Additional file 2. Physical and mental effects on nursing home residents (NHR) and volunteers (V) due to intervention NHR=nursing home resident, V=Volunteer, 1=individual interview, 2=focus group

| | Qualitat | ive study | Quantitative Study | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| | Key results | Example | Variables assessed in the questionnaire | Response category | |
| Effects on NHRs' physical well-being _{1,2} | Consensus: + partial permanent increase in performance + partial decrease in physical complaints - partial increase in physical complaints (due to existing underlying diseases/age of PRO). NHR: + increasing independence - partial relief about the end of the walks (observation period) V: - partial discontinuation of walks | "sometimes it is progress when there is no step backwards" (V-F2B4) "Imagine all the things you couldn't do in the last few months. You've learned all that now. And that's how I see it too. That I can move around quite freely now and only through this walks back and forth" (NHR-W10) Yeah, that just got me out. Because I / I wasn't even in the garden yet. And then I also went | Frequency of walks/week | <1x/week 8 (14.8) 1x/week 19 (35.2 2x/week 24 (44.4) 3x/week 2 (3.7) >3x/week 1 (1.9) | |
| | | around the square once with Ms XX and I saw completely strange streets or things / so I also crossed the street sometimes.(NHR-W1) | | | |
| Effect on NHRs' mental well-being 1,2 | Consensus: + Participants became more open in the course of time + Social exchange/conversations important and positive NHR: + new courage to face life, distraction from gloomy thoughts - Fear of excessive demands and obligations - unreliability and private problems of the volunteers | "We laugh a lot. Moreover, it gives me other ideas. Not always just sad ones. When you're in a situation like that, you're always in the mood to complain." (NHR-W4) "Then we sat there for half an hour doing fractions. He wanted to try shorthand again. Then I asked again, I used to be able to do it, and I tried to be a bit more firm again." (V-F2B2) | n/a | n/a | |
| Impact on Vs' physical well-being₂ | V: + walks as relaxing + increased sporting activity by cycling or Nordic walking afterwards | "because the way with the bike is already good for me then. The rest is good for both of us" (V-F2B3) | Self-perceived improvement in V's physical performance and health | Improved 3 (7.5) More likely improved 5 (12.5) No difference 32 (80.0) More likely impaired 0 (0) Impaired 0 (0) Missing 0 (0) | |
| | | | V's self-perceived physical overload due to intervention | Overloaded 0 (0) More likely overloaded 1 (2.5) Neither nor 0 (0) More likely not overloaded 4 (10.0) Not overloaded 35 (87.5) Missing 0 (0) | |

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| | Qualitative study | | Quantitative Study | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | Key results | Example | Variables assessed in the questionnaire | Response category |
| Impact on Vs' mental well-being2 | V: + Insight into life in the elderly + Joy and gratitude of the NHR + a meaningful task + intergenerational instructive exchange - partly poor living conditions in the nursing home | "The arrival, a little bit of walking, a little bit of chatting, for the lady it was positive, for me it was positive" (V-F1B5) "Then I always think to myself, I'm still a young person and I should actually change that now. [the poor living conditions in the nursing home] I have to take responsibility now, so that when I'm that age, the change is there. That I don't have the same problem later on."(V-F2B5) "Every time I go out there () so that's bad. And many of them just don't leave it any more, not at all. And this realization sometimes gets to me."(V-F2B2) | | Overloaded 0 (0) More likely overloaded 1 (2.5) Neither nor 1 (2.5) More likely not overloaded 11 (27.5) Not overloaded 27 (67.5) |