

# Home Care Services for Elderly People in Georgia

Home Health Care Management & Practice  
1–8  
© 2016 SAGE Publications  
Reprints and permissions:  
sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav  
DOI: 10.1177/1084822315627785  
hhc.sagepub.com  


**Tengiz Verulava, PHD<sup>1</sup>, Ia Adeishvili, MPH<sup>2</sup>,  
and Tamar Maglakelidze, MPH<sup>1</sup>**

## Abstract

In recent years, health service affordability for elderly people has been significantly improved within the Georgia State Health Insurance Program, although home care services for elderly people are not envisaged in any of state health care programs. Home care services for elderly people were mainly provided by nongovernmental organizations and family members (nonformal services). The objective of a survey was to study home care services rendered by nongovernmental organizations and family members in Georgia, living conditions of elderly people dependent on home care, and cost for home care services incurred by them. For study purposes, a method of direct interviews through specially constructed questionnaires was used, covering health conditions of elderly people, period of depending on care, care needs, and costs for care services. In Georgia, home care services for elderly people are mainly provided by nongovernmental organizations. The majority of interviewees (73.1%) more often use home care services rendered by nongovernmental organizations than the services envisaged by state health care programs (26.9% of interviewees use these services). Elderly people are more dependent on the assistance provided by their relatives and they give priority to the services rendered at home, rather than to institutional care (in special clinics or retirement homes). Families make a big contribution to assisting and supporting home care services for elderly people. If needed, they represent key home care service providers in Georgia. This fact should be recognized and considered while elaborating the care policy for elderly people in Georgia.

## Keywords

home care, Georgia, older people, home care services

---

<sup>1</sup>Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

<sup>2</sup>Caritas Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia

## Corresponding Author:

Tengiz Verulava, School of Public Health and Insurance, Ilia State University, 3/5, K. Cholokashvili Ave., Tbilisi, Georgia.

Email: Tengiz.verulava@iliauni.edu.ge