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THE LABOUR FORCE IN LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL CARE: COMPARING ACROSS JURISDICTIONS

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The Labour Force in Long-term Residential Care: Comparing Across Jurisdictions

In spite of the international emphasis on care on private households, the growing number of those living with severe disabilities and of older adults means that the demand for long-term residential care is rising. Various scandals in these care homes, along with the rising acuity levels of residents, have resulted in calls for more training of those providing care. Concerns have also been raised about the supply of workers, drawing attention to the pay, benefits and status attached to work in long-term residential care. This sector has long been seen as an important link in the international care chain, with high income countries seeking workers from low income countries. Yet national data sources provide very little detailed information on the long-term residential care labour force. This poster will outline what we do know from national statistical sources in Europe and North America and what we need to know if we are to develop an accurate assessment of the training and supply in this critical sector of health services.