



**Universität  
Zürich** <sup>UZH</sup>

**ISEK – Department of Social  
Anthropology and Cultural Studies**

**MAS SYMPOSIUM**

# **TOGETHER IN THE NURSING HOME**

**Exploring Sociality  
in Residential  
Long-Term Care**



**23–24 January 2025  
University of Zurich  
Room KAB-G-01**

# TOGETHER IN THE NURSING HOME

## Exploring Sociality in Residential Long-Term Care

In this symposium, we want to explore how sociality, friendship and belonging are constituted in residential long-term care and thereby challenge the representation of nursing homes as 'cold' institutional spaces, in contrast to a romanticized idea of 'warm' familial care. As spaces of daily, intimate coexistence, nursing homes are quintessentially social spaces – they are at once home to their residents, workplace to various professionals and volunteers, but also sites of visiting relatives, friends and neighbors.

Bringing together various ethnographically informed contributions, this symposium will explore the ways in which sociality is imagined, enabled, practiced, experienced but also regulated in residential long-term care. Who is participating in designing sociality in the nursing home? How is sociality related to care? How are inclusion, exclusion and belonging mediated in these spaces of coexistence? What are the genealogies of the ways in which sociality has been imagined in residential long-term care, and what are its futures, especially as the idea of 'ageing in place' is increasingly defining eldercare policies?

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With the participation of a.o. Anne Aronsson, Cristina Douglas, Casey Golomski, Matouš Jelinek, Alexandre Lambelet, Fabienne Malbois, Rhoda Moramba, Carrie Ryan, Benjamin Tremblay, Jago Wyssling and Yuan Yan.

Organized by Olivia Killias, Anja Orschulko, Eva Soom Ammann, Sandra Staudacher, with the support of Lena Oberholzer

Full program & registration  
(registration is required  
to attend the event)



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Schweizerische Ethnologische Gesellschaft  
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Associazione Svizzera di Antropologia  
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