

UNDERSTANDING PROVISION OF CARE: A VISIT TO OLD AGE HOME BY PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENTS

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The MPH students of the [Edward and Cynthia Institute of Public Health](#), visited an old age home on June 13, 2023, as a part of their curriculum, with an aim to study the morbidity profile, and geriatric services provided to the elderly residents. A total of 11 individuals were part of the visit, which included 9 students and two faculties.

The students were guided by the administrator of the old age home, who explained in detail, about the centre, its functioning, daily schedule, and activities. At present, the facility is occupied by 18 residents.

During an interactive session with the elderly, [students](#) gained insight into their experiences and life at the senior citizen home, as well as their reasons for staying here. Morbidities such as diabetes and high blood pressure were prevalent, and a few of them were either bedridden or had Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease. However, the staff members were attentive to the specific needs of each resident, providing assistance and care accordingly. Students further developed an understanding of the importance of providing comprehensive care, geriatric healthcare facilities, inclusive infrastructure, cleanliness, and the duties of caretakers in ensuring the quality of care for the elderly and providing them with the appropriate conditions to live a dignified life.

Our [MPH students](#) had an interactive session with the residents where they shared stories, experiences, and valuable life lessons. Students also in playing, singing, and cheerful activities. This

visit also made the students understand the general morbidity conditions at the old age and way these morbidities are taken care of by an old age home.



Overall, the field visit to the old-age home was a great learning experience for the MPH students, as it provided them with a platform for interdisciplinary learning. They have gained knowledge that will enable them to contribute to patient-centric geriatric healthcare in the future and will guide them in their future endeavors to address the healthcare needs of vulnerable population.