

Mortality Reviews - Analysis of Deaths of Individuals Receiving Residential Supports from the Developmental Disabilities Administration

From March 2010 through March 2013 a total of 311 reviews were conducted

Analysis by Charlotte McDowell,
Quality Improvement Program Manager

Mortality Reviews

DDA Regional Process:

All deaths of DDA clients are reported to the Regions.

- The Regional Quality Assurance Manager requests additional information from all residential agencies, adult family homes, children's licensed facilities and nursing agencies serving children receiving Medically Intensive Children's Program services.
- The Region/RHC then further reviews each death of a client receiving residential services for circumstances/cause of death; whether policies and procedures were followed; whether proper clinical and medical practices were observed, etc.
- Unexplained or unusual deaths are carefully considered and reviewed. Families and legal representatives (guardians) are encouraged to seek an autopsy in these cases.

Mortality Reviews

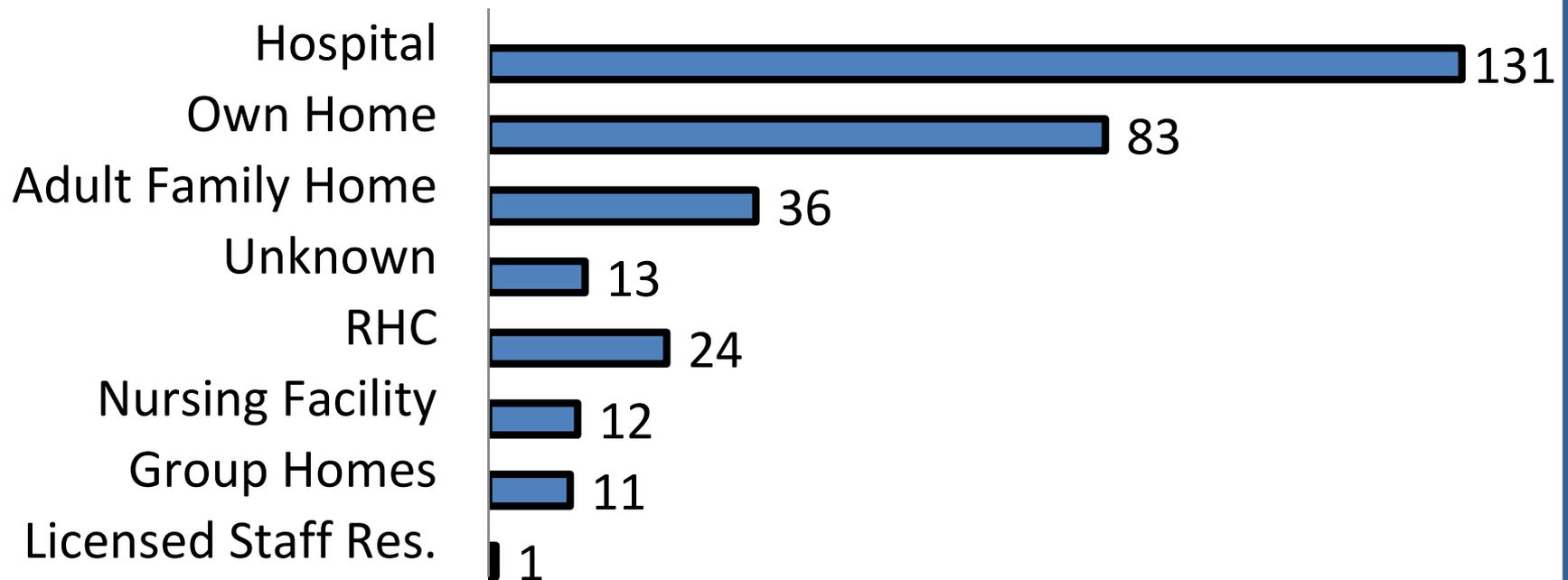
DDA Central Office Process:

All results must be subsequently forwarded to the DDA Office of Quality Programs and Stakeholder Involvement for Central Office Mortality Review Team (MRT) action. The MRT includes administrative, medical, investigatory and other professional personnel who:

- Review 100% of mortality review reports from the Regions and RHCs;
- Review data from the Incident Reporting system, the CARE database and other sources to identify any trends or patterns that need addressing; and
- Make reports and recommendations to DDA management concerning needed training, policy or procedural changes.

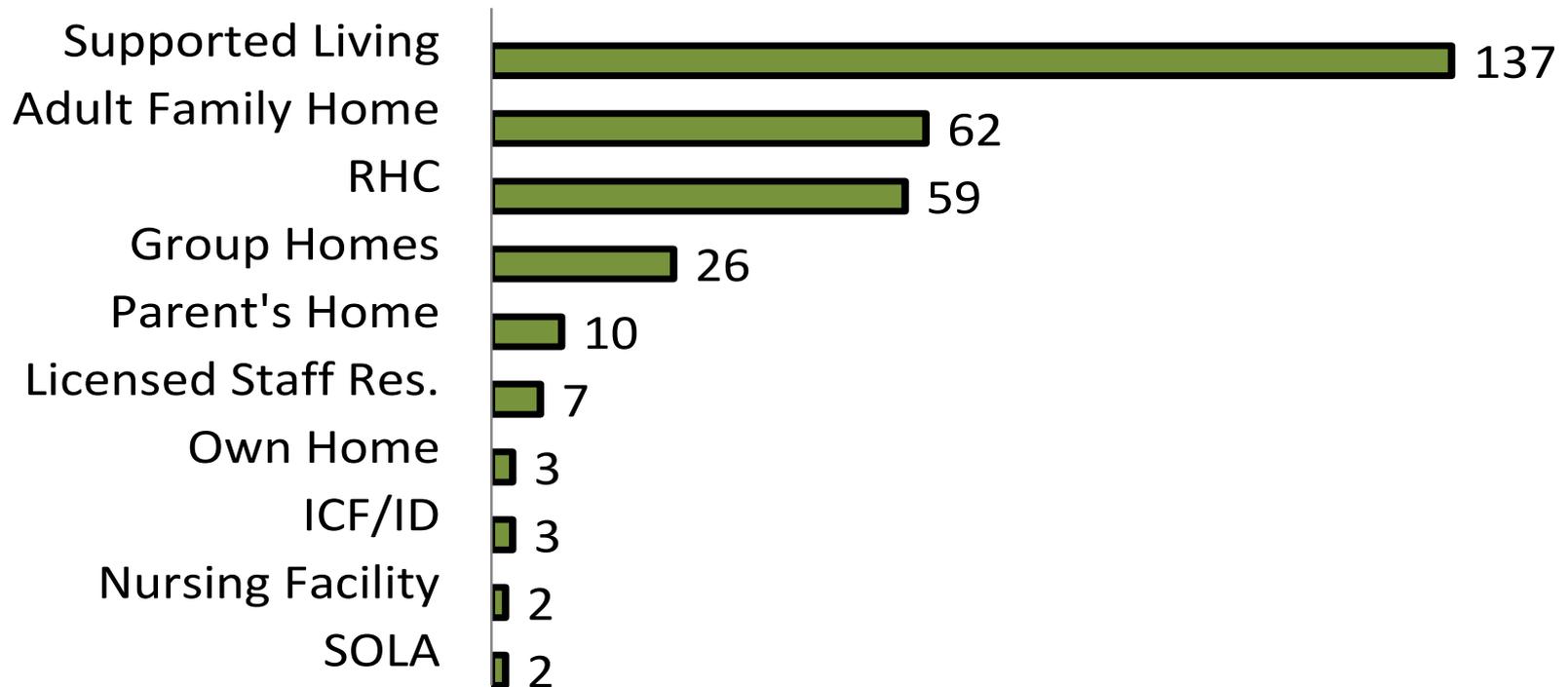
Mortality Reviews

Place of Death and Number of Reviews



Mortality Reviews

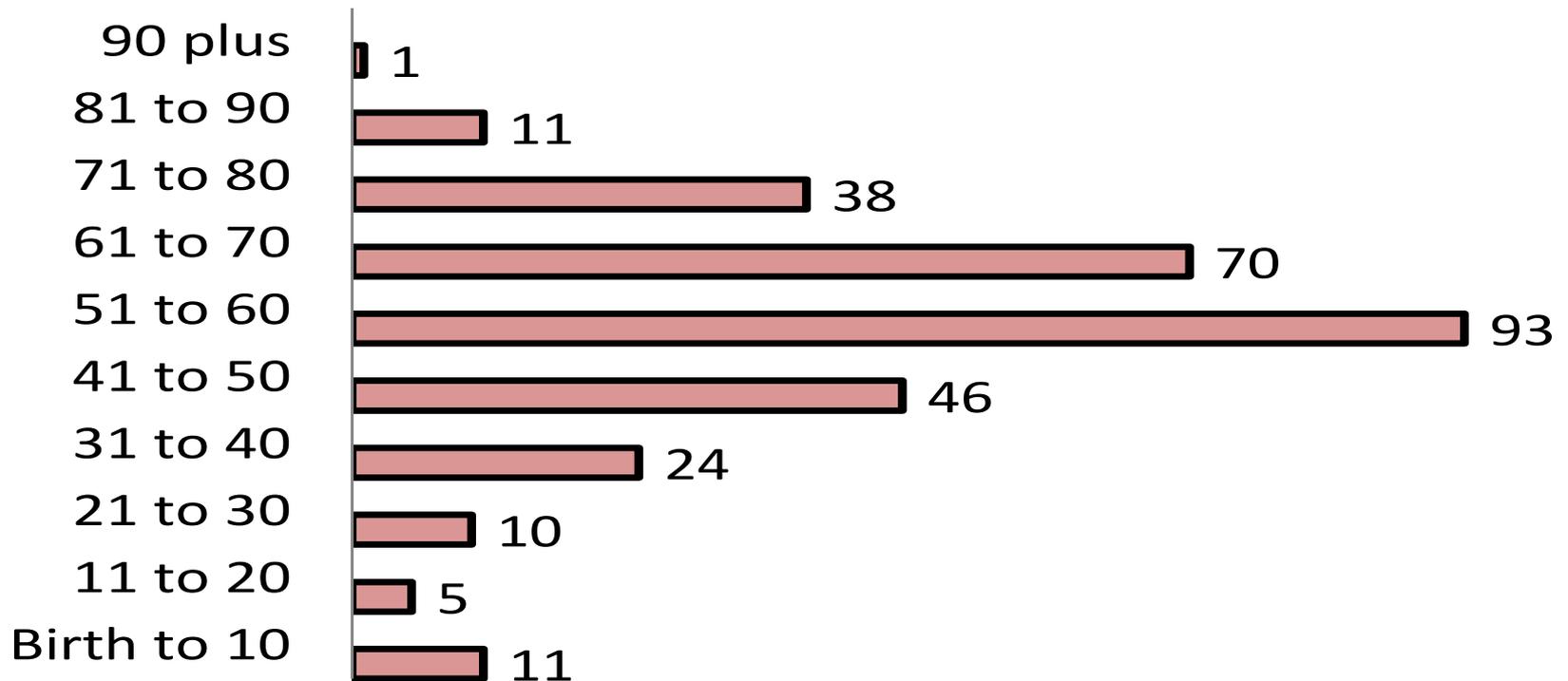
Residence type at time of Death and Number of Reviews



Data Source: Mortality Review Database * Charlotte McDowell * 3-13

Mortality Reviews

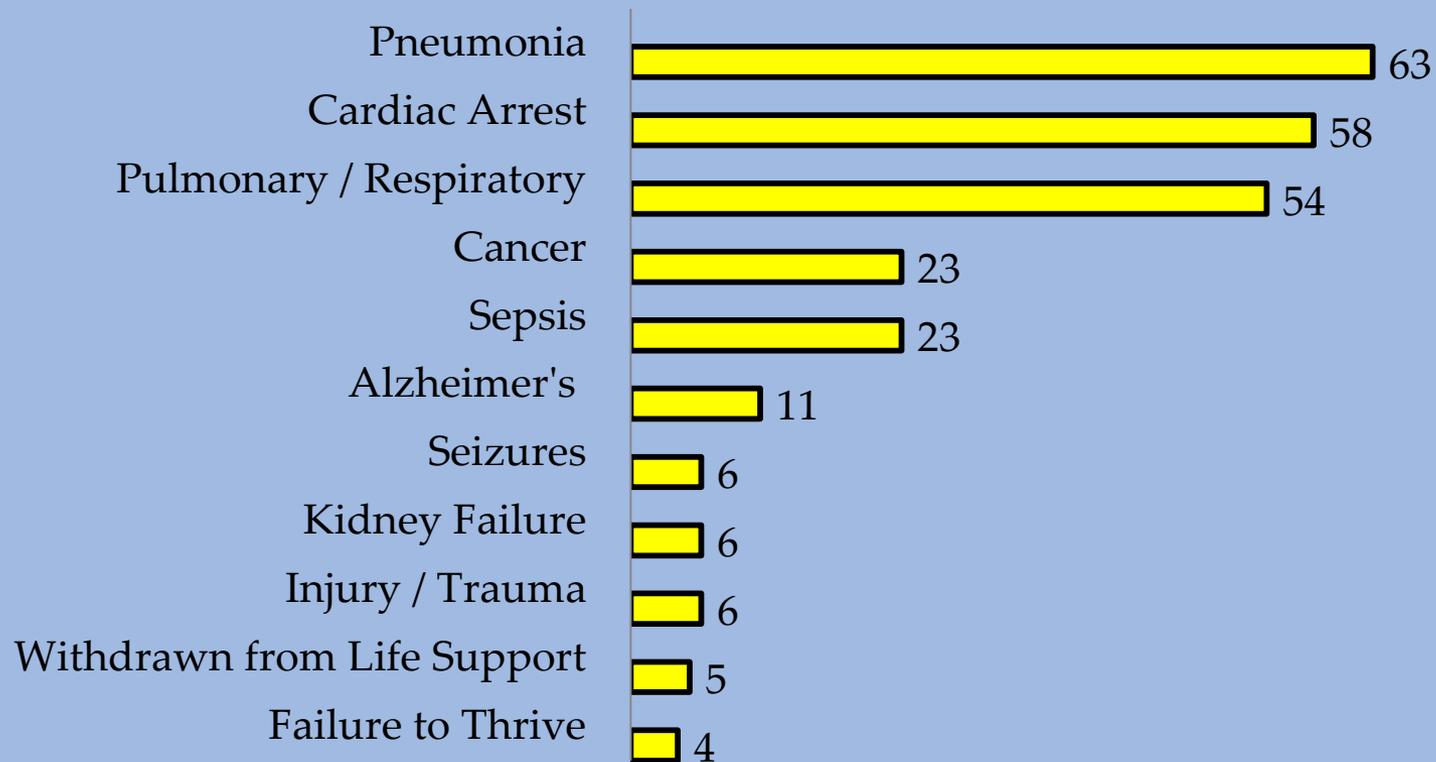
**Ages at Time of Death
and Number of Reviews**



Data Source: Mortality Review Database * Charlotte McDowell * 3-13

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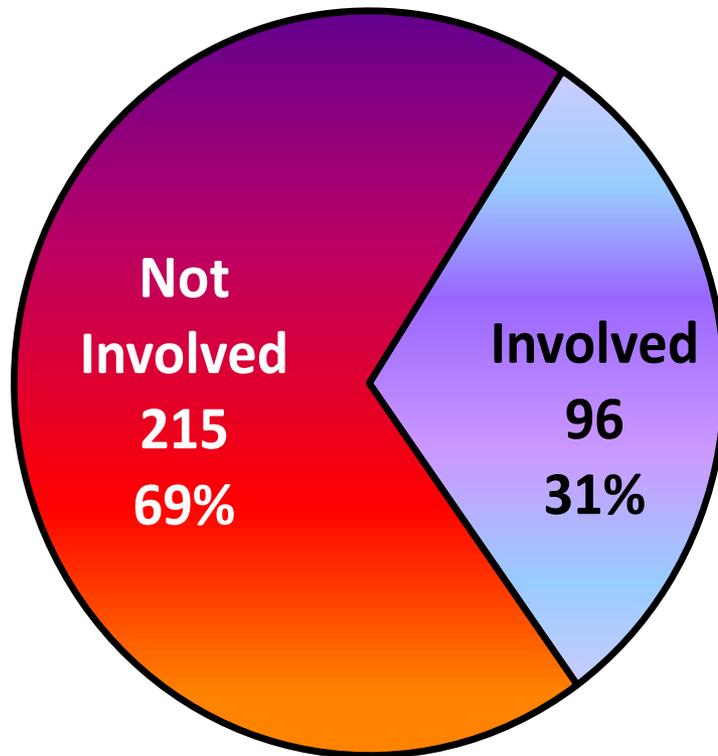
Primary Cause of Death and Number of Reviews



Data Source: Mortality Review Database * Charlotte McDowell * 3-13

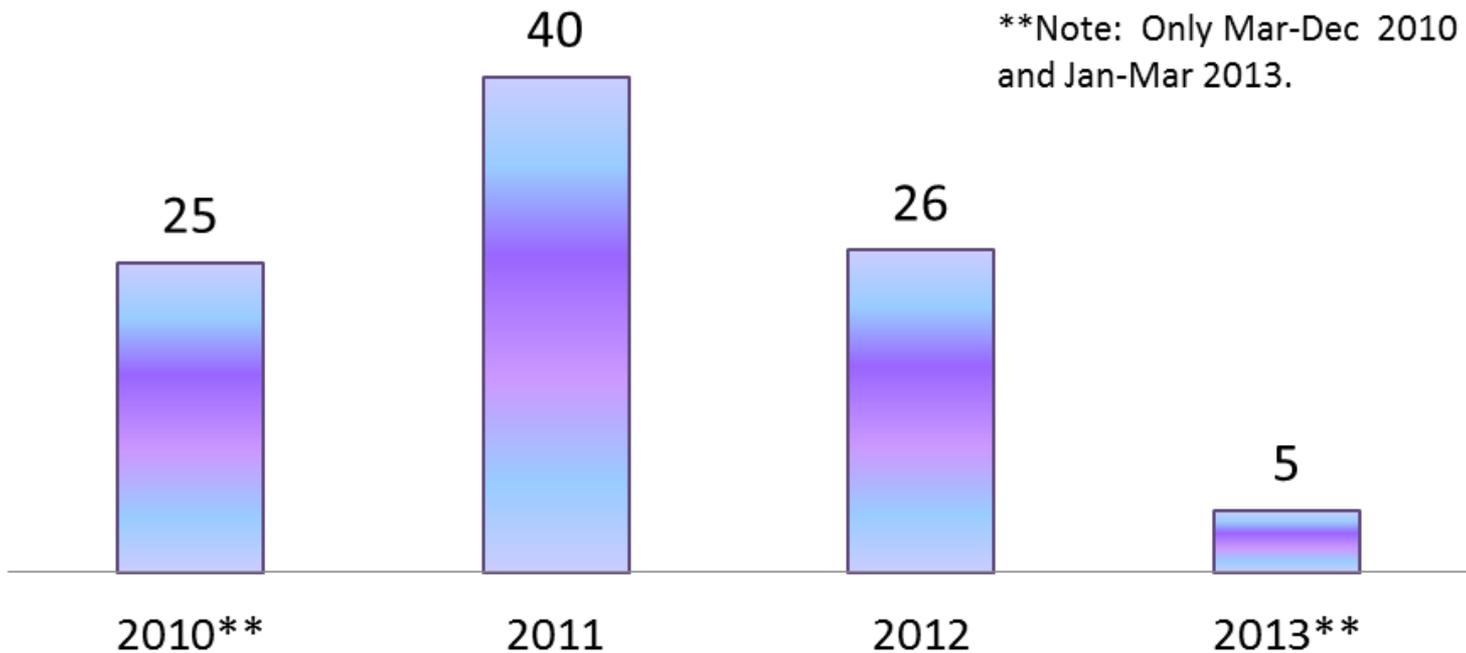
Mortality Reviews

Aspiration Pneumonia Involved



Mortality Reviews

Number of Aspiration Pneumonia Involved Deaths by Year



Mortality Reviews Analysis

- The place deaths most often occurred was in the hospital.
- The age of death was most likely to be between 51 and 60 years.
- The largest percentage of reviews occurred with clients' residential type as "Adult Family Homes."
- 31% of deaths had aspiration pneumonia involvement and 18% listed aspiration pneumonia as the primary cause.