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LONG TERM Health Care Continuum Summit

Responding to our Demographic Challenges: an Aging Society

Thursday March 14, 2013

Conrad San Juan Condado Plaza
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Providing the elderly population with the right care, at the right time and right place

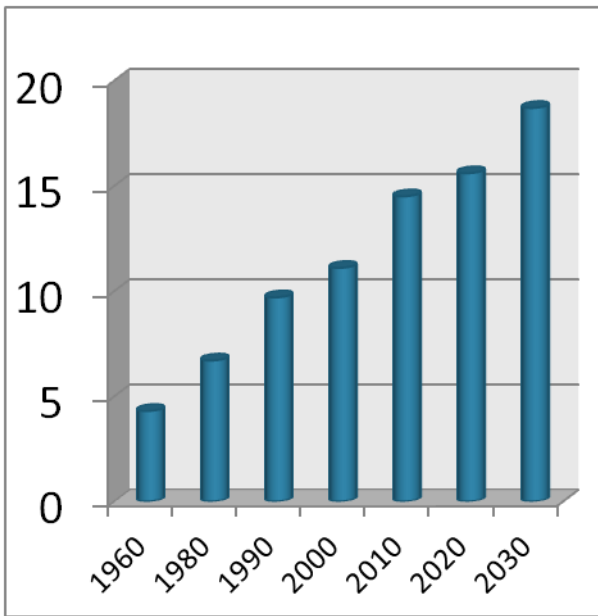
Dr. Francisco Joglar Pesquera
Secretary of Health
Puerto Rico Department of Health



Demographic Trends and Health Conditions

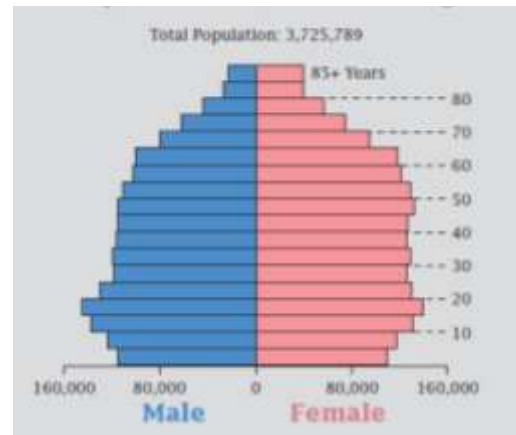


Percentage of people aged 65 and over, Puerto Rico 1960-2030



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2011). World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision.

Population by gender and age, Puerto Rico 2010



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Top causes of death among the elderly Puerto Rico, 2008

1. Diseases of heart
2. Malignant neoplasm
3. Cerebrovascular diseases
4. Chronic lower respiratory diseases
5. Alzheimer's disease
6. Diabetes mellitus
7. Influenza and pneumonia
8. Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis
9. Intentional self-harm (suicide)

Source: U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, Health, United States, 2010. See also <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>> and National Vital Statistics Reports (NVSR), Deaths: Preliminary Data for 2008, Vol. 59, No. 2, December 2010.



Levels of care include:

- **Primary prevention of chronic diseases**
 - helping the healthy elderly stay healthy
- **Secondary/tertiary prevention**
 - minimizing the negative effects of the disease
 - controlling and preventing related complications

Puerto Rico Department of Health interventions/dynamics

- Address all components of care as an integrated system
- Build up prevention of chronic disease efforts
- Reinforce culturally appropriate health education to elders, family members and caregivers
- Increase communications between providers by promoting the use of electronic medical records

The Right Time



Right time is contingent to access to services, that is:

- Availability - adequate supply of services and trained professionals
- Affordability - health insurance coverage; ability to pay
- Geographical location - distance from home; transportation
- Accommodations and acceptability - clinic facilities; waiting time; and characteristics of providers

Puerto Rico Department of Health interventions/dynamics

- Reinforce primary care infrastructure by establishing alliances among government clinics, community and private clinics
- Ensure that all eligible seniors are registered for public sponsored health insurance
- Support fellowship programs in Geriatrics and Gerontology
- Examine the role of other public and private agencies in access to healthcare and social support



Right place relates to medical conditions, level of independence and financial status

Services include:

- Assisted living
- Adult day care
- Home care
- Residential home
- Nursing home
- Acute care for the elderly in hospital (ACE)
- Respite care
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Hospice care

Puerto Rico Department of Health interventions/dynamics

- Conduct a complete review of licensure procedures for elderly care facilities
- Promote interdisciplinary teams for adequate care
- Increase access to information on facility licensure status and relevant information for decisions on place of care



Thank you

