

**ELDERLY HEALTH PROBLEMS, MORTALITY
AND CARE PROVIDERS' CHALLENGES
DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC
IN HNIN SI KONE NURSING HOME**

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, numbers of elderly care home services and day care centers are increasing worldwide together with rising elderly population. COVID-19 infection itself and pandemic have a huge impact on both residents and care providers in nursing homes. A parallel mixed method study design including both quantitative (hospital based retrospective study) and qualitative was conducted to study common health problem of elderly, to find out the prognostic indicators of mortality due to COVID-19 infection and to explore the challenges of health care providers during pandemic in Hnin Si Kone nursing home. Within five years, there was the highest rate of admission and death cases in 2021. COVID-19 infection was the most common health problems followed by fall cases within five years. The leading cause of death within five years duration was also COVID-19 infection followed by heart diseases and malignancy. Among all elderly patients with COVID-19 infection, (19.6%) was death with mortality rate of 11.86 cases per 1000 person years. At a given point in time, patients who had general debility have an instantaneous risk of death that was 10.5 times than those had no general debility [$p=0.008$, AHR= 10.5, 95% CI: 1.83,60.05]. Elderly male patients with COVID-19 are four times increased risk of death than elderly female patients [$p= 0.03$, AHR=4.0, 95% CI: 1.14,13.96]. Vaccination was the preventive factor of the death outcome. Elderly patients who received two time of vaccination had 0.19 time more likely to reduce the risk of death due to COVID-19 [$p= 0.04$, AHR=0.19, 95% CI: 0.40,0.96]. The major challenges among health care providers in Hnin Si Kone nursing home were insufficiency of human resource, increasing workload, inadequate facilities, difficulties in referral system, poor coordination with elderly during COVID-19 pandemic period. Therefore, risk of dying due to COVID-19 infection among elderly patients was higher among male elderly patients, those with general debility and those who had not two doses of COVID-19 vaccination.