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Overview of mortality risk of COVID-19 in older people: global perspective

Professor Hafiz Khan

University of West London

Webinar, 04 June 2020

2-day webinar (3-4 June 2020) organised by Federal Ministry of Health (HEPIQ-C) in Collaboration with Brain Health Initiative Nigeria (BHIN) on the effect of COVID-19 on the health and care management of older adults in West-Africa

www.bhin.org

Outline of talk



- Demographic change
- Public health challenges for an ageing society
- Cross country differences in number of deaths due to COVID-19
- Mortality risk in older people due to COVID-19
- Challenges to protect older people within existing health system

% Population by age group, UN 2020 estimate



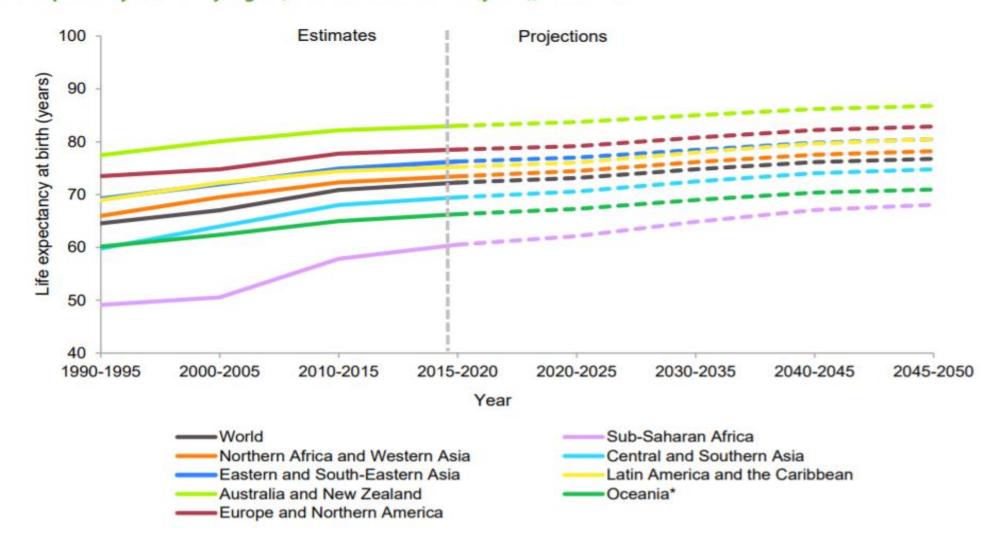
Region	0-14 years	60+ years	80+ years
Europe	17.57	20.31	2.95
North America	21.45	16.25	3.20
Asia	30.33	8.65	0.84
Africa	42.66	5.18	0.36
Sub Saharan Africa	44.32	4.74	0.30

Africa will have a young population for sometime

Life expectancy at birth (Globally)



Life expectancy at birth by region, both sexes combined (years), 1990-2050



Burden of disease



Epidemiological transition – changes in leading causes of deaths, from acute and infectious diseases to chronic and non-communicable ones.

Non-communicable diseases are big threats such as Heart disease, Stroke, Cancer, Diabetes, and Dementia.

These are also linked with disability, dependency, and long-term care needs.

Highly likely to suffer from multi-morbidities.

Proportion of life spent in poor health, England (2013 2015)

	At birth Males	At birth Females	At age 65 Males	At age 65 Females
Life expectancy	79.5	83.1	18.7	21.1
Healthy Life expectancy	63.4	64.1	10.5	11.2
Number of years in poor health	16.1	19.0	8.2	9.9
% of life in poor health	20.3	22.9	43.9	46.9

COVID-19 affects everyone today



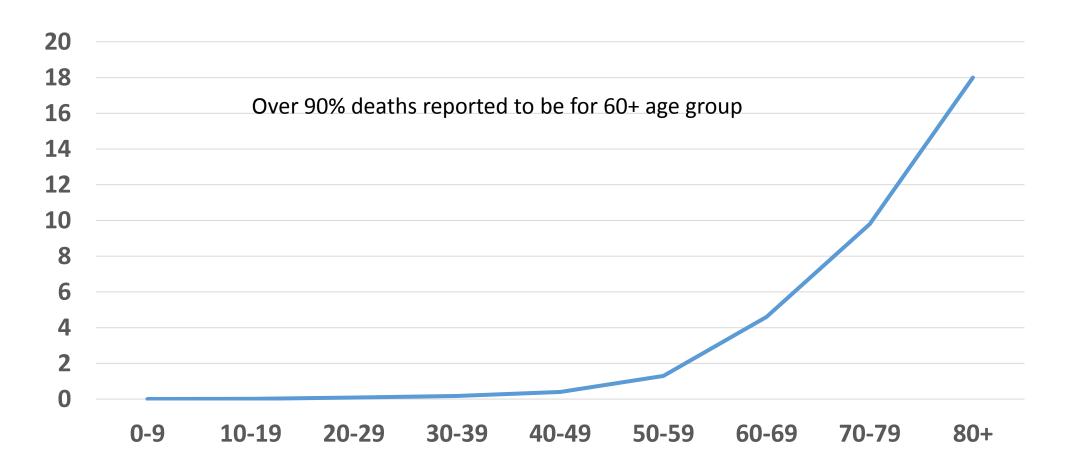
COVID-19 pandemic affects all segments of the society, including young adults

- Unemployment rate has increased across countries
- Remittance has dropped in many countries, affecting families dependent on this
- Family support and healthcare services are affected
- Elderly are more vulnerable due to ill health
- Elderly are largely dependent on financial support system mainly from state and family

Age-specific mortality rate, by age, in China



In China, mortality rates rise significantly among older patients



China data

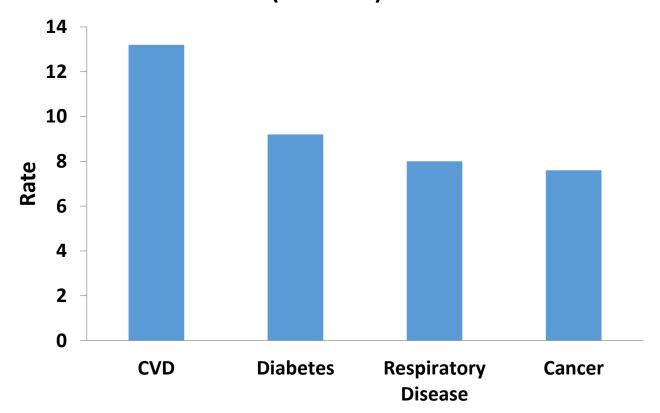


Co-morbidities were more prevalent in the dead group.

Nearly 61% of the patients had comorbidities,

About 24% had two or more comorbidities.

COVID-19 fatality rate by co-morbidity in China (n=55924)



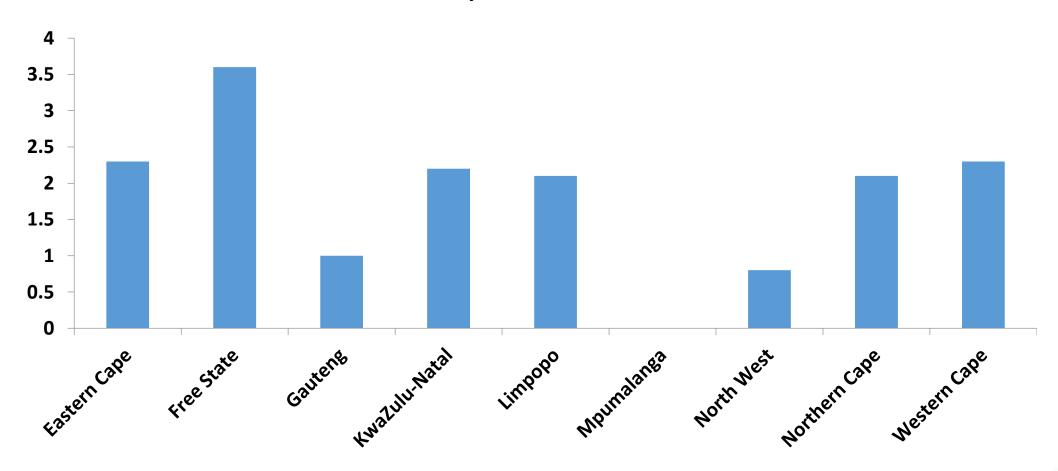
Trends of specific cause of deaths out of all cause (% of people in 60+ age groups)

Year	Cause	China	South Africa	USA
2016	CVD	47.51	33.16	32.13
	Cancer	37.17	12.21	22.60
	Diabetes	1.72	11.36	2.98
	Respiratory disease	1.69	8.00	2.52

Fatality rates in different Provinces of South Africa

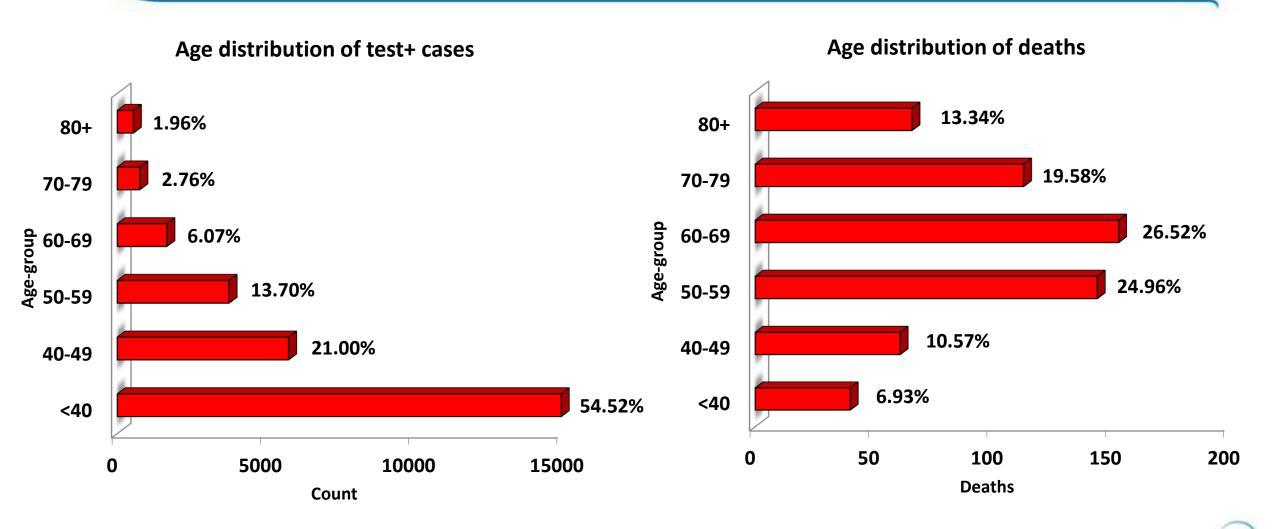






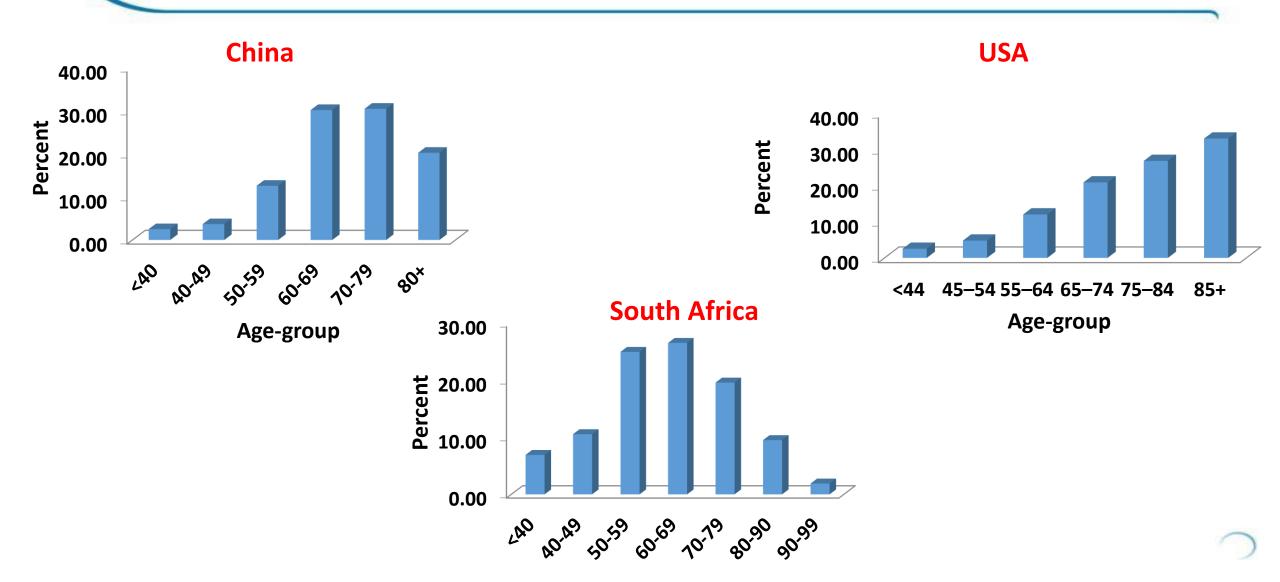
Age distribution of cases and deaths due to COVID-19 in South Africa





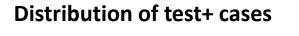
Age distribution of deaths due to COVID-19

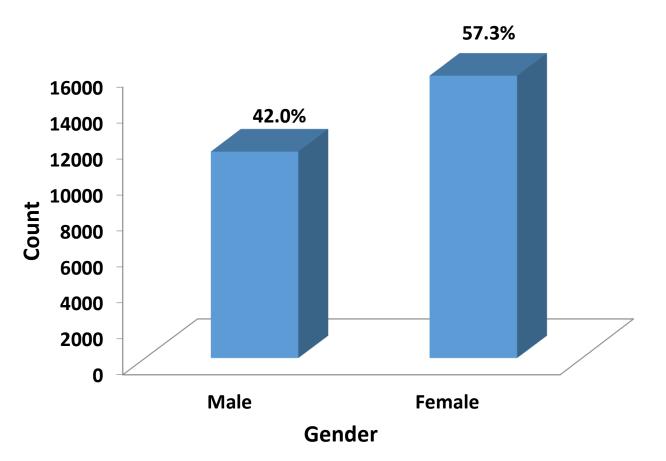




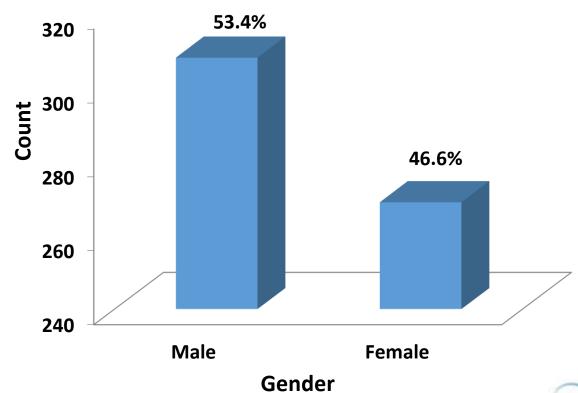
Cases and deaths by gender in South Africa





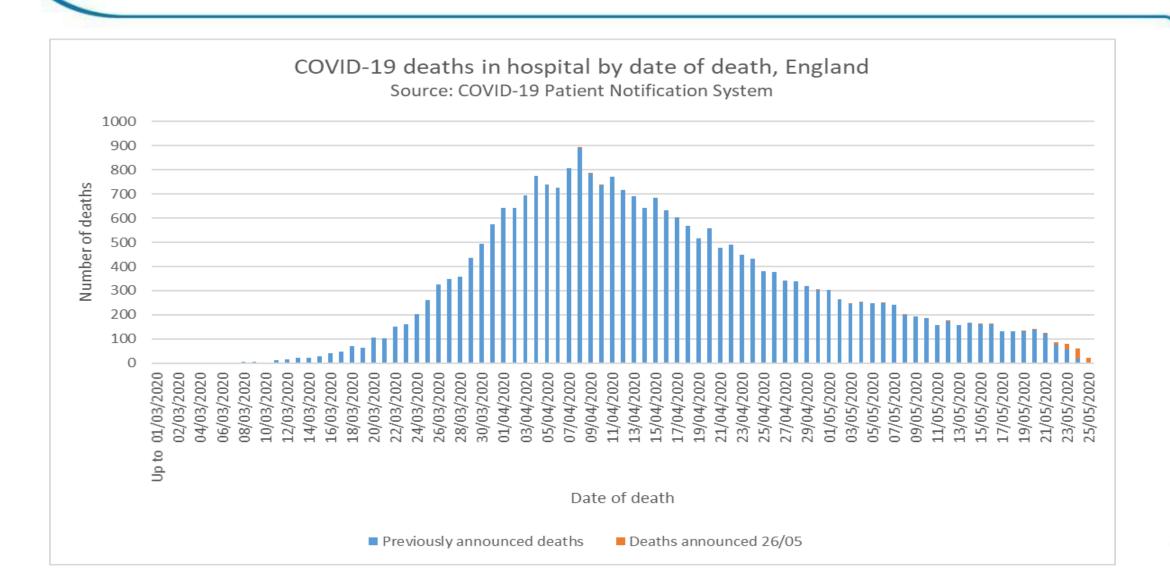


Distribution of deaths



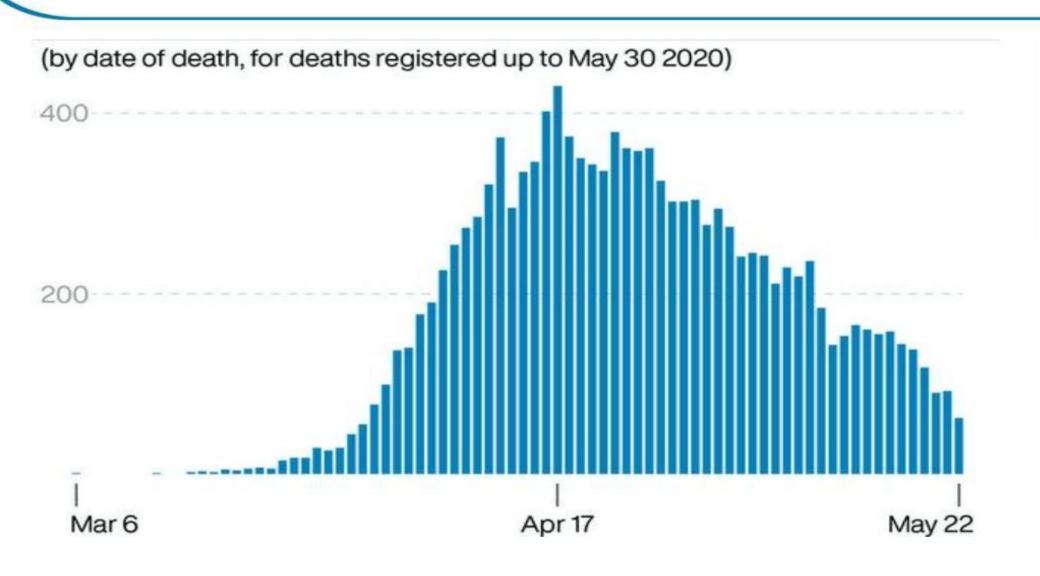
Time series by date of deaths in England





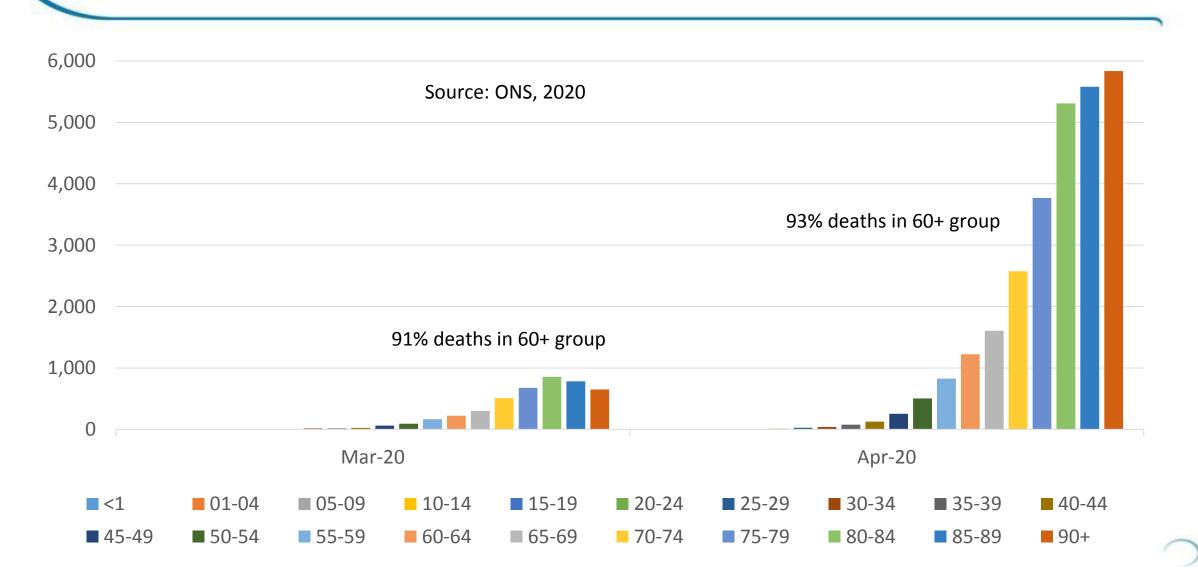
Deaths involving Covid-19 in care homes in England and Wales





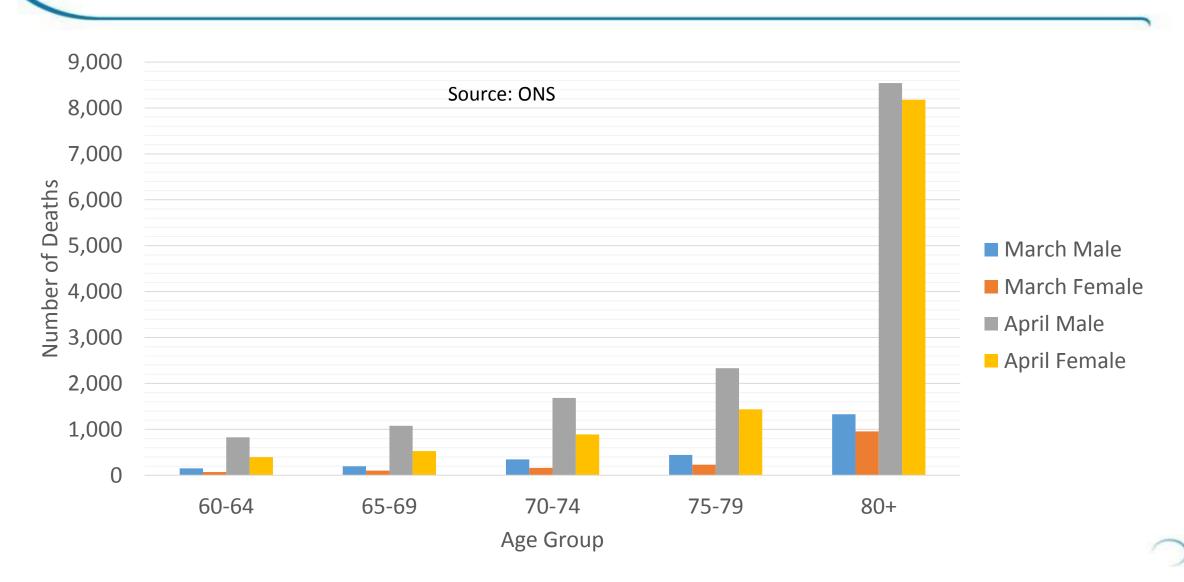
Number of deaths due to covid-19 in England and Wales





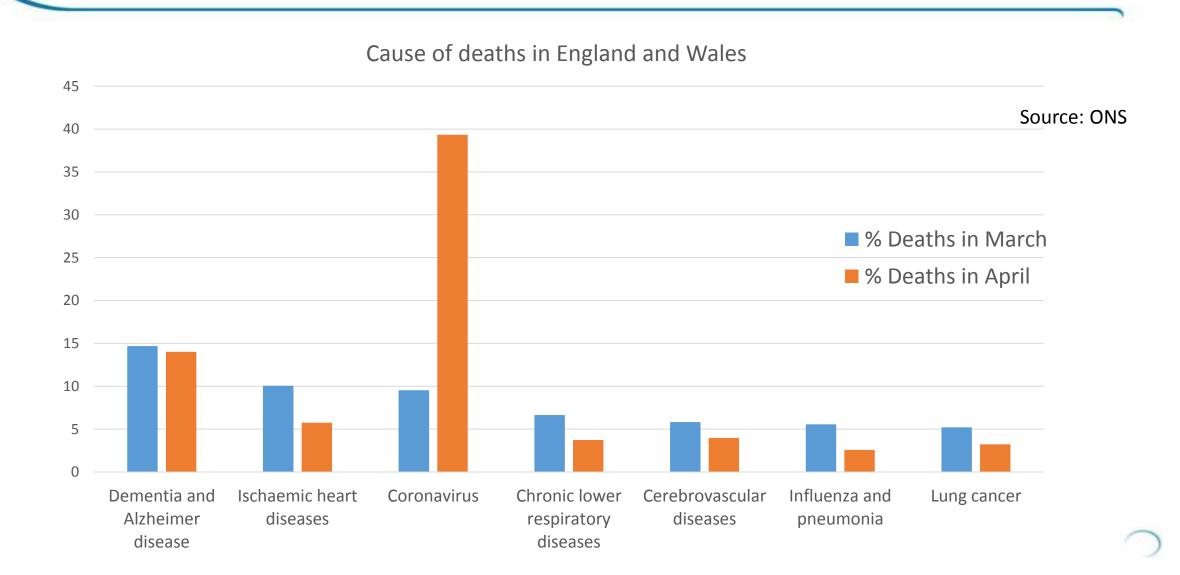
Deaths by age and gender in March/April 2020, England and Wales





Leading causes of deaths in England and Wales





Conclusion



- Older people are affected most due to COVID-19.
- Over 90% of all deaths are among 60+ age group of people.
- Older males are in greater risk than females counterparts.
- Pre-exiting health condition is a risk factor for COVID-19.
- The elderly becomes extremely vulnerable and isolated.
- Africa seems to have suffered less due to the age structure of its demography and lower rates of obesity.

Questions?





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