



Impact of visiting restrictions

in care for dying patients on healthcare professionals' quality of life

Experiences of healthcare professionals from 14 countries during the COVID-19 pandemic (the CO-LIVE study)

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On behalf of the CO-LIVE international group

Background

- The global COVID-19 pandemic and restrictive measures taken to prevent the spread of the virus have affected several aspects of palliative care.
- Healthcare professionals were faced with concerns about maintaining good quality of care
- These circumstances may have affected healthcare professionals' wellbeing, in particular their self-reported quality of life.
- It is unknown what aspects of the COVID-related circumstances such as visiting restrictions in palliative care may have affected quality of life.

Research questions

- How were visitor restrictions in care for the dying patient during the COVID-19 pandemic associated with quality of life of healthcare professionals?
- How did this association differ between countries?

Participants

- In total, 3385 healthcare professionals from 14 countries who cared for a dying patient during the COVID-19 pandemic filled in the questionnaire.
- 2925 respondents were included in the final analyses.

Data collection

English core questionnaire sent by Dutch CO-LIVE team

Questionnaire translated and personalized for each country

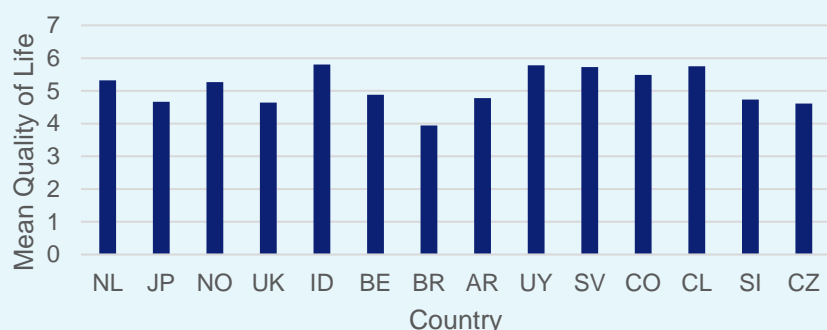
Dissemination through healthcare professional organizations, care networks and personal contacts

Data analysis

- Descriptive statistics
- Multivariate ordinal regression analyses for separate countries in SPSS
- Multilevel analysis in Cochrane Review Manager on pooled data

Results

- In 1559 (53.9%) of cases, visits were restricted in terms of their duration or number of visitors.
- Mean quality of life of life was 5.0 (SD 1.3) on a scale of 1-7:

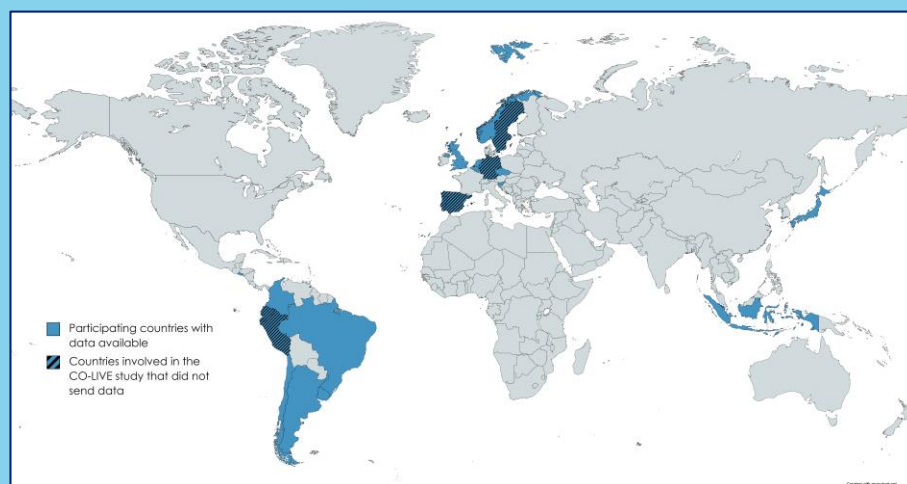


- Regression analysis on pooled data showed that in settings without visiting restrictions, healthcare professionals were more likely to report a higher quality of life compared those with visiting restrictions:

	OR	95%CI	P-value
Restrictions for visitors vs no restrictions	0.63	0.48 – 0.83	0.001

- We found a high heterogeneity ($I^2=53%$, $p=0.009$) between countries.

Map of participating countries:



Conclusion

- We found significant associations between visiting restrictions and healthcare professionals' quality of life, with significant heterogeneity between countries.

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