

## **Eldercare with a profile – outlines for a typology**

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This paper aims at providing a definition and outlines for a typology of eldercare with a profile and is based on a review of research and presentations provided by care units in Scandinavia and internationally. The review reveals that a variety of quite different care arrangements could be regarded as profiled, and tentatively a typology could be developed in relation to how a unit defines itself as special based on a) ideologies of care, b) common interests and lifestyles among care users (and in some cases care staff) and c) special needs or problems of a category of care users. It is also evident that a definition must take into account the way profiles are positioned in relation to mainstream care, implying that small units that provide person centred care should not be regarded as having a profile in a system where such units dominate.