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## **Elderly care system in Finland**

EU senior citizens as active users of  
gerontechnology solutions

26.5.2009

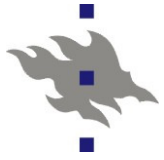
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## Legislation?

- There is no legislation especially for old age services
- Guidance with information
- One subjective right: service need assessment



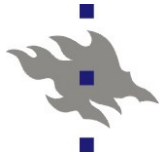
## Agencies responsible for social and health services

- Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (legislation and guidance)
- National agencies and institutes (research, development and supervision)
- State provincial offices (development promotion, assessment of service availability and quality)
- Municipalities (implementation of services)
- Centres for expertise in social welfare (regional development and research)



## **The aim of the ageing policy is to further older people's**

- Functional capacity
- Active involvement in society
- Independent living



## Home sweet home...



- Older people must be able to live in safety **in their own homes** and in **familiar residential environments** for as long as possible.
- The possibilities for this are improved by removing barriers in the home and residential environment using assistive devices and new technology.



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# Services for old people





## Service needs assessment

- If an older person (75 +) requires home services, informal care, institutional care, services for older people, social assistance or other social care services, for these to be granted a municipal official assesses the client's service needs.



## Prevention services

- Older people's functional capacity is supported using **preventive services** and **rehabilitation**. These services include Senior Info, preventive home visits, day centres and vaccinations.
- Wanha herra
- GOAL (Good Ageing in Lahti Region)





## Health services

- Health services include the services of the municipal **health centre**, such as physical examinations, dental care, home nursing, hospital care, rehabilitation services and assistive devices. If **specialized medical care** is required, the hospital district arranges it.
- Hospital Jalkaranta



## Services for war veterans

- Services and benefits for veterans are intended for those who served in the 1939-1945 wars, for rehabilitation, care and income security.



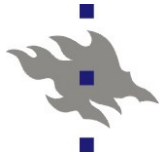
## Home services and home nursing care

- **Home service** and **home nursing care** assist when an older person requires help at home due to diminished functional capacity or illness. In many municipalities these are combined as home care, which is supplemented by support services.



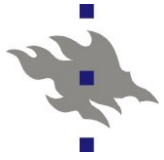
## Housing services

- Older people's independent housing is supported by housing services by granting reimbursements for housing **renovation work** and by providing sheltered housing.
- HUILI, Jyränkölä settlement



## Concepts

- **Ordinary sheltered housing** =staff are only on duty during the day
- **Sheltered housing units with 24-hour assistance**= meant for older people who may need staff on hand round the clock (clients pay separately for accommodation and any services utilized). Sometimes called intensified service accommodation.
- **Institutional care** includes residential homes (institutional care as social service) and long term care in health centre hospitals



## Institutional care

- If it is not possible for an older person to live at home or in sheltered housing (ordinary or with 24-hours assistance), care can be organised in the form of **institutional care**.
  - Residential homes (social services)
  - Health centre hospitals (health services)



## Informal care

- Municipalities may grant informal care support for a relative or friend of a person being cared for.



## Memory rehabilitation

- Social and health care professionals offer guidance and advice for people with memory disorders in need of special services. Many municipalities have nurses, advisers or coordinators for memory disorders. Also, the regional specialists and support centres of the associations for memory disorders and dementia provide advice and guidance





## Guiding by information

- The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has set out national objectives concerning services for older people in the form of a **National Framework for High-Quality Services for Older People.**

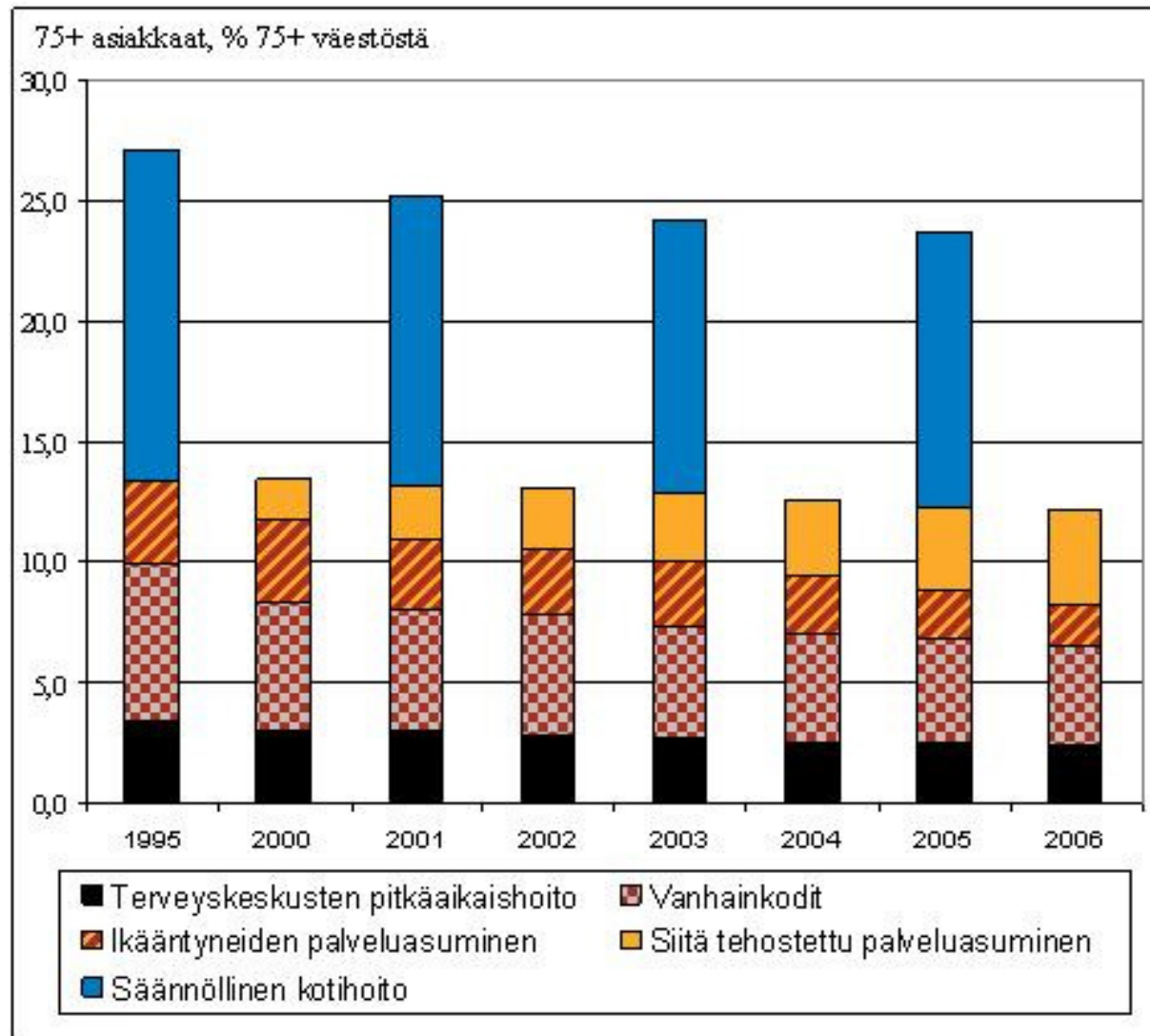
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<b>Indicators (as % of over 75s)</b>	<b>National targets proposed in the framework (as % of over 75s)</b>
Percentage living at home (excluding those in 24-hour care)	91– 92% live at home
Percentage receiving regular home care	13–14% receive regular home care
Percentage receiving informal care support	5–6% receive informal care support
Percentage in sheltered housing with 24-hour assistance	5–6% in sheltered housing with 24-hour assistance
Percentage in long-term institutional care (residential homes, health centre hospitals)	3% in long-term institutional care (residential homes, health centre hospitals)



## Coverage of services for old people (75+, %)



1. Health centre hospitals 2. Residential homes 3. Sheltered housing 4. Sheltered housing with 24-h of it 5. Regular home care



## Services for old people and EU policies

- Arranging services is a national responsibility
- Co-operation in research and development
- Learning from the other countries
- Possibility for highlighting important questions such as elder abuse