

# KNOWLEDGE BITES: AGING WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

A Communique by the **T**oronto **P**artnership on **A**ging and **D**evelopmental **D**isabilities  
for Care Providers of Aging Adults with Developmental Disabilities

15,256 persons with developmental disabilities receive funded residential supports (DSO Survey, 2011)

The total population of people with developmental disabilities aged 55 years and over is expected to *double* by 2030 (Heller & Factor, 2014)

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59% of these individuals are between the ages of 40-64 and 4% are over the age of 70 (DSO Survey, 2011)

Individuals with developmental disabilities typically age *earlier* than the general population.

Therefore the need to plan for the care of this emerging population is even more urgent.

## WHAT TO DO?

- Understand how the aging process may impact your client's cognitive, physical and functional status
- Strengthen communication processes to facilitate conversation between different care sectors such as between home and hospital
- Establish flagging processes to identify age or health-related changes in your client's status when they occur

For more information on Aging with a Developmental Disability you can visit <http://www.opadd.on.ca/>  
Upcoming Knowledge Bites will also address these topics, so stay tuned!

## GETTING IN TOUCH WITH US:

We welcome feedback and suggestions for upcoming topics! Get in touch with us via email at:  
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