a recommendation on a way forward.
- Review of more comprehensive spiritual assessment tools that can be used by our registered nurses where spiritual needs don't appear to be met; and make a recommendation on preferred tool.
- Investigate and make a recommendation on a tool to investigate to what degree we meet the spiritual needs of our independent living residents.
- Share the report with the senior leadership team and services committee.

Dr Richard Egan (2017)

Conclusion

- InterRAI (LTCF) captures limited information and data on spirituality.
- What it does capture has value; spiritual activity - preference and participation.
- If utilised to its potential InterRAI (LTCF) could increase awareness and monitoring, both qualitatively and quantitatively, for the provision of spiritual care for our residents.

References

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