

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office for National Statistics 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to develop services to meet the needs of older people, and the need to ensure that the health care system is able to meet the needs of older people. The Department of Health (2000) has identified the need to develop services to meet the needs of older people, and the need to ensure that the health care system is able to meet the needs of older people.

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