

# **Study: Skilled nursing facilities continued to provide high quality care for those hospitalized during the pandemic**

March 3 2023

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Older adults who entered skilled nursing facilities (SNF) for care after hospitalizations after the pandemic received rehabilitation care comparable to the levels of care that were provided pre-pandemic, according to research published in the *JAMA Health Forum*.

Despite exceptional challenges during the pandemic, SNFs provided post-acute rehabilitation with only a modest decline in intensity, said the researchers. This suggests that SNFs were largely able to adapt and provide post-acute care rehabilitation to [older adults](#).

"During the pandemic we knew that fewer people went to skilled nursing facilities after hospitalizations, and it seemed like the ones that went were overall sicker, with more [cognitive impairment](#) and higher risk overall," said Sandra M. Shi, MD, MPH.

"This study helps to demonstrate that despite caring for a sicker population with scarce resources, SNFs were still largely able to provide post-acute rehabilitation for patients."

"Our goal was to characterize changes in [rehabilitation services](#) provided by SNFs during COVID-19", said Sarah Berry, MD, MPH.

"Rehabilitation services overall decreased, but only by about a half day on average."

**More information:** Sandra M. Shi et al, Post-Acute Care Rehabilitation Services and Outcomes in Skilled Nursing Facilities Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic, *JAMA Health Forum*

(2023). [DOI: 10.1001/jamahealthforum.2023.0019](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamahealthforum.2023.0019)  
[jamanetwork.com/journals/jama- ... /fullarticle/2802096](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-.../fullarticle/2802096)

Provided by Hebrew SeniorLife Hinda and Arthur Marcus Institute for Aging Research

Citation: Study: Skilled nursing facilities continued to provide high quality care for those hospitalized during the pandemic (2023, March 3) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-03-skilled-nursing-facilities-high-quality.html>

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