

## ABSTRACT

This study attempted to examine the factors influencing the psychological well-being of residents in homes for the elderly in the Kottayam district of Kerala, India. This quantitative research employed path analysis to test the study's hypotheses. A total of 300 participants obtained by convenience sampling participated in the study. Their ages ranged from 60 years and above. The research instrument employed was a six-part survey questionnaire, consisting mostly of standardized scales. The results revealed that (1) the elderly residents have a good level of psychological well-being, good health status, good level of social support, are externally controlled more than internally, and experience a high level of loneliness; (2) there are direct and indirect influence of powerful others and chance locus of control on the elderly residents' psychological well-being, being mediated by their health status, social support, and loneliness; (3) there are indirect influence of internality locus of control on the elderly residents' psychological well-being, being mediated by their health status and social support. Relative to the elderly residents' demographic characteristics, it was found that (1) male respondents have higher health status, chance locus of control and psychological well-being than female respondents; (2) female respondents reported higher levels of social support and loneliness than male respondents; (3) those in the oldest age group have higher powerful others locus of control, psychological well-being and loneliness than those in younger age groups; (5) the elderly aged 71-80 have higher level of chance locus of control and health status than those in other age groups; (6) the elderly aged 60-70 have higher level of social support than those in the older age groups; (7) single elderly residents have higher level of chance, health status, loneliness and psychological well-being than their married counterparts.