# Sexual Health Behaviours and Outcomes among Middle-aged and Older Disabled Adults in Britain

Sexual health is crucial for well-being, yet research often overlooks middleaged and older adults, as well as those with disabilities. This study explores the sexual health of disabled middle-aged and older adults in Britain.

## **OUR AIM**

By examining the sex lives of older adults with disabilities, this study fills a knowledge gap. It compares the sexual behaviours of British adults aged 45-74, with and without disabilities. Using nationally representative data reveals differences between these groups, highlighting an often overlooked aspect of life.

### WHAT IS THE NATSAL-3?

The Natsal-3, or the Third National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles, is a comprehensive UK study conducted from 2010 to 2012. It included 15,162 adults aged 16-74, providing data that allows us to compare the sexual experiences of older adults with and without disabilities.

# **METHODS**



### Natsal-3:

15,162 reponses (aged 16-74)



### Included in analysis:

7,082 respondents (45-74) Male: 3,469 and Female: 3,613

### Disabled people:

1,906 responses Men: 886 Female: 1020

### Non-disabled people:

5,176 responses Men: 2,583 Female: 2,593

We used statistical methods to compare sexual behaviours and experiences between disabled and non-disabled people, looking at differences between men and women of various ages.

# **OUR FINDINGS**



### **Less Sex**

Disabled people were

40% less likely to have

sexual activity and 31%

less likely to be in steady

relationships.



### More coerced sex

They are more likely to experience coerced sex attempts (1.83 times) and coerced sex (1.64 times)



# Sex life affected by health condition

They were <u>5.08 times</u> more likely to have had their sex life affected by general health.



### Seek help for their sex lives

They were 1.73 times more likely to seek help/advice for their sex lives.



Natsal





