

Elderly people with complex needs

How to define?

Mats Thorslund

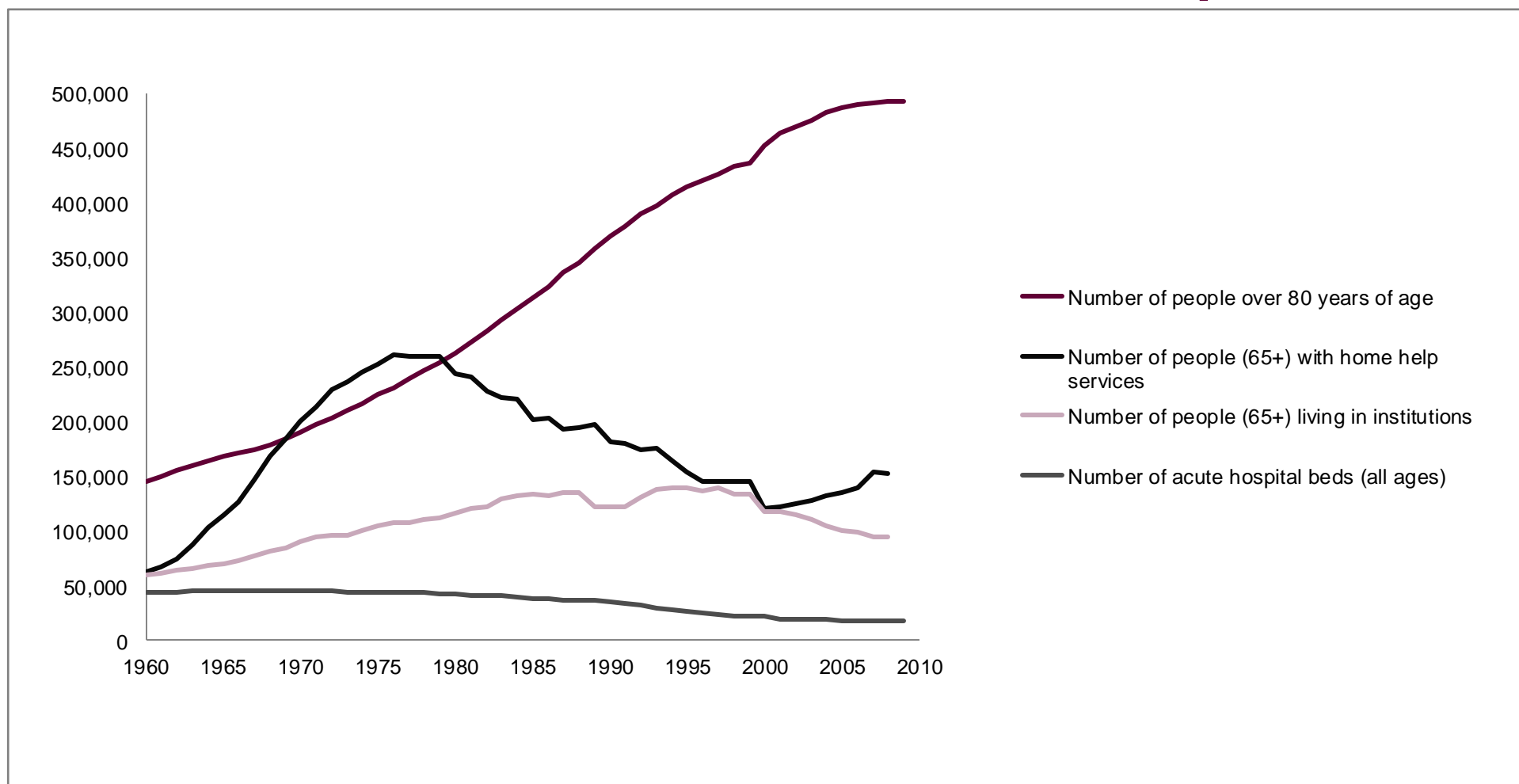
Lennarth Johansson

Bettina Meinow

Om mannfrihet Lifs ändrar I genom wanden I sin waggan til Grofven. *Uman. K.H.*

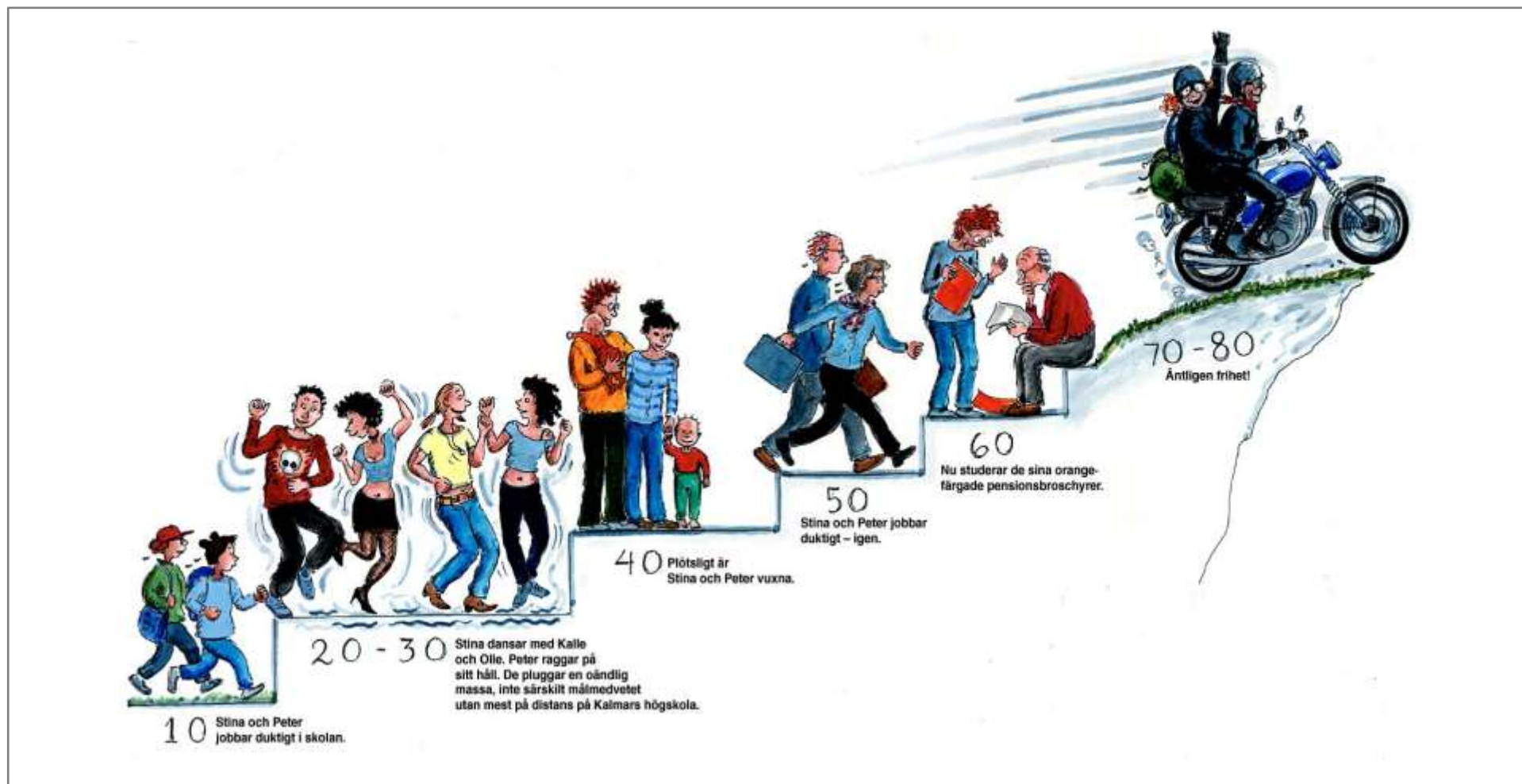


Number of people >80 with home help services, living in institutions and number of acute hospital beds



Source: Thorslund & Johansson (2011)

New staircase to heaven?



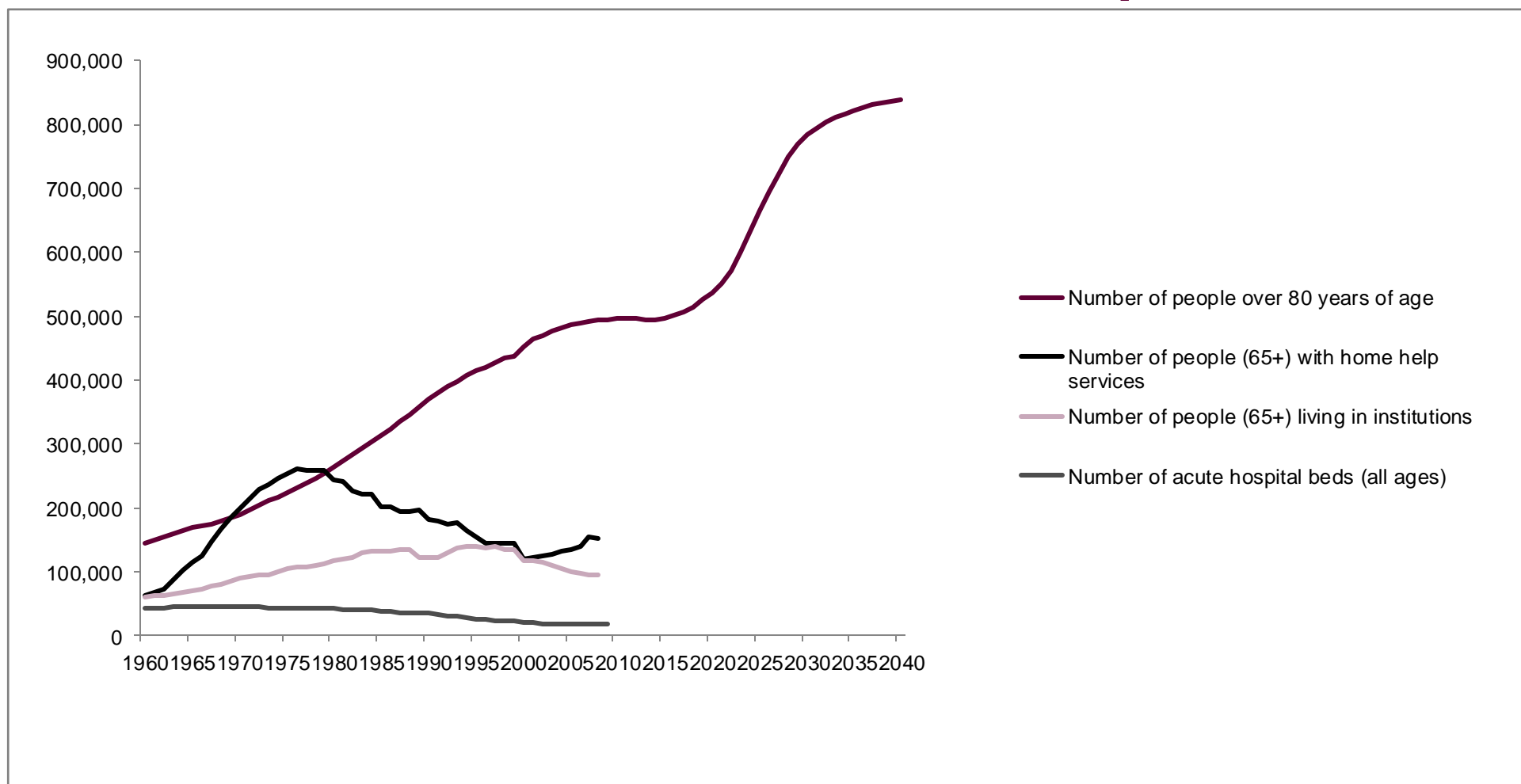


Problems!

- Fragmented care systems
- Elderly people shunted around in the system
- “Unnecessary” hospital visits/admissions
- Unplanned discharge
- No central role for primary health care
- Many drugs
- Inefficient use of resources



Number of people >80 with home help services, living in institutions and number of acute hospital beds



Source: Thorslund & Johansson (2011)

New Swedish government initiatives

State grants to the local authorities

- Get money for experimental programs
- Get money for performance
 - e.g. reduce number of hospital admissions

Driving forces behind the initiatives

- Better coordination and quality of care for
"the most sick elderly people"
- Reduce costs
 - Hospital care
 - Institutional care

Definitions

- Co-morbidity
- Multi-morbidity
- Multiple chronic conditions
- Frailty
- Complex health problems
- Complex care needs

- "The most sick elderly people"

Various perspectives and different aims

Case-finding

- Clinical perspective
- Learning from case reports
- Frailty

Epidemiological/planning purposes

- Number of diseases
- Complex health problems
- Care needs/care received
- Frailty

Various perspectives and different aims

– prevalence rates ("literature")

Case-finding	
■ Clinical perspective	–
■ Learning from case reports at 75+	4%
■ Frailty	3–40%
Epidemiological/planning purposes	
■ Number of diseases at 75+	30–65%
■ Complex health problems at 77+	26%
■ Care needs/care received	–
■ Frailty	3–40%

Various perspectives and different aims

– prevalence rates (SWEOLD 2011 "interviewed sample")

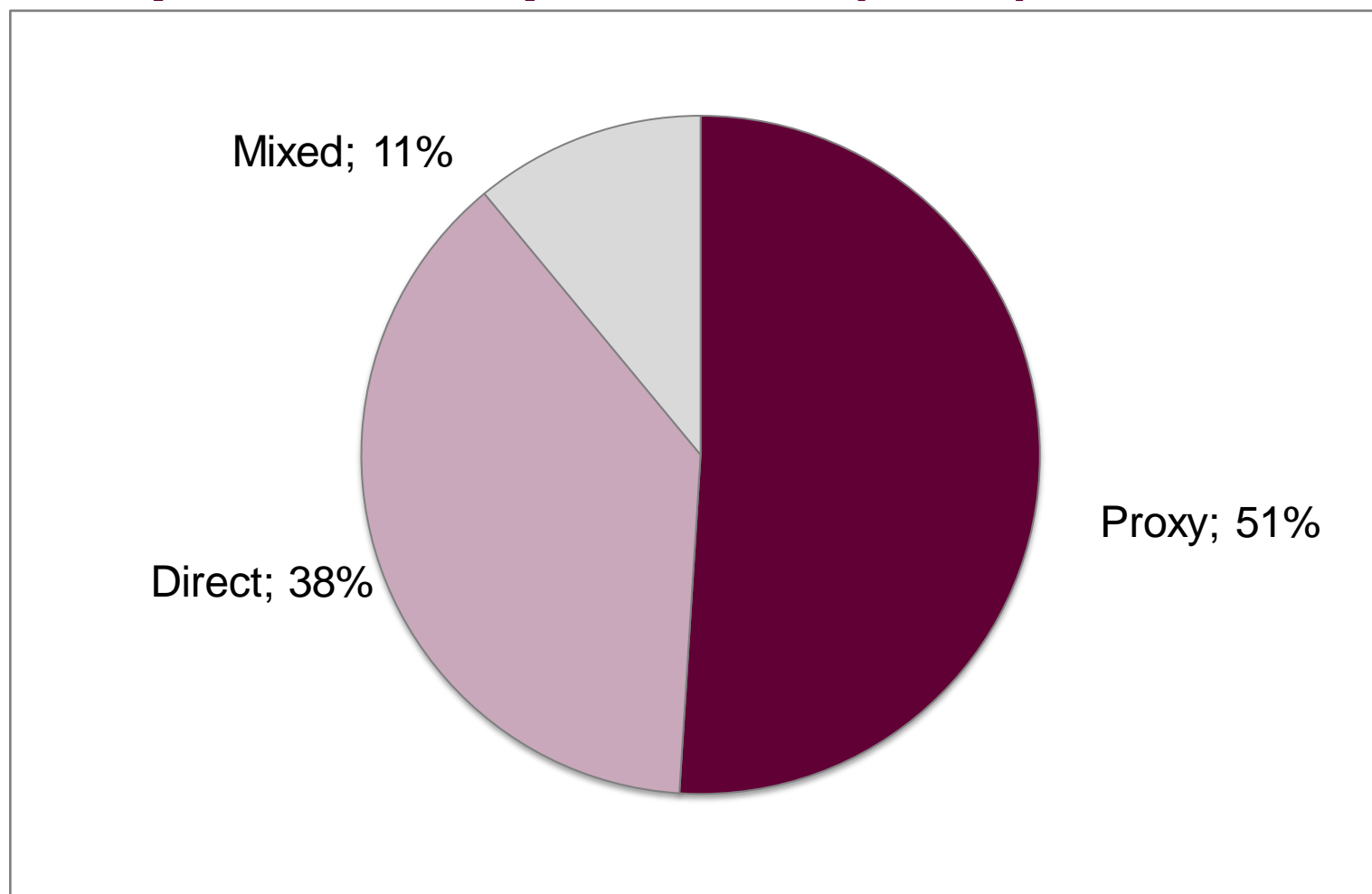
Case-finding

- Clinical perspective
- Learning from case reports
- Frailty

Epidemiological/planning purposes

■ Number of diseases at 77+	54%
■ Complex health problems at 77+	15%
■ Care needs/care received	—
■ Frailty at 77+	34%

Interview method for individuals with complex health problems (2011)



Various perspectives and different aims

– prevalence rates (SWEOLD 2011 "total sample")

Case-finding

- Clinical perspective
- Learning from case reports
- Frailty

Epidemiological/planning purposes

■ Number of diseases at 77+	55%
■ Complex health problems at 77+	24%
■ Care needs/care received	–
■ Frailty at 77+	37%

Elderly people with complex needs

How to define?

No golden definition – but ...



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Complex health problems

- From the perspective of care providers
- 3 dimensions:
 - Mobility
 - Cognition/communication
 - Symptoms and disease
- Severe problems in 2–3 dimensions



Complex health problems

Household composition among individuals with complex health problems (%)

Household composition	<i>Per cent</i>
Ordinary housing	
Living alone	35 %
Living with others	28 %
Sheltered housing/institutional care	37 %

Complex health problems in the Swedish population aged 77+ (2011) (%)

Age	Women	Men	<i>Total</i>
77–84	20	15	18
85+	44	27	38
<i>Total</i>	28	19	24