

# National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine: Study on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes

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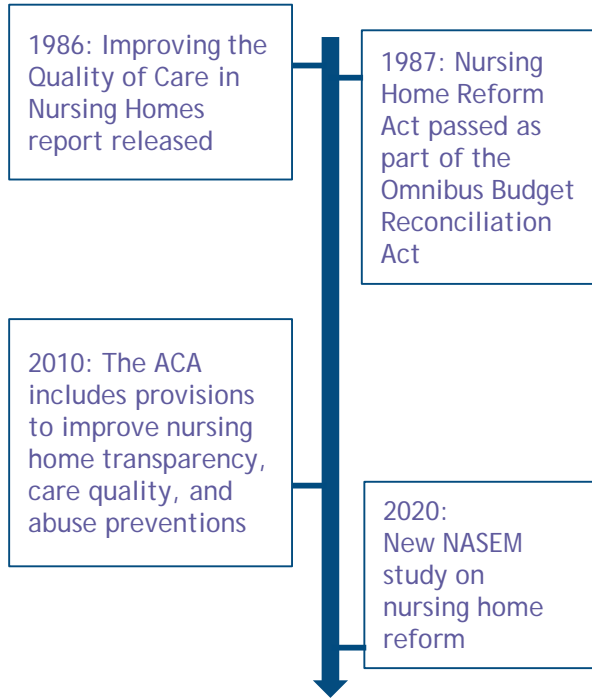


The  
Commonwealth  
Fund

## Areas of Focus:



# The previous NASEM study on nursing homes had significant impacts on federal policy

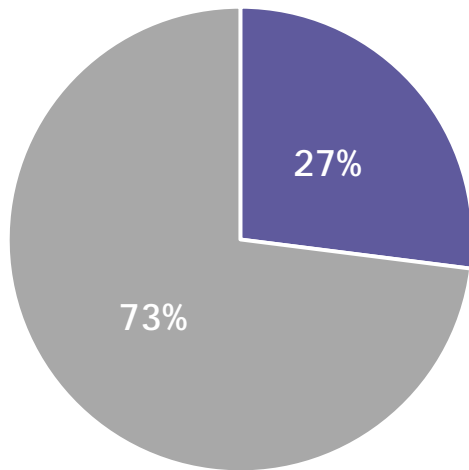


The 1986 Improving the Quality of Care in Nursing Homes report spurred major Congressional reform of nursing home regulations in 1987. As a result:

- Long term care is no longer synonymous with nursing homes
- Use of alternative non-institutional settings increased (i.e., home-based care)
- Understanding of residents' needs, preferences, and values improved
- Assessment of nursing home quality reformed

# The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted and amplified problems in nursing homes

Over a quarter of all COVID-19-related deaths in the U.S. have occurred in nursing homes



Total deaths, as of November 2020: **238,000+**

The following issues have contributed to an impaired pandemic response:

- Fragmented financing
- Low staff wages
- Clinicians not often on-site
- Lack of transparency in care quality
- Cracks in regulatory framework - little oversight or enforcement
- Less emphasis on infection control prior to the pandemic
- Lack of owner accountability



# The Commonwealth Fund has three primary aspirations for the NASEM Study



Document the variable quality and drivers of poor quality in nursing home care

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Examine issues for both older people on Medicare as well as younger people with serious disabilities

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Propose actionable ways for clinicians and policymakers to improve the quality of nursing home care

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