



Emirati Perceptions of Aging and Aged Care in the United Arab Emirates

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Executive Summary

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is facing a significant challenge regarding accessible high-quality aged care and service provisions for its growing senior population. While only accounting for two percent of the current population (165,000 people), the population of Emiratis aged 60 and older is estimated to increase twelve-fold by the year 2050. This demographic shift will have major financial, social, and cultural consequences. To provide a knowledge base on seniors in the UAE and their expectations about aged care, this policy paper discusses the findings of a recent study about the perceptions, knowledge, and attitudes of Emiratis on aging and senior care in the context of the UAE.

Our findings suggest that younger Emiratis have a limited understanding of aging and their future physical and financial well-being. Moreover, while younger Emiratis prefer family as primary caregivers, younger Emiratis also prefer receiving secondary support from friends. Older Emiratis prefer to live in their homes or reside in aged care facilities and hospitals to receive care, whereas younger Emiratis tend to prefer living near family and friends. Overall, this study reveals that amongst both younger and older Emiratis, perceptions about care and support are highly influenced by their existing close relationships and connections with Senior Emiratis.

Introduction

When compared to countries like the United States (US), United Kingdom (UK), and Australia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is incredibly young, both in its age as a State and the average age of its residents. The median age of its population of over nine million is about 32 years old, with a life expectancy around 79 years of age (UAE Fact Sheet, 2023). Though life expectancy is quite high, the senior population¹ is quite low, with only two percent (nearly 165,000) of UAE residents being over the age of 65 (World Bank, 2021).² Currently, this small population is proportionally insignificant, and only 1.6 people older than 65 were dependent on 100 working-aged people

in 2020. However, by 2050, that number will rise to 18.5 (Statista, 2020), an almost twelve-fold increase. This substantial growth will undoubtedly impose financial, social, and medical strains on the country. Furthermore, Emirati families and chosen alternative caregivers, who currently provide most of the care for seniors, will also face increased pressures.

In recent years, increased attention has been given to the needs of Senior Emiratis yet access to high-quality and accessible aged care remains a challenge. In 2019, Federal Law No. 9 was enacted to protect the rights of Senior Emiratis (see full law in Appendix B), yet despite this recent federal regulation, little attention has been given to ensuring that the rights of this population are

¹ Throughout this paper, the terms senior and Senior Emiratis are used interchangeably to describe individuals aged 60 and older and to align with the *National Policy for Senior Emiratis*. According to the UAE government portal, in addition to the new policy changes, the UAE Government has also instructed that the term 'elderly Emiratis' be replaced with 'Senior Emiratis' in recognition of their experience, giving, dedication and sincerity to UAE. (UAE, 2023)

² Official data about the elderly defines Senior Emiratis as 65 years and older.

protected and that aid is made available across the UAE. As such, a significant gap has surfaced between law and the development of interventions to address the needs of the UAE's aging population.

Attention has primarily been given to medical facilities, even though most senior citizens are cared for by their extended family members (Hussein & Ismail, 2016). By solely focusing on elderly care through a medical lens, the holistic needs of seniors are not fully captured. Moreover, the cultural ramifications of referring aging loved ones to extended care facilities are not included, which, in the context of the UAE, carries a social stigma viewed as inappropriate and disrespectful (Abdelmoneium & Alharahsheh, 2016). In accordance with Federal Law No. 9 (2019), immediate and alternative families are obliged to support and care for their aging loved ones. However, placing this hefty task solely on families, particularly those who face unforeseen barriers when navigating the current aged care system with no guidance, results in additional challenges in providing aged care.

Without a clear understanding about the needs concerning Senior Emiratis, federal authorities will not be prepared to accommodate and provide solutions for the future needs of its increasing population of aging UAE citizens (Coury, 2013). Therefore, to understand these issues more fully, the Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research (AQF) produced a strategic report entitled *What the UAE Population Thinks of Aging and Aged Care* (Almarabta & Ridge, 2021) to examine national and expatriate residents' perceptions of aging, care, and services they viewed as important for the aging population in the UAE.

Building on data from the strategic report, this policy paper focuses on the perceptions of Emirati nationals concerning their knowledge and attitudes about aging and aged care. As such, we first discuss the UAE regulatory framework concerning the rights of Senior Emiratis, and then provide a brief background of aged care provisions and campaigns implemented across the UAE. This is followed by a brief description of our methodological framework before presenting the study's findings, highlighting Emiratis' experiences, expectations, and preferences for older age. Based on the findings, we make policy recommendations at both

the local and national level that adjust and expand the UAE's current care system to meet the future needs of its aging population.

Structures and Regulations for Senior Emirati Care in the UAE

Currently, provision of senior care is overseen by the Ministry of Community Development (MOCD; see Table 1). Established in 2004, the MOCD's mandate includes improving the quality of life for Senior Emiratis by promoting social support and ensuring access to essential services. Some services provided by the MOCD include registration of Senior Emiratis in nursing homes and registration for mobile health services. As described in Table 1, three emirates have established local authorities to further support their seniors. The range of services and support of these authorities vary and are emirate specific.

At the Federal level, legislation has been drafted to provide services for and safeguard the rights of Senior Emiratis (see Table 2). The National Policy for Senior Emiratis (2018) outlines a holistic system of care to promote the well-being and active engagement of seniors. The seven components of this policy include: healthcare, community involvement and active life, effective civic participation, infrastructure and transportation, financial stability, safety and security, and quality of life.

While the 2018 Policy outlines the system of care and services for Senior Emiratis, the Federal Law No. 9 on The Rights of Senior Emiratis safeguards their rights. Ratified in 2019, the objectives of the new law are:

- Ensuring that Senior Emiratis enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and the legislation in force;
- Ensuring that Senior Emiratis have access to all information and services related to their rights;
- Enabling Senior Emiratis to actively participate in society and contribute to developing, designing implementing the policies related thereto;
- Providing care and psychological, social and health stability for Senior Emiratis, as well as providing all forms of necessary assistance thereto;

Table 1: Timeline of Structures for Senior Emirati Care in the UAE

Date	Provision	Description
2004	Ministry of Community Development (MOCD)	The federal ministry is dedicated to improving social development and welfare in the country. It focuses on supporting senior citizens by implementing initiatives and programs that promote their well-being, inclusion, and access to essential services.
2004	Sharjah Social Service Department	A local authority providing comprehensive social support to the residents of Sharjah. It aims to improve the well-being and quality of life for elderly individuals and their families in Sharjah by offering a variety of dedicated social initiatives and programs that provide comprehensive support and assistance to address their unique challenges.
2008	Dubai Community Development Authority	A local authority in Dubai that places a strong emphasis on promoting the well-being and social welfare of the elderly population. By prioritizing family cohesion, social care, community participation, and individual empowerment, the authority strives to create a supportive and inclusive environment specifically tailored to meet the needs of elderly residents in Dubai.
2018	Abu Dhabi Community Development Authority	A local authority that strives to improve the well-being and happiness of the elderly and their families in Abu Dhabi. Through social policies, programs, and initiatives focused on healthcare, education, housing, and social services, the authority aims to create a supportive environment for the elderly and enhance their overall quality of life.

- Supporting the Senior Emiratis to permanently live within their families and that their family and social relationships continue to exist;
- Enhancing the standing of Senior Emiratis in society and appreciating their social role.

Articles 14 and 15 are especially noteworthy for the scope of this report, as they outline the obligations of immediate and alternative families of Senior Emiratis. Article 14 and 15 state that Senior Emiratis' families shall:

- Take care of the senior citizen, particularly a Senior Emirati who is unable to take care of himself.
- Provide expenses necessary for covering his needs.
- Cooperate with Senior Emiratis' Establishments.
- Take measures deemed necessary for protecting him from violence or abuse, as well as providing general safety requirements at the house where he resides.
- Promptly notify the Ministry, the Competent Authority or the nearest police station in case of the

senior citizen's death or the absence of the Senior Emirati who is unable to take care of himself from home.

- Notify the Ministry or the competent authority in case the place of residence of a Senior Emirati who is unable to take care of himself is changed.

These obligations require provisions of care for Senior Emiratis from families, and particularly for those unable to care for themselves (Federal Law No. 9, 2019). In the case that families are unable to meet these requirements, the law specifies harsh penalties including imprisonment, fines, or both, for caregivers who mistreat or neglect their responsibilities towards Senior Emiratis and for elderly care institutions that violate the provisions set forth. Articles 14 and 15 also mandate the immediate and alternative families of Senior Emiratis, particularly those unable to take care themselves, to cover necessary expenses for their needs, cooperate with their establishments, take measures deemed as necessary for protecting them from violence or abuse, and provide them with safety (including equipment, services, etc.) at the house where they reside.

Table 2: Timeline of Regulations for Senior Emirati Care in the UAE

Date	Provision	Description
2001	Federal Law No. 2 (2001) on the Social Security	Legislation which established a social security system to provide financial protection and support to UAE nationals. It addresses various aspects including eligibility, contributions, benefits, retirement age, fund management, and compliance, with the aim of ensuring individuals receive social security benefits and employers fulfil their obligations.
2005	Federal Law No. 28 (2005) on Personal Status	Legislation which outlines rights pertaining to private life, including marriage, divorce, inheritance, and family relationships. The law specifically addresses the responsibilities of families towards elderly Emiratis, emphasizing the importance of providing care, financial support, protection, and promptly reporting any changes or incidents involving senior Emiratis who require assistance, ultimately aiming to ensure the well-being and safety of the elderly population.
2018	The National Policy of Senior Emiratis	A national policy of integrated care in the UAE aims to enhance the well-being and active engagement of seniors by recognizing their experience and contributions through the term “Senior Emiratis”. It focuses on seven key components including healthcare, community involvement, civic participation, infrastructure, financial stability, safety, and the quality of future life to ensure a holistic approach to senior well-being.
2019	Federal Law No. 9 (2019) on the Rights of Senior Emiratis	Legislation specifically designed to safeguard the rights and welfare of Senior Emiratis. It focuses on ensuring their dignity, well-being, and active participation in society. It covers various areas including healthcare, social participation, financial security, housing, and protection from abuse, with a particular focus on providing tailored healthcare services to meet the specific needs of Senior Emiratis.

Current Provisions of Services and Facilities for Senior Emiratis

In line with the current legislation for senior care, some emirates provide or have provided additional services including Old People’s Home in Sharjah and the Senior Happiness Center in Dubai (see Table 3; for complete list of services, see Appendix A). However, there is limited information regarding the current availability of these services and the population’s level of awareness about them. It is apparent that certain emirates have targeted the specific needs of their Senior Emiratis with specialized services. However, this emirate-specific focus creates disparities in the equality of care provisions.

To ensure that Senior Emiratis have access to specialized geriatricians, mobile care facilities were established. In 2018, the emirate of Ajman introduced a mobile care unit entitled “We Will Reach You” to provide home care services for 360 Senior Emiratis. In

collaboration with the MOCD, and with support from His Highness Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, the program aimed to provide “medical care to every elderly person in the Emirate as well as provide all kinds of examinations required in an innovative and durable manner” (Mocd.gov.ae, para 2, 2018). Although this program has been adopted by the Federal government and Senior Emiratis can access this service through registration on the UAE government portal, little is known about its impact or success. Yet, the scaling of this local program to a nation-wide initiative speaks to the possibilities of innovative solutions with regards to senior care.

Plans to expand age care provisions are also underway in Dubai, which recently announced the launch of the UAE’s first elderly care center. The Vita Elderly Care Complex will include an outpatient geriatric medical center, an advanced nursing home, Alzheimer’s center, elderly day-care center, rehabilitation facility, ventilated care center, home care center, and home

Table 3: Current Government Sponsored Aged Care Facilities Across the UAE

Facility	Responsible Entity	Population Served
People's Home	Sharjah Social Services Department	Sharjah
Elderly Nursing Home (Ajman)	Ministry of Community Development	All Emirates
Senior Happiness Center	Dubai Health Authority	Dubai
Obaidallah Hospital (Specialized Geriatric Hospital, Ras Al Khaimah)	Ministry of Health and Prevention	All Emirates

health monitoring (The National, 2021). The new facility is marketed as “a place to experience world class elderly care” (Vitacare.ae, 2023). However, available information about its progression and development is limited. According to the website, the facility will be located in Dubai Creek.

Facilities and awareness campaigns are important components of provisions of senior health care. However, to align provisions with culture, it is equally important to understand the cultural ramifications of care and how Emiratis perceive aging and aged care. In a recent study about Emirati's perceptions of aging, Lambert et al. (2022) found that many participants perceived themselves to be in poor health and unable to enjoy their lives in older age, viewing aging as a time of dependency and loss of autonomy. Despite these concerning findings, caring for the elderly is strongly emphasized in Emirati culture and is exhibited in the ways Emirati families take it upon themselves to care for their aging family members. Rooted in the spirit of the Holy Quran, family is the fundamental unit of society and mutual responsibility is highly regarded as a valued gesture (Wang & Kassam, 2016). Building on this cultural and religious foundation, holistic care responsibilities for Emirati families involve physical care and support, financial assistance, emotional comfort, and companionship.

Experiences of Current Aged Care Provisions in the UAE

Access to aged care services in the UAE is complex and difficult to explain due to the multiple layers of checks and balances at the federal and emirate level. Rather than aiding Senior Emiratis with aged care services, these intended balances oftentimes create additional barriers restricting their access to quality care. As an attempt to describe the complexity of this issue, the vignette below highlights some key challenges faced by Senior Emiratis in need of aged care services.

As described in the vignette to follow, Senior Emiratis face several barriers and challenges regarding aged care services, especially limited availability of specialized medical professionals. When making decisions regarding aged care, families are burdened by an arduous and time-consuming process of navigating federal bureaucracies as well as facilities' infrastructure to gain access to appropriate diagnoses and treatment. As illustrated, the government sends seniors abroad because services and support cannot be found in the UAE.

In sum, the UAE has made strides to create a legal framework to support the rights of aging Emiratis. In addition, some facilities and initiatives have been put in place to address their needs although little is known about their impact or success. There is some evidence that the current system is so difficult to navigate that families are either not getting the care they need or seeking it abroad. It is possible to address these challenges by better understanding the needs

Mr. Mohammed, a senior Emirati, required medical attention for an urgent health condition that was compounded by an ongoing struggle with dementia. After first seeking treatment at a government hospital in Ras Al Khaimah, unable to receive the necessary diagnosis, he transferred to a private hospital in Abu Dhabi. Unfortunately, his condition remained unchanged as he spent the next several months seeking treatment at one hospital after another. As a senior Emirati and Abu Dhabi passport holder, his government-sponsored medical insurance covers both private and public hospitals. However, transferring between hospitals is not a painless process. It requires first seeking approval from the federal government. Nonetheless, there were few doctors at the private hospitals in Abu Dhabi who could properly diagnose Mr. Mohammed and provide him with treatment to remedy his condition.

The stress and frustration from the experience with doctors, and navigating various health care systems with no guidance, put additional strains on the family. Furthermore, not being accurately diagnosed exacerbated Mr. Mohammed's symptoms with dementia, making him more physically and mentally aggressive. With no rehabilitation during his long hospital stays and the inability to find a doctor to diagnose his condition accurately, the family petitioned the government to seek treatment outside the UAE. Once permission was granted, Mr. Mohammed was relocated for medical assistance outside the UAE.

of the seniors and their families. To address this gap, this paper discusses the perceptions of Emiratis' knowledge and attitudes about aging, preferences for care and support provisions, and where they want to live at the point of needing support. By delving into these important aspects, valuable insights are garnered to address policy gaps and improve the quality of aged care services for Senior Emiratis and their family caregivers.

The Current Study

Methodology

This policy paper utilizes data from our original study entitled *What the UAE Population Thinks of Aging and Aged Care* (Almarabta & Ridge, 2021). As the analysis focuses solely on local viewpoints, we utilize the subsample of Emirati nationals for the current analysis. Respondents were placed into two groups, either younger individuals aged 18 to 59 or seniors aged 60 and above. Both group's perspectives are crucial to developing and improving the aged care system in the UAE. A total of 2074 Emiratis completed the survey of which 53% were female and 47% were male (see Table 4). Over 95% of them were under the age of 60, and the majority were aged between 25-44 years old.

The data was collected via an online survey adapted

from an Australian study about perceptions of aging and aged care (Morgan, 2020). It consisted of 63 open-ended and ranking questions which were available in both English and Arabic. Available online from May 30 to June 30, 2021, invitations to complete the survey were circulated through personal emails and social media platforms.

The survey covered questions about experiences, expectations, and preferences for older age. Questions were designed to garner information to understand perceptions about aging and aged care in the UAE, the appropriateness of those services in addressing their needs, and views regarding people's access to those services. It focused specifically on the types of aged care services people think are available in the UAE and what services they consider to be most important. One important limitation to mention about this instrument is that friends and family were grouped as a single option in the Australian study. Though this is culturally appropriate for Australia, this grouping cannot be generalized to the UAE, where friends and family are considered as separate entities. However, the categorization was not altered in this study.

Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) for Mac, Version 27.0 (IBM Corp, 2020) was used to analyze the data. Survey results³ were rounded to one decimal place or to the nearest whole number and presented in three themes.

³ Results are based on a sample survey so there is some sampling variability, meaning that the results may differ if the survey was repeated with a different group of people.

Table 4: Respondent Demographics

Demographic	Category	Respondents	
		Number	Proportion
Status	Emiratis	2074	100.0%
Age	18-59	1961	95%
	60+	113	5%
Gender	Female	1100	53%
	Male	974	47%

Emiratis' Experience, Expectations, and Preferences for Older Age

In this section, we analyze the experience, expectations, and preferences of younger and older Emiratis. The findings shed light on how Emiratis view their lives, who they want to support and care for them in older age, and where they want to live if they need support and care.

How Emiratis View Their Lives in the Context of Aging

The results of the survey show that overall Emiratis have a very positive outlook on their lives in the context of aging (see Figures 1 & 2). Over half of all respondents agreed with the positive statements related to healthy lifestyle as well as physical and financial well-being. The majority of senior respondents agreed that they make lifestyle choices that contribute to their health (80%), are physically able to do things they want (77%) and are healthy and able to care for themselves (77%). Comparably, younger Emiratis responded similarly in that they largely perceive that they will have the freedom to choose how they spend their time in their older age (69%) and that their current lifestyle choices will keep them healthy into their 60s and 70s (67%).

While the positive trend was similar for all Emiratis, there were noticeable differences about younger Emiratis perceptions of their finances and physical health. While the majority of younger respondents believe that they will receive some sort of pension (68%), 40% disagreed or were neutral about having enough money to live comfortably. This is a noticeable difference from

the senior respondents in which 80% reported having enough money to live comfortably. Younger Emiratis were also more skeptical about physical health. Nearly half of the respondents (46%) either did not perceive themselves as being physically able to do what they wanted as seniors or did not know what their physical lives would be like when they reached the age of 60. Furthermore, many younger respondents disagreed or were neutral about the ability to care for themselves in their 60s and 70s (45%).

Who Emiratis Want to Care for Them in Older Age

To examine preferences about who will provide support and care for them in their older age, we analyzed older and younger Emiratis' preferences as to who they would like to receive care from if they needed assistance with things such as getting dressed or going to the restroom. This allowed us to differentiate between seniors who were currently receiving support (e.g., actual, n=30) and seniors who were not currently receiving support and therefore reporting their preferences (e.g., Preferred, n=83). As shown in Figure 3, there are some general trends with noticeable differences between the groups. Overall, the family is the primary source of care for all respondents. This is particularly true for younger Emiratis, who overwhelmingly would prefer family providing support and care for them (73%).

While family as a source of support remains strong for seniors who receive support and those who do not, paid help stands out as a source of care. Seniors who currently receive support reported that many of them actually prefer paid help from government providers

Figure 1: How Older Emiratis View Their Lives

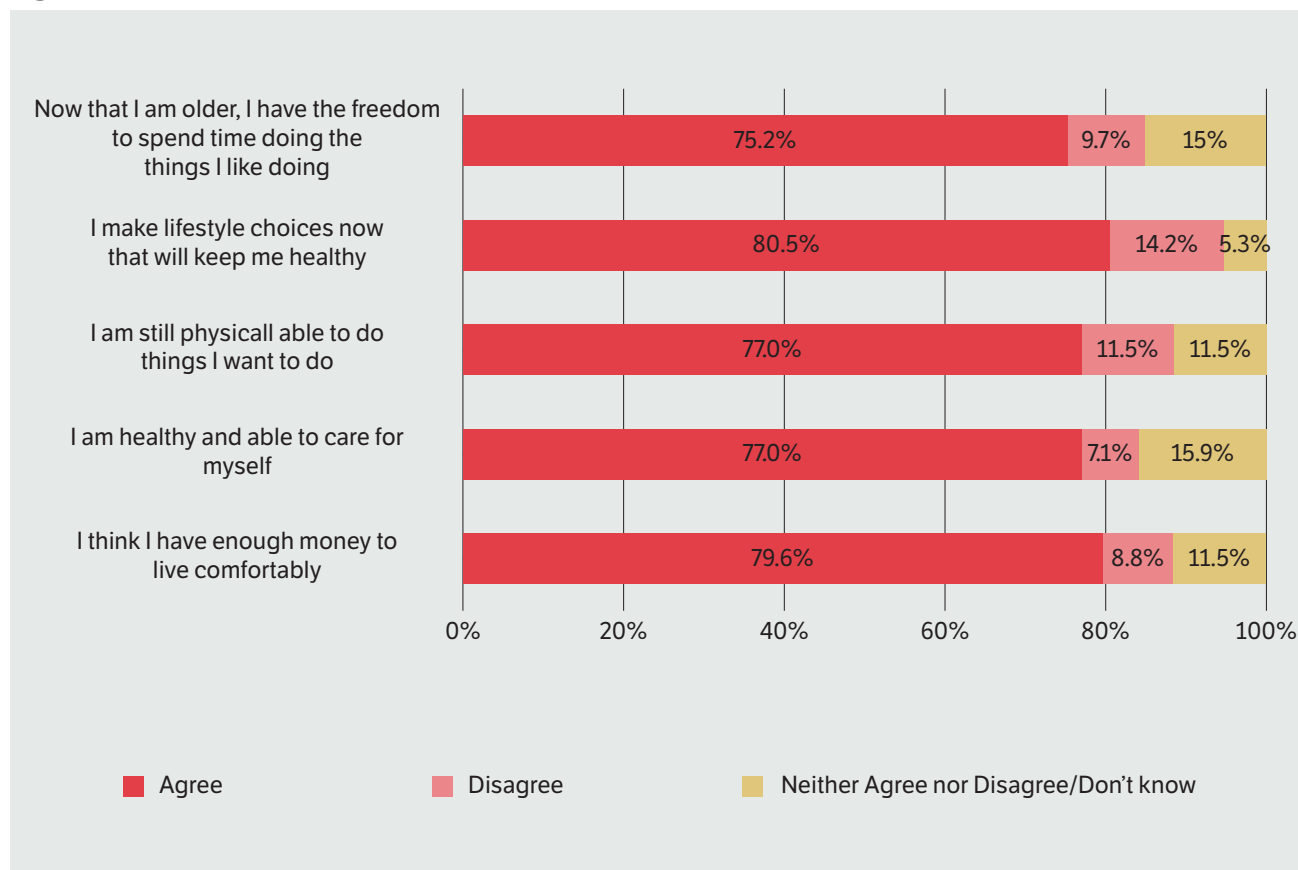


Figure 2: How Young Emiratis View Their Lives After 60

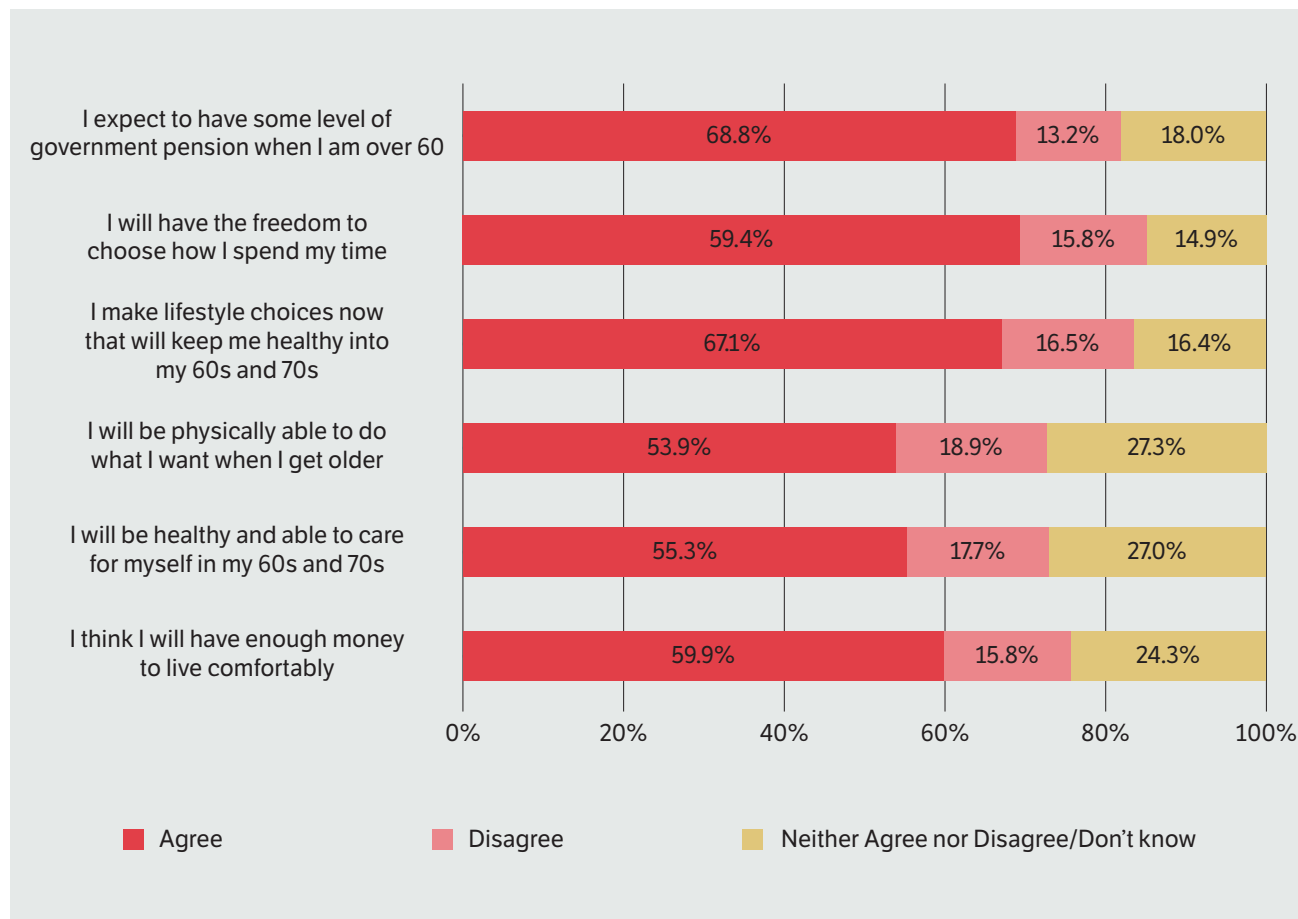
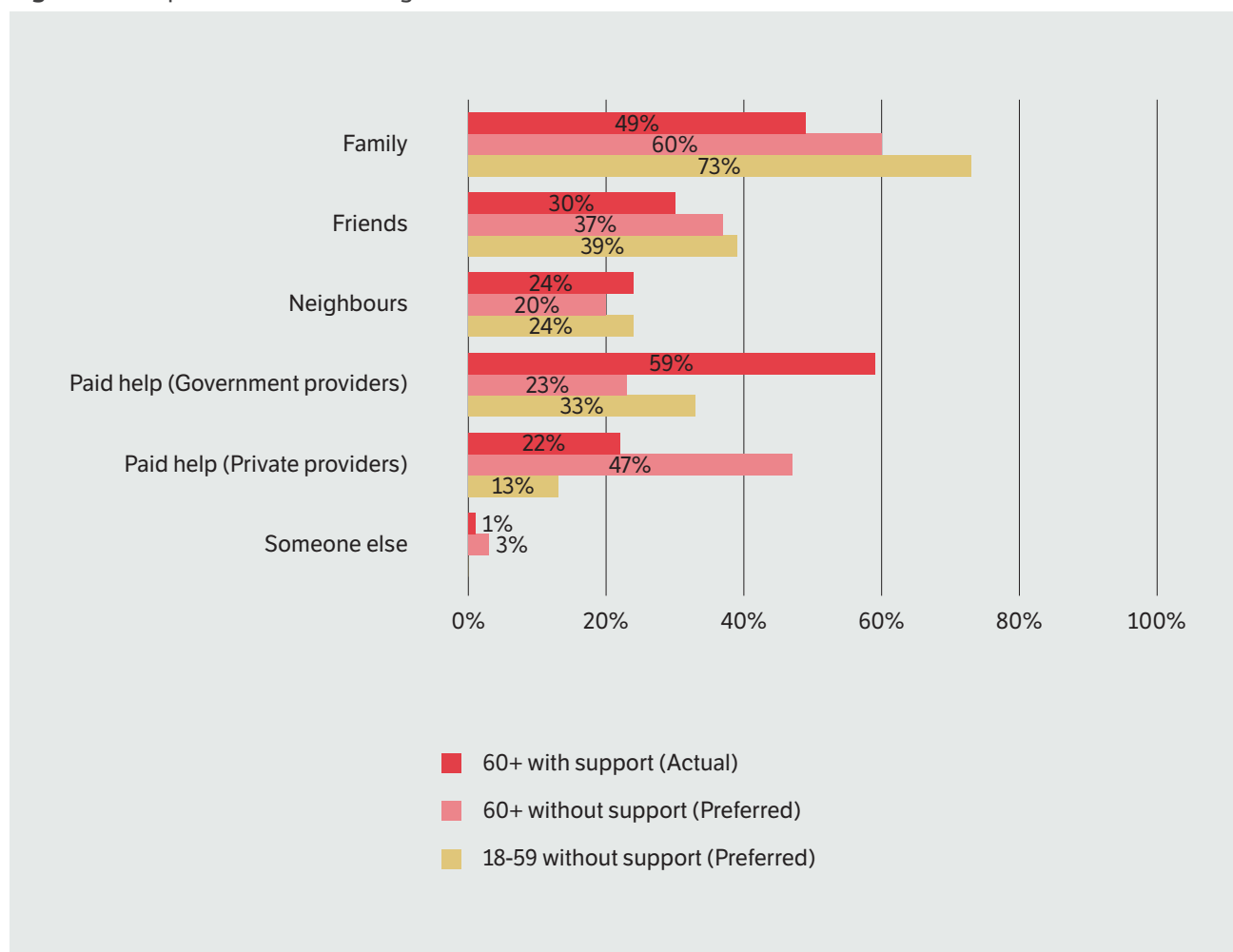


Figure 3: Comparison of Who Younger and Older Emiratis Want to Care for Them

(59%). In a similar vein, seniors who are not receiving support had a strong preference for paid help from private providers (47%). Overall, the analysis of the data suggests that Emiratis prefer to receive care and support from family and private providers, but in reality, the majority of their care and support actually comes from government providers and family members.

It is interesting to note that younger UAE nationals also had different views depending on their experience with seniors. Younger Emiratis who knew an older person were more likely to prefer care from their family members (72% compared to 53% for those who do not know someone) and less likely to prefer paid care from private providers (25% compared to 17% for those who do know someone).

Where Emiratis Want to Live if they Need Support and Care

To investigate Emiratis' preferences about receiving support and care in their older age, we analyzed

responses about where they would choose to receive support. As shown in Figures 4 and 5, there were noticeable differences between older and younger Emiratis. Older Emiratis had a strong preference for their current home for both support (63%) and care (53%). However, a considerable percentage would opt to live in an aged care facility or hospital if they needed support (47%) and over half would prefer to live in an aged care facility or hospital if they needed care (58%). Living near family and friends was also important, with 37% wanting to live near family or friends if they needed support, and 30% wanting to live near family and friends if they needed care.

In contrast, for younger Emiratis, living near family and friends was the most preferred option, with over half wanting to live near family or friends if they needed support (54%), and a similar percentage (49%) wanting to live near family and friends if they needed care. Staying in their current house was the least preferred option, with only (45%) wanting to stay if they need

Figure 4: Where Older vs Younger Emiratis Want to Live If They Need Care

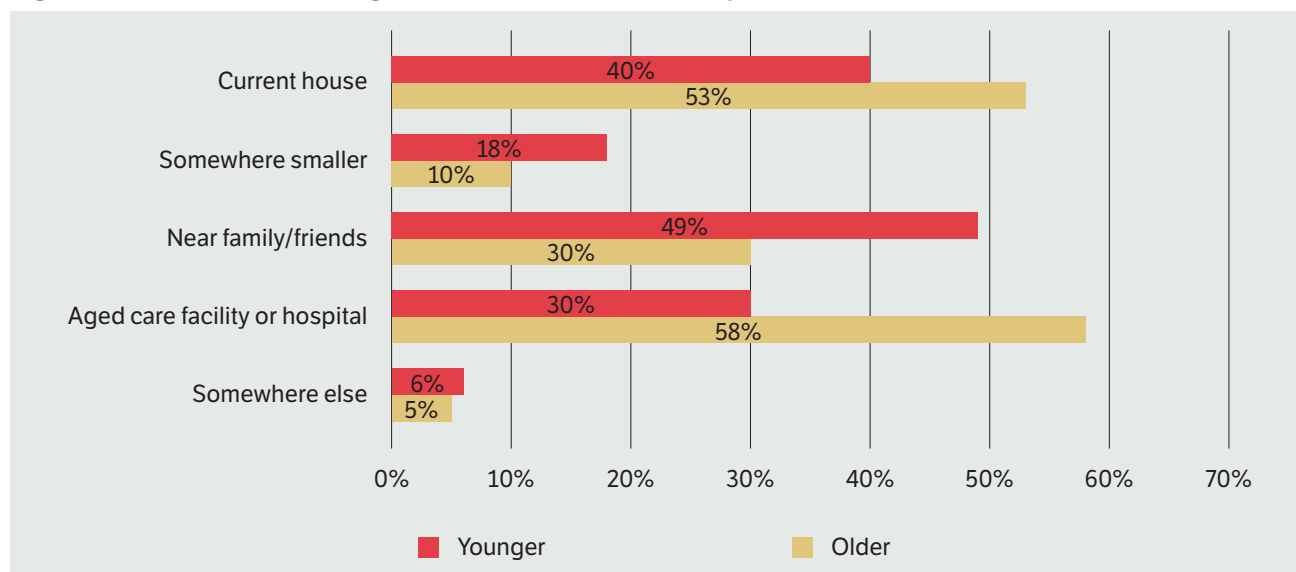
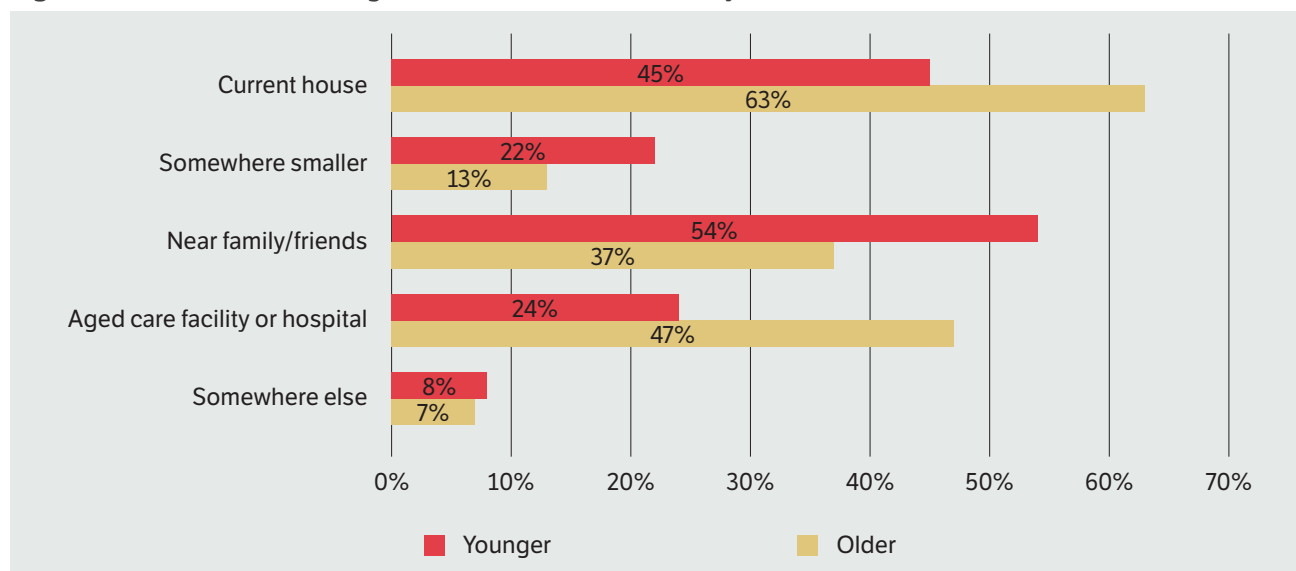


Figure 5: Where Older vs Younger Emiratis Want to Live If They Need Care



support, and (40%) wanting to stay if they need care. A smaller percentage of younger Emiratis (24%) preferred to live in an aged care facility or hospital if they needed support, while (30%) would prefer to live in an aged care facility or hospital if they needed care.

Discussion

This study has explored younger and older Emiratis' perceptions about aging, who they want to support and care for them, and where they want to live when they require support and care. This section discusses the results of the study and provides valuable insights to be considered by policymakers and stakeholders, especially those intending to further enhance the aged

care systems across the UAE. Findings from this study reveal that:

1. There are various similarities and differences between younger and older Emiratis' perceptions about aging. Both groups consider themselves physically and financially healthy. However, younger Emiratis are more ambivalent when it comes to the future of their physical and financial wellness. This finding is alarming as it calls attention to the lack of awareness that younger Emiratis possess about aging. Without a clear understanding about health and well-being, positive aging and healthy lifestyle decisions will be difficult to make as younger Emiratis age.

2. For both younger and older Emiratis, there is a strong preference for the family to be their primary caregiver. Considering Federal Law No. 9 on the Rights of Senior Emiratis (2019), this is an important finding because it illustrates that preferences of Emiratis are in alignment with the federal law. According to federal regulations, immediate and alternative families are responsible for supporting and caring for their aging loved ones. However, ensuring that they are properly prepared and resourced to take on this responsibility is imperative. It is also noteworthy to mention that younger Emiratis' second preference for care and support is from friends, whereas older Emiratis' second preference is for paid help from private providers. Both preferences for friends and paid help could be due to the changing nature of the family structure and their increased participation within the labor force. Nonetheless, these preferences indicate a need to support the families of Emiratis and ensure that they have access to quality aged care providers and resources.
3. Younger Emiratis' perceptions about the support and care they may need in the future is highly influenced by their personal experiences and close relationships with seniors. This means that younger Emiratis with close ties to older Emiratis are more likely to prefer support from family in older age rather than paid support from private providers. Conversely, younger Emiratis with no personal connections to seniors are more likely to prefer paid care options for support and care as they age. These preferential differences illustrate the value of developing spaces to foster interactions among younger and older Emiratis. Such spaces will enhance younger Emiratis' awareness about aging and the experiences of Senior Emiratis.
4. Older Emiratis prefer to live in their homes or in an aged care facilities if they need support or care, whereas younger Emiratis prefer to live in their homes and near family and friends. These preferential differences may be due to variations in generational values, economic status, and family dynamics. However, attention should be given to younger Emiratis' preference for care in the home because regarding the future infrastructure of the

aged care system, investments in nursing facilities might not be an effective solution for them. While these facilities are common in Western countries like the US and UK, in the UAE, families are legally obligated to take care of their aging loved ones, and particularly Senior Emiratis unable to take care of themselves. The problem, however, might be the lack of understanding about the financial, emotional, and social costs that burden families as they seek care and support from outside providers.

In alignment with the Federal Law No. 9 on the Rights of Senior Emiratis (2019), there is vital need to develop effective solutions to address the challenges faced by Emirati families. The aging population and rising standards of living are creating financial, social, and medical pressures being primarily placed upon UAE families. Some families may no longer be able to meet the needs of their senior relatives, which calls for proactive measures to be put forth by policy makers.

Recommendations

To raise the profile and provide solutions for the critical issues faced by Senior Emiratis and their family caregivers, a comprehensive approach needs to be developed to emphasize home care provision, community-based care, technology and mobile infrastructure, and a concerted effort to enhance awareness and education on aging and aged care. It is of the utmost importance that this approach spans across national and local levels and enhances the well-being of the aging population.

Local Level

1. **Establish a Local Authority or Committee to Activate Policy on Behalf of Senior Emiratis in Every Emirate:** Primarily responsible for addressing aging-care issues and initiatives, this body would play a pivotal role in overseeing the needs of Ras Al Khaimah Senior Emiratis through collaboration and cooperation with delegates and centers in other emirates. It is imperative that Senior Emiratis and their family givers be supported in their efforts to uphold the law. Thus, the authority would be entrusted with policy development, implementation, and monitoring of aging-related

programs and services, ensuring a unified and coordinated approach to address the challenges faced by Emiratis in Ras Khaimah. Activities led by local authority could include:

- a. **Launch a Comprehensive Awareness Campaign:** To ensure that Emiratis are aware of Federal Law No. 9 on the Rights of Senior Emiratis (2019), and its obligations and penalties bestowed upon their families, a comprehensive campaign should be launched. Strategizing should include multiple pillars emphasizing interpretations of the law, available resources for Senior Emiratis and their families, and promotion of healthy aging. This can be achieved through programmatic and evaluation efforts asserted at booths in malls, leveraging social media platforms, collaborating with local television and radio stations for public service announcements, and integrating intergenerational activities into school curricula. These strategies will ensure a broad reach to foster awareness about the rights of Senior Emiratis while cultivating positive attitudes towards older adults within the community.
- b. **Organize Local Events and Activities:** In collaboration with current efforts asserted by the MOCD in conjunction with UN's International Day for Older Persons, localized events and activities centered around aging and aged care should be organized. To facilitate community engagement, education, and solidarity, a dedicated "Elderly Awareness Month" should be developed and symbolized by a unifying color to be displayed at important monuments in each Emirate. Events should also include workshops, seminars, health screenings, and cultural activities, aiming to celebrate the contributions of older Emiratis and raise awareness about their unique needs.
- c. **Implement In-Home Care Training Programs:** Collaborate with local hospitals to establish comprehensive training programs tailored to families and domestic workers, equipping them with essential skills to ensure the well-

being of the elderly and respond effectively to medical emergencies such as strokes or heart attacks. These programs should prioritize culturally sensitive approaches to care, enabling caregivers to deliver personalized and effective support that addresses the specific needs of older adults.

- d. **Promote Social and Recreational Activities:** Prioritize the promotion and provision of social and recreational activities for older adults to enhance their overall well-being and quality of life. Establish community and senior centers offering a diverse range of activities, including exercise classes, art and crafts, educational programs, and social events, fostering social engagement and personal growth. Encourage private businesses to offer discounts and special promotions for older adults, while also ensuring transportation services are available to enhance access and promote social inclusion.
- e. **Support Ongoing Research on Aging and Aged Care:** Allocate resources to support research initiatives focused on aging and aged care in the UAE, facilitating evidence-based decision-making. Research efforts should encompass various aspects, such as health, social care, economic implications, and technological advancements relevant to aged care. The findings can inform policy decisions, resource allocation, and the development of tailored interventions to address the specific needs of older Emiratis.

National Level

1. **Establish a Ministry of Longevity or Expand the Mandate of the Ministry of Community Development:** At the federal level, a Ministry of Longevity would play a central role safeguarding and raising the importance of senior rights, care, and well-being. It would also play a pivotal role ensuring that the needs of Senior Emiratis are addressed across all Emirates. Additionally, it is important to bolster the role of the MOCD by aligning it more closely to Law No. 9 (2019) and Articles 14 and 15. The current role does not address

a holistic approach to senior care, as promoted in the National Policy. By expanding the mandate, the MOCD can promote the implementation of programs to ensure senior's civic participation and psychological well-being. Activities led by the Ministry could include:

- a. **Initiate Collaborative Activities Between Federal and Local Authorities:** Collaboration between Federal and Local Authorities can greatly advance aged care practices. A Ministry of Longevity could lead collaborative efforts between Federal and local authorities, promoting a more comprehensive and integrated approach to aged care.
 - b. **Host an International Symposium on Longevity:** Organize an international symposium focusing on aging and aged care, serving as a platform for knowledge sharing, best practice exchange, and research findings. Invite experts and professionals from the GCC, MENA region, and beyond to foster collaboration and learning across borders, leading to advancements in aged care practices and policies.
 - c. **Provide Research Funding to Expand Understanding on Aging and the Needs of Seniors in the UAE:** Allocating research funds specifically for studying aging would deepen the understanding of challenges faced by the aging population in the UAE. Multidisciplinary research projects can explore various aspects of aging, enabling policymakers and healthcare providers to make informed decisions and develop evidence-based interventions tailored to the needs of seniors.
 - d. **Increase Public-Private Partnerships:** Strengthening collaboration between public and private entities, such as healthcare providers, technology companies and nonprofits, can improve service delivery, resource allocation and innovation. By combining their resources and expertise, both sectors can enhance the quality of care, expand access to services and address the needs of the aging population.
2. **Invest in High-Quality Geriatric Care and Appropriate Facilities:** Allocate resources to establish government facilities adhering to uniform standards for aged care services. This investment is crucial to ensure the availability of high-quality geriatric care for elderly Emiratis, reducing reliance on informal and international care and enhancing accessibility to professional care services. Standardized facilities will provide a supportive environment for older adults, promoting their well-being and preserving their dignity. Facilities should include not only hospital departments dedicated to geriatrics and aged care facilities but also assisted living communities and multigenerational communities.

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Appendix A: List of Senior Citizen Service Providers

Emirate	Provider	Service/ Facility	Description
Abu Dhabi	Abu Dhabi Community Development Authority	Transportation for Senior Citizens	Senior citizens in Abu Dhabi receive transportation benefits, including a 50% discount on taxi fares and free Ojra passes for public bus travel.
		Senior Citizens Education	Educational programs for senior citizens, provide opportunities for learning and personal development through morning and evening classes.
		Religious Activities	Annual Hajj trips are organized for Senior Emiratis
		Elderly Care Homes	Specialized care homes for seniors who require medical treatment or psychological care that cannot be provided at home, offering a range of services and activities.
		Abu Dhabi Rehabilitation Centre	The center offers comprehensive medical care for elderly individuals and people with disabilities who need long-term specialized treatment.
		Home Care Service	Specialized teams provide home care services for the elderly, offering healthcare support and monitoring their well-being at home.
		Government Services for Elderly People	Government entities in Abu Dhabi offer services tailored to the needs of senior citizens, including mobile service vehicles and telephone-based services.
		"Barakat Al Dar" Initiative	The initiative provides workshops and support to improve the lives of Abu Dhabi elderly individuals and their families.
		Seniors International Day	October 1 is celebrated as Seniors International Day, multiple government and private entities organise events to celebrate and entertain elderly people and to launch initiatives and services that will significantly facilitate their daily life.
Dubai	Dubai Community Development Authority	Thukher Card	CDA collaborated with a number of government authorities and private companies and issued the Thukher Card, which provides a package of services and facilities for the senior citizens in recognition of their contributions and effective role in building our society.
		Weleef Program	Weleef is a program that provides care and improves the quality of life of senior citizens UAE nationals who live alone in Dubai. Weleef runs regular training courses on best practices to professionals who, in turn, offer a range of social services to the senior citizens at their place of residence.

		Thukher Social Club	Thukher Social Club offers a number of activities, events and daily programmes that meet the needs of the senior citizens. These span across a range of interests including cultural, social, recreational and health.
		Training Senior Citizens Caregivers	CDA trains and educates servants who provide care services to the senior citizens with regard to social and health.
		Senior Happiness Center	It is the only governmental health care facility in Dubai that provides comprehensive 24-hours services of medical and nursing care to elderly UAE nationals of Dubai. It is designed and equipped to cater for the medical, social, rehabilitation, nutritional, I, cultural and recreational needs of Dubai Elderly population.
		Seniors Hotline	Protecting the elderly from all types of violence and abuse through a social study and field visits to the status of senior citizens from the social, financial, health and psychological aspects in order to identify the gaps that need intervention to reach the empowerment of senior citizens and protect them from exploitation.
		Respite care for Senior Citizens	Respite care is a short break given to the main caregiver to enable him to rest, practice daily activities, and not perform his usual role of providing care for the person he is responsible for.
		Intergenerational Communication	The Intergenerational Communication Initiative sees 20 of its registered senior citizens transfer their knowledge and experiences to students at schools and universities.
Sharjah	Sharjah Social Service Department	Old People's home	Provides its various services in all health, social, legal, psychological and other aspects to senior citizens permanently residing in those who meet the conditions of accommodation.
		Tours for Senior Citizens	Offering in-person or virtual tours that are suitable for senior citizens, including visits to tourist, entertainment, and cultural sites such as museums.
		Fitness	Providing fitness equipment suitable for senior citizens in as many public parks, suburban councils, and villages in the Emirate of Sharjah as possible, to promote a healthy lifestyle for seniors and break social isolation.
		Age-Friendly Hotel Facilities	Rehabilitating a maximum number of hotels in Sharjah to be suitable for accommodating senior citizens, affirming Sharjah as an age-friendly city with infrastructure catering to different age groups.

		Positive Perception of Senior Citizens	Articles and publications in news outlets and social media platforms focusing on sharing news related to senior citizens in the Emirate of Sharjah, highlighting important topics that concern this demographic, and providing live coverage of all senior-related events in both Arabic and English.
		Information Platform	Virtual exhibitions showcasing the services provided by various government entities in the Emirate of Sharjah for the benefit of senior citizens and their companions.
		Learning from Global Best Practices	Utilizing the experiences and best practices of cities registered in the Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities through workshops, forums, and knowledge exchange with international organizations and government entities.
		Evening Physical Therapy Centers	Expanding the scope of evening services provided by physical therapy centers in all areas of the Emirate of Sharjah, by adding 7 evening centres for physical therapy for senior citizens over a period of 3 years.
		Home Gardens	Creating gardens in the homes of senior citizens to provide green spaces that contribute to their mental and physical well-being, or distributing seedlings to promote their skills and enhance their comfort.
		Heritage Guardians	Various meetings and visits with a group of narrators and personal museum owners who are senior citizens in Sharjah, documenting and recording their stories as publications, aiming to highlight the cultural talents of senior citizens and reach a wide segment of society.
		Mashwar Initiative	Launching the “Mashwar” initiative in February 2022, a service that facilitates transportation for senior citizens in the Emirate of Sharjah, providing them with ease, convenience, and a healthy environment for their daily needs, including the provision of outdoor seating in roads, especially in transport stations and public squares.
		Short Film Production to Instill Respect for Senior Citizens	Producing a series of short films that emphasize the importance of respecting senior citizens as a community awareness campaign, educating both children and senior citizens themselves about the importance of caring for the health of older adults.
		Support for Senior Citizens' Projects	Supporting senior citizens who are project owners to promote economic empowerment by educating them about home licenses, freelance work, and marketing their products in collaboration with cooperative societies and markets. The initiative aims to encourage senior citizens to engage in entrepreneurial projects.

All other emirates	Ministry of Community Development	Nursing Home	This service provides primary health care, social, psychological and physical therapy for Senior Emiratis in the nursing home in Ajman.
		Home Care Service (Mobile Unit)	Provision of primary, social, psychological and physical care for the elderly in their homes.

Appendix B: Federal Law No. 9 of 2019 on the Rights of Senior Emiratis

الإمارات العربية المتحدة



خليفة بن زايد آل نهيان
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

قانون اتحادي رقم (9) لسنة 2019 بشأن حقوق كبار المواطنين

رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة،

نحن خليفة بن زايد آل نهيان

- بعد الاطلاع على الدستور،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (1) لسنة 1972 بشأن اختصاصات الوزارات وصلاحيات الوزراء، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (17) لسنة 1972 بشأن الجنسية وجوازات السفر، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (8) لسنة 1980 في شأن تنظيم علاقات العمل، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (5) لسنة 1985 بإصدار قانون المعاملات المدنية لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (3) لسنة 1987 بإصدار قانون العقوبات، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (11) لسنة 1992 بإصدار قانون الإجراءات المدنية، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (35) لسنة 1992 بإصدار قانون الإجراءات الجزائية، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (7) لسنة 1999 بإصدار قانون المعاشات والتأمينات الاجتماعية، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (2) لسنة 2001 في شأن الضمان الاجتماعي،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (28) لسنة 2005 في شأن الأحوال الشخصية،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (9) لسنة 2006 في شأن نظام السجل السكاني وبطاقة الهوية، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (29) لسنة 2006 بشأن المعاقين، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (2) لسنة 2008 في شأن الجمعيات والمؤسسات الأهلية ذات النفع العام،
- وعلى المرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم (11) لسنة 2008 بشأن الموارد البشرية في الحكومة الاتحادية، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (10) لسنة 2009 بشأن برنامج زايد للإسكان، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (18) لسنة 2009 في شأن تنظيم قيد المواليد والوفيات،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (4) لسنة 2013 بشأن تنظيم مهنة الكاتب العدل، وتعديلاته،
- وعلى المرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم (2) لسنة 2015 في شأن مكافحة التمييز والكراهية،
- وعلى المرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم (4) لسنة 2016 بشأن المسؤولية الطبية،



- وعلى المرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم (15) لسنة 2016 بإنشاء مؤسسة الإمارات للتعليم المدرسي،
- وعلى المرسوم بقانون اتحادي رقم (16) لسنة 2016 بإنشاء مؤسسة الإمارات للخدمات الصحية،
- وعلى القانون الاتحادي رقم (13) لسنة 2018 في شأن العمل التطوعي،
- وبناء على ما عرضه وزير تنمية المجتمع، وموافقة مجلس الوزراء والمجلس الوطني الاتحادي،

وتصديق المجلس الأعلى للاتحاد،

أصدرنا القانون الآتي:

المادة (1)

التعريف

في تطبيق أحكام هذا القانون، يقصد بالكلمات والعبارات التالية المعاني المبينة قرين كل منها، ما لم يقض سياق النص بغير ذلك:

الدولة	: الإمارات العربية المتحدة.
الوزارة	: وزارة تنمية المجتمع.
الوزير	: وزير تنمية المجتمع.
الجهة المختصة	: الجهة المحلية المعنية بشؤون كبار المواطنين.
كبار المواطنين	: كل من يحمل جنسية الدولة وبلغ الستين عاماً سواء كان فرداً أو أكثر.
كبار المواطنين غير	: كل من كان من كبار المواطنين غير قادر على أن يؤمن لنفسه كلياً أو
القادر على رعاية نفسه	: جزئياً ما يؤمنه لنفسه الشخص العادي من ضرورات الحياة الطبيعية بسبب سنه أو قصور في قدراته المالية أو البدنية أو العقلية أو النفسية.
أسرة كبار المواطنين	: كل من لديه أهلية جنائية وكان زوجة أو زوجاً أو ولداً (ابناً أو ابنة)، أو أخ أو أخت لكبار المواطنين بشرط عدم وجود ولد قادر على الرعاية.
القائم بالرعاية	: القادر على رعاية كبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه، والمثبت اسمه لدى الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة، أو من تعينه المحكمة.
القائم بتقديم الخدمة	: كل من يقدم خدمة مباشرة لكبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه سواءً بأجر أو بغير أجر.
العنف	: التعدي بالقول، أو الاستخدام المتعمد للقوة، ضد كبار المواطنين.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

الإساءة
أي شكل من أشكال المعاملة المهينة لكبار المواطنين كالتمييز أو الهجر أو الإهمال أو الاستغلال أو الإيثار أو الإيذاء النفسي على النحو الذي تحدده اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون.

مؤسسة كبار المواطنين : منشأة حكومية أو خاصة مرخصة لرعاية كبار المواطنين أو إيوائهم، وتقديم الخدمات اللازمة لهم.

الأسرة البديلة : الأسرة التي يُعهد إليها برعاية كبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه والاهتمام بشؤونه عند الاقتضاء، وذلك من غير أسرته.

الجهات ذات الصلة : الجمعيات والمؤسسات الأهلية ذات النفع العام ومؤسسات القطاع الخاص المعنية بكبار المواطنين.

المادة (2)

أهداف القانون

يهدف هذا القانون إلى ما يأتي:

1. ضمان تمتع كبار المواطنين بالحقوق الأساسية والحريات التي كفلها الدستور والتشريعات النافذة.
2. ضمان حصول كبار المواطنين على جميع المعلومات والخدمات المتعلقة بحقوقهم.
3. تمكين كبار المواطنين من المشاركة الفاعلة في المجتمع، ومن المساهمة في وضع وتصميم وتنفيذ السياسات ذات العلاقة بهم.
4. توفير الرعاية والاستقرار النفسي والاجتماعي والصحي لكبار المواطنين، وتقديم جميع أشكال المساعدة اللازمة لهم.
5. دعم بقاء كبار المواطنين في نطاق أسرهم واستمرار علاقاتهم الأسرية والاجتماعية.
6. تعزيز مكانة كبار المواطنين في المجتمع وتقدير دورهم الاجتماعي.

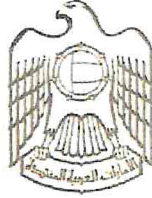
المادة (3)

التزامات الوزارة

تلتزم الوزارة بالتعاون مع الجهة المختصة والجهات ذات الصلة، بما يأتي:

1. وضع الخطة العامة لتنفيذ السياسات اللازمة لتطوير وتنمية ورعاية كبار المواطنين.
2. العمل على تقوية التعاون مع المنظمات الإقليمية والدولية بخصوص كبار المواطنين.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



دولة الكويت
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

3. إعداد تقرير سنوي وطني عن الجهود المبذولة لكبار المواطنين.
4. إنشاء قاعدة بيانات كبار المواطنين والقائمين برعايتهم، والمخالفات الواقعة في حقهم، والخدمات التفصيلية المقدمة لهم، والأبحاث والدراسات المتطورة المتعلقة بهم.
5. توفير الوسائل المناسبة لمرعة تلقي شكاوى كبار المواطنين ومعالجتها.
6. توفير التأهيل المناسب السابق على مرحلة كبار المواطنين.
7. إنشاء مؤسسات كبار المواطنين الحكومية، والإشراف على كافة مؤسسات كبار المواطنين وترخيص أو الموافقة على ترخيص المؤسسات الخاصة منها.

المادة (4)

الحق في الاستقلالية والخصوصية

- تتخذ الوزارة والجهة المختصة بالتنسيق مع الجهات ذات الصلة وفقاً للتشريعات النافذة في الدولة، التدابير والإجراءات اللازمة لتمكين كبار المواطنين مما يأتي:
1. إدارة شؤون حياتهم باستقلالية تامة، واتخاذ القرارات الخاصة بهم، بما في ذلك: ممتلكاتهم، وشؤونهم المالية، ومكان إقامتهم، وما يتعلق برعايتهم الصحية والوقائية.
 2. احترام خصوصية حياتهم، وتواصلهم الفاعل مع الآخرين.

المادة (5)

الحق في الحماية

- على الوزارة والجهة المختصة وبالتنسيق مع الجهات ذات الصلة القيام بما يأتي:
1. اتخاذ كافة التدابير والإجراءات اللازمة لضمان حماية كبار المواطنين من التعرض للعنف أو الإساءة.
 2. اتخاذ إجراءات الحماية الفورية لوقف استمرار العنف أو الإساءة.
 3. توفير المساعدات المناسبة لكبار المواطنين الذين تعرضوا لأي شكل من أشكال العنف أو الإساءة، تبعاً لما تحدده اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون.

المادة (6)

الحق في البيئة المهيئة والسكن والتعليم والعمل

- تتخذ الوزارة والجهة المختصة وبالتنسيق مع الجهات ذات الصلة وفقاً للتشريعات النافذة في الدولة، التدابير والإجراءات اللازمة لتمكين كبار المواطنين مما يأتي:
1. الوصول إلى جميع الخدمات من خلال بيئة مؤهلة وآمنة.

الإمارات العربية المتحدة



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2. الحصول على سكن يناسب أوضاعهم واحتياجاتهم.
3. المشاركة في برامج التعليم المستمر، وتعليم الكبار، والأعمال التطوعية التي تناسب اهتمامهم وقدراتهم.
4. الحصول على فرص عمل أو توظيف أو تدريب مناسبة.
5. تعزيز آليات الاستفادة من قدراتهم وإدماجهم مع المجتمع بكافة فئاته العمرية.
6. توفير وسائل النقل المناسبة لهم.

المادة (7)

الخدمات الاجتماعية

على الوزارة والجهة المختصة وبالتنسيق مع الجهات ذات الصلة، توفير الخدمات الاجتماعية لكبار المواطنين، وعلى وجه الخصوص توفير ما يأتي:

1. مؤسسات كبار المواطنين.
2. أندية ومراكز مجتمعية.
3. وحدات خدمات ورعاية متقدمة.

المادة (8)

الرعاية الصحية

1. تكفل الجهات الصحية الرعاية الوقائية والصحية لكبار المواطنين وفقاً للتشريعات النافذة في الدولة.
2. تقوم الوزارة والجهة المختصة بالتنسيق والمتابعة مع الجهات الصحية، على توفير الخدمات الوقائية والصحية لكبار المواطنين بما يسهل الوصول إليها بمختلف الوسائل.
3. يجب اتخاذ الإجراءات اللازمة لإنقاذ حياة كبار المواطنين والمحافظة على صحتهم في الحالات التي يتعذر فيها أخذ موافقتهم.
4. تعمل الوزارة بالتنسيق مع الجهات الحكومية الاتحادية والمحلية المعنية على توفير التأمين الصحي لكبار المواطنين، بما يشمل التمرريض المنزلي والأجهزة المساندة اللازمة.
5. تقوم الوزارة والجهة المختصة بتأهيل جلساء كبار المواطنين من خلال تدريبهم على أساليب ومهارات التعامل مع كبار المواطنين لضمان المحافظة على قدراتهم وصحتهم.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



خليفة بن زايد آل نهيان
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المادة (9)

سرية المعلومات

تحاط المعلومات والبيانات المتعلقة بكبار المواطنين بالسرية، ولا يجوز الاطلاع عليها إلا وفقاً للتشريعات النافذة في الدولة.

المادة (10)

المعاملة التفضيلية

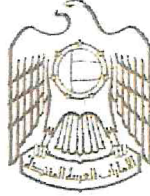
1. تلتزم الوزارة والجهة المختصة بالتنسيق مع الجهات الحكومية الاتحادية والمحلية المعنية والجهات ذات الصلة، بجعل مصلحة كبار المواطنين ذات أولوية وأفضلية مهما كانت مصالح الأطراف الأخرى، وعلى وجه الخصوص ما يأتي:
 - أ- صفة الاستعجال لدعوى النفقة.
 - ب- الطلبات المتعلقة بالسكن.
 - ج- إنجاز المعاملات والخدمات الخاصة بهم.
 - د- الحصول على المساعدات والمنافع الاجتماعية.
 - هـ- استخدام وسائل النقل والمواقف.
 - و- الإغاثة والإسعافات والطوارئ.
 - ز- المشاركة في الأنشطة والفعاليات الاجتماعية والثقافية.
 - ح- الخدمات الصحية.
 - ط- الحدائق والمتنزهات والأماكن العامة.
 - ي- أي أمور أخرى تحددها اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون.
2. لمجلس الوزراء أو الحكومات المحلية إصدار قرار بالإعفاء أو التخفيض من رسوم الخدمات الإدارية التي تقدمها الجهات الحكومية الاتحادية والمحلية لكبار المواطنين، ويحدد القرار المنكور ضوابط الإعفاء أو التخفيض.

المادة (11)

عدم الإخلال بالحقوقي وأوجه الحماية الأفضل

لا يخل تطبيق أحكام هذا القانون بأي حقوق أو أوجه حماية أفضل لكبار المواطنين تبعاً للتشريعات النافذة في الدولة.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



حكومة دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

المادة (12)

وثيقة إثبات العمر

يتمتع كبار المواطنين بالحقوق والامتيازات المقررة في هذا القانون والقرارات الصادرة تنفيذاً له، بموجب أي وثيقة رسمية تثبت العمر.

المادة (13)

الإبلاغ بوقوع عنف أو إساءة

1. يجب على كل شخص علم بوقوع عنف أو إساءة على كبار المواطنين، إبلاغ الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة أو أقرب مركز شرطة فوراً.
2. لا يجوز الإقصاح عن هوية من قام بالإبلاغ دون موافقته، ويحظر الكشف عن هوية جميع أطراف الواقعة في بلاغات أو قضايا العنف أو الإساءة على كبار المواطنين.

المادة (14)

التزامات أسر كبار المواطنين

- مع مراعاة أحكام القانون الاتحادي رقم (28) لسنة 2005 المشار إليه، تلتزم أسر كبار المواطنين بما يأتي تبعاً للتفصيل الذي تحدده اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون:
1. العناية به خصوصاً رعاية غير القادر على رعاية نفسه.
 2. توفير النفقة اللازمة لتغطية حاجاته.
 3. التعاون مع مؤسسات كبار المواطنين.
 4. اتخاذ التدابير اللازمة لحمايته من العنف أو الإساءة، وتوفير شروط السلامة العامة في المنزل الذي يقيم فيه.
 5. إخطار الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة أو أقرب مركز شرطة فوراً حال وفاة كبار المواطنين أو غياب غير القادر على رعاية نفسه عن السكن.
 6. إخطار الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة حال تغيير محل إقامة كبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه.

الامارات العربية المتحدة



حكومة دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

المادة (15)

الأسرة البديلة

1. يجوز بعد موافقة الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة، أن تقوم أسرة بديلة على رعاية كبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه إذا لم تكن له أسرة تقوم على رعايته أو كانت أسرته غير قادرة أو غير صالحة لتقديم هذه الرعاية.
2. يشترط في الأسرة البديلة لقيامها برعاية كبار المواطنين ما يأتي:
 - أ- أن تكون الأسرة مواطنة ما لم تر الوزارة غير ذلك.
 - ب- أن توفر له غرفة تحترم خصوصيته.
 - ج- أن تكون قادرة على رعايته وتوفير احتياجاته.
 - د- أن يكون مقرها ضمن البيئة الاجتماعية له قدر الإمكان.
 - هـ- أن تُمكن أصدقاءه وأقاربه من زيارته والاطمئنان عليه.
 - و- أن يكون لديها ثقافة اجتماعية ودراية في التعامل معه.
 - ز- التعهد بذات الالتزامات الواردة بالبند (3) و(4) و(5) و(6) من المادة السابقة.
 - ح- التعهد بعدم تسليم كبار المواطنين الذي تتولى رعايته لأسرة أخرى ولو لفترة مؤقتة أو التخلي عنه إلا بموافقة الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة.
 - ط- أي شروط أو ضوابط أخرى تضعها الوزارة والجهة المختصة.

المادة (16)

خدمات مؤسسات كبار المواطنين

1. يحق لكبار المواطنين الحصول على خدمات مؤسسات كبار المواطنين الحكومية مجاناً، وفق الضوابط التي تحددها اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون.
2. للجهات ذات الصلة إنشاء مؤسسات كبار المواطنين وفقاً للشروط والمواصفات التي تحددها الوزارة والجهة المختصة وبترخيص من الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة بعد موافقة الوزارة.

المادة (17)

المعايير والتسهيلات

تحدد اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون ما يأتي:

1. كود الإمارات للبيئة المؤهلة لاحتياجات كبار المواطنين.

فيسر



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2. التسهيلات الوظيفية والمزايا الممنوحة للقائم بالرعاية لتمكينه من أداء واجبات الرعاية.

المادة (18)

التزام الجهات الحكومية الاتحادية والمحلية

على كافة الجهات الحكومية الاتحادية والمحلية رعاية حقوق كبار المواطنين في أدائها لاختصاصها، وتقديم كافة التسهيلات اللازمة لهم من خلال بيئة مؤهلة وآمنة، وتزويد الوزارة باللائم في هذا الشأن.

المادة (19)

الجزاءات الإدارية

مع عدم الإخلال بالعقوبات الجزائية المقررة، للوزارة أو للجهة المختصة توقيع أحد الجزاءات الآتية على أي من مؤسسات كبار المواطنين المخالفة:

1. التنبيه الخطي.
2. الإنذار الخطي.
3. وقف الترخيص مؤقتاً لمدة لا تزيد على ستة أشهر.
4. إلغاء الترخيص.

المادة (20)

وحدات حماية كبار المواطنين

تنشأ وحدات حماية كبار المواطنين لدى كل من الوزارة والجهة المختصة، وتحدد اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون:

1. اختصاصات هذه الوحدات وألية عملها.
2. الشروط الواجب توافرها في الكادر الوظيفي لتلك الوحدات.

العقوبات

المادة (21)

لا يخل تطبيق العقوبات المنصوص عليها في هذا القانون، بأي عقوبة أشد ينص عليها أي قانون آخر.

مجلس الإمارات العربية المتحدة



رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

المادة (22)

يعاقب بالحبس والغرامة التي لا تقل عن (100.000) مائة ألف درهم ولا تزيد على (1.000.000) مليون درهم، أو بإحدى هاتين العقوبتين، كل من أنشأ أو شغل أو أدار مؤسسة كبار المواطنين بالمخالفة لأحكام هذا القانون.

المادة (23)

يعاقب بالحبس والغرامة التي لا تقل عن (10.000) عشرة آلاف درهم ولا تزيد على (50.000) خمسين ألف درهم، أو بإحدى هاتين العقوبتين، القائم بتقديم خدمة لكبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه أو القائم على رعايته الذي ارتكب ضده عنفاً أو إساءة.

المادة (24)

يعاقب بالحبس مدة لا تزيد على سنتين، والغرامة التي لا تقل عن (10.000) عشرة آلاف درهم ولا تزيد على (50.000) خمسين ألف درهم، أو بإحدى هاتين العقوبتين، كل من ارتكب عنفاً أو إساءة بكبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه، من غير الوارد بالمادة السابقة.

المادة (25)

يعاقب بالحبس مدة لا تزيد على سنة، والغرامة التي لا تقل عن (10.000) عشرة آلاف درهم ولا تزيد على (50.000) خمسين ألف درهم، أو بإحدى هاتين العقوبتين، كل من:

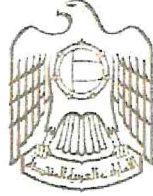
1. علم بوقوع أي من الجرائم المشار إليها بالمادتين السالفتين من هذا القانون ولم يبلغ فوراً الوزارة أو الجهة المختصة أو أقرب مركز شرطة.
2. أفصح عن هوية من قام بالإبلاغ عن جريمة ضد كبار المواطنين غير القادر على رعاية نفسه بدون موافقة المبلغ، أو أفصح عن هوية أطراف الوقائع المتعلقة بتلك الجرائم.

المادة (26)

العود

تضاعف العقوبات الواردة بهذا القانون في حالة العود.

فِي مَجْلَدِ الْقانون



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المادة (27)

التصالح

تتقضي الدعوى الجزائية في الجرائم محل هذا القانون بالتصالح قبل صدور حكم بات فيها، ويتعين لإتمام التصالح موافقة المجني عليه والوزارة أو الجهة المختصة. وتحدد اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون شروط وضوابط التصالح.

المادة (28)

الضبطية القضائية

يكون للموظفين الذين يصدر بتجديدهم قرار من وزير العدل بالاتفاق مع الوزير أو رئيس الجهة المختصة، صفة مأموري الضبط القضائي في إثبات ما يقع من مخالفات لأحكام هذا القانون والقرارات الصادرة تنفيذاً له، وذلك في حدود اختصاص كل منهم.

المادة (29)

إصدار اللائحة التنفيذية

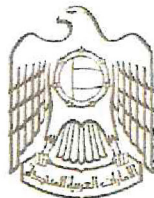
يصدر مجلس الوزراء اللائحة التنفيذية لهذا القانون بناء على عرض الوزير خلال ستة أشهر من تاريخ نشره.

المادة (30)

إلغاء الحكم المخالف أو المتعارض

يلغى كل حكم يخالف أو يتعارض مع أحكام هذا القانون.

فيس



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المادة (31)

نشر القانون والعمل به

ينشر هذا القانون في الجريدة الرسمية، ويعمل به بعد ستة أشهر من تاريخ نشره.

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رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

صدر عني في قصر الرئاسة في أبوظبي:

بتاريخ: 22 / ربيع الآخر / 1441 هـ

الموافق: 19 / ديسمبر / 2019 م

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- to enrich the local public sector, especially education, by providing educators and civil servants in Ras Al Khaimah with tools to make a positive impact on their own society; and
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