



Australian Government

Australian Aged Care Quality Agency

Opal Annandale

RACS ID: 2516

Approved provider: DPG Services Pty Ltd

Home address: 76 Johnston Street ANNANDALE NSW 2038

Following an audit we decided that this home met 44 of the 44 expected outcomes of the Accreditation Standards and would be accredited for three years until 02 February 2021.

We made our decision on 05 December 2017.

The audit was conducted on 31 October 2017 to 01 November 2017. The assessment team's report is attached.

We will continue to monitor the performance of the home including through unannounced visits.

Most recent decision concerning performance against the Accreditation Standards

Standard 1: Management systems, staffing and organisational development

Principle:

Within the philosophy and level of care offered in the residential care service, management systems are responsive to the needs of care recipients, their representatives, staff and stakeholders, and the changing environment in which the service operates.

1.1	Continuous improvement	Met
1.2	Regulatory compliance	Met
1.3	Education and staff development	Met
1.4	Comments and complaints	Met
1.5	Planning and leadership	Met
1.6	Human resource management	Met
1.7	Inventory and equipment	Met
1.8	Information systems	Met
1.9	External services	Met

Standard 2: Health and personal care

Principle:

Care recipients' physical and mental health will be promoted and achieved at the optimum level in partnership between each care recipient (or his or her representative) and the health care team.

2.1	Continuous improvement	Met
2.2	Regulatory compliance	Met
2.3	Education and staff development	Met
2.4	Clinical care	Met
2.5	Specialised nursing care needs	Met
2.6	Other health and related services	Met
2.7	Medication management	Met
2.8	Pain management	Met
2.9	Palliative care	Met
2.10	Nutrition and hydration	Met
2.11	Skin care	Met
2.12	Continence management	Met
2.13	Behavioural management	Met
2.14	Mobility, dexterity and rehabilitation	Met
2.15	Oral and dental care	Met
2.16	Sensory loss	Met
2.17	Sleep	Met

Standard 3: Care recipient lifestyle

Principle:

Care recipients retain their personal, civic, legal and consumer rights, and are assisted to achieve active control of their own lives within the residential care services and in the community.

3.1	Continuous improvement	Met
3.2	Regulatory compliance	Met
3.3	Education and staff development	Met
3.4	Emotional Support	Met
3.5	Independence	Met
3.6	Privacy and dignity	Met
3.7	Leisure interests and activities	Met
3.8	Cultural and spiritual life	Met
3.9	Choice and decision-making	Met
3.10	Care recipient security of tenure and responsibilities	Met

Standard 4: Physical environment and safe systems

Principle:

Care recipients live in a safe and comfortable environment that ensures the quality of life and welfare of care recipients, staff and visitors

4.1	Continuous improvement	Met
4.2	Regulatory compliance	Met
4.3	Education and staff development	Met
4.4	Living environment	Met
4.5	Occupational health and safety	Met
4.6	Fire, security and other emergencies	Met
4.7	Infection control	Met
4.8	Catering, cleaning and laundry services	Met



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Audit Report

Name of home: Opal Annandale

RACS ID: 2516

Approved provider: DPG Services Pty Ltd

Introduction

This is the report of a Re-accreditation Audit from 31 October 2017 to 01 November 2017 submitted to the Quality Agency.

Accredited residential aged care homes receive Australian Government subsidies to provide quality care and services to care recipients in accordance with the Accreditation Standards.

To remain accredited and continue to receive the subsidy, each home must demonstrate that it meets the Standards.

There are four Standards covering management systems, health and personal care, care recipient lifestyle, and the physical environment and there are 44 expected outcomes such as human resource management, clinical care, medication management, privacy and dignity, leisure interests, cultural and spiritual life, choice and decision-making and the living environment.

Each home applies for re-accreditation before its accreditation period expires and an assessment team visits the home to conduct an audit. The team assesses the quality of care and services at the home and reports its findings about whether the home meets or does not meet the Standards. The Quality Agency then decides whether the home has met the Standards and whether to re-accredit or not to re-accredit the home.

During a home's period of accreditation there may be a review audit where an assessment team visits the home to reassess the quality of care and services and reports its findings about whether the home meets or does not meet the Standards.

Assessment team's findings regarding performance against the Accreditation Standards

The information obtained through the audit of the home indicates the home meets:

- 44 expected outcomes

Scope of this document

An assessment team appointed by the Quality Agency conducted the Re-accreditation Audit from 31 October 2017 to 01 November 2017.

The audit was conducted in accordance with the Quality Agency Principles 2013 and the Accountability Principles 2014. The assessment team consisted of two registered aged care quality assessors.

The audit was against the Accreditation Standards as set out in the Quality of Care Principles 2014.

Details of home

Total number of allocated places: 68

Number of care recipients during audit: 67

Number of care recipients receiving high care during audit: 67

Special needs catered for: Dementia and mental health

Audit trail

The assessment team spent two days on site and gathered information from the following:

Interviews

Position title	Number
Administration staff	1
Bus driver	1
Care recipients and/or representatives	16
Care staff	5
Chef	1
Cleaning staff	2
Clinical manager	1
Educator/Registered nurse	1
Facility manager	1
General manager, regional	1
Laundry staff	1
Lifestyle coordinator	1
Maintenance/Fire officer	1
Medical officer	1
Physiotherapist	1
Registered nurse	3

Sampled documents

Document type	Number
Care recipients' files	7
Medication charts	11
Personnel files	7
Wound management documentation	9

Other documents reviewed

The team also reviewed:

- Assets records
- Care recipient accommodation agreement template
- Care recipient admission information pack, resident and relative handbook, newsletters
- Care recipient room listing
- Catering documentation including dietary records, equipment, care recipient meal choices and a current food authority certificate
- Cleaning records
- Clinical care: various assessments including admission, complex health care needs, behaviour management, nutrition and hydration, dietary needs/preferences, Abbey pain, communication, bowel, continence management, medication assessments, falls risk, physiotherapist mobility and pain assessments, oral and dental health, toileting, skin integrity, sleep, sensory loss, social, cultural, spiritual and lifestyle
- Clinical monitoring records: bowel charts, blood glucose level, infections, behaviour charts, wound management and treatment records, pain management and treatment records, vital sign records and weight monitoring, sensory checks records
- Clinical notation records: general practitioner, registered nurse and care staff, podiatrist, physiotherapist, clinical pharmacist medication reviews, advance care plan, care conference records, diabetic plans, medication plans, health specialist and clinical nurse consultant's reports
- Compliments and complaints logs and related documentation
- Continuous improvement documentation including logs, quality improvements register
- Delegations of authority
- Education documentation including calendars, evaluations, attendance records, mandatory education, staff training register
- Fire, security and other emergencies documentation: Emergency evacuation plans, emergency contingency plans and procedures, evacuation kit records, fire service records and current fire safety certificate, emergency management manual.
- Human resource documentation including position descriptions, code of conduct, professional registrations, roster, competencies, performance appraisals, confidentiality agreements, qualifications, statutory declarations, police checks
- Infection control information: microbiology reports, infection control forms and clinical indicator reports/ monthly summary and trend data, outbreak information folders/ audit results, medication refrigeration temperature monitoring, Legionella testing reports and documentation, pest elimination documentation
- Information systems: organisation electronic management system, flowcharts, newsletters, memoranda, handover reports, communication books, diaries, computer based information systems, various publications
- Leisure and lifestyle: monthly calendars, leisure activities records, activity plans and evaluations, care recipients' craft and photograph displays of leisure activities and event participation, care recipient participation feedback reports, social, cultural, spiritual and lifestyle assessments and care management plans, bus outings venue risk assessments, lifestyle meeting records
- Maintenance documentation including environmental reports, and essential services maintenance and testing records for preventative and reactive maintenance
- Mandatory reporting documentation, including discretionary reports

- Medication management: schedule eight drug register, medication incident records, medication refrigerator temperature records, medication management protocols and guidelines, electronic medication administration signage system
- Meeting minutes – various
- Mobility and dexterity: group exercise program, individual exercise/mobility programs and evaluation records
- Nurse call reports
- Nutrition and hydration: diet analysis and preference forms, diet allergy list, food/fluid charts, drinks lists, thickened fluid requirements, nutritional supplements, weight monitoring records
- Organisational charts
- Policies and procedures including process flow charts
- Quality audits, clinical incident forms and indicator reports and survey results
- Self-assessment report for re-accreditation and associated documentation
- Skin integrity and wound management documentation including assessments, treatment records, management plans, related pain management and progress notes by nursing, medical and related consultation reports, wound progress photography
- Volunteer folder and related documentation
- Work health and safety (WHS) records including hazards, incidents and accident reports and action plans, hazard log and hazard identification reports, safe work practices folder, WHS meeting agenda and minutes, chemical register, safety data sheets

Observations

The team observed the following:

- Activities in progress and monthly activity program on display
- Aged Care Complaints Commissioner and advocacy information on display, internal feedback forms and secure box for lodgement
- Brochures, pamphlets and Charter of Care Recipients' Rights and Responsibilities displayed
- Cleaning in progress
- Continuous improvement forms
- Corporate intranet
- Dining environments during midday meal services, morning and afternoon tea, staff serving/supervising
- Equipment and supply storage areas
- Fire safety systems including evacuation egresses, evacuation pack, evacuation signs and diagrams, fire indicator panel, firefighting equipment and sprinkler system
- Infection control resources: hand washing facilities, hand sanitisers, colour coded equipment and resources, personal protective equipment, sharps containers, spills kits, outbreak management supplies and kit
- Information noticeboards – staff, care recipients, visitors
- Interactions between staff, care recipients and visitors
- Living environment internal and external

- Medication administration rounds, medication trolleys, impress cupboard contents, scheduled medication register and registered nurses' specimen signatures, staff resources for specialised care recipient care and medication management supplies
- Menu on display
- Mission, philosophy, vision and values statements
- Mobility and lifting equipment including mechanical lifters; wheel chairs and walkers in use
- Nurse call bell system
- Photographs of care recipients participating in leisure interests and events
- Quality Agency re-accreditation audit notices on display
- Secure key pad coded perimeter doors and staff work areas
- Secure storage of care recipient information
- Short group observation during midday dining
- Sign in and out books
- Single and shared care recipient rooms
- Staff work practices and work areas
- Utility rooms
- Waste management practices

Assessment information

This section covers information about the home's performance against each of the expected outcomes of the Accreditation Standards.

Standard 1 – Management systems, staffing and organisational development

Principle:

Within the philosophy and level of care offered in the residential care services, management systems are responsive to the needs of care recipients, their representatives, staff and stakeholders, and the changing environment in which the service operates.

1.1 Continuous improvement

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation actively pursues continuous improvement”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The continuous improvement program includes processes for identifying areas for improvement, implementing change, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of improvements. Feedback is sought from care recipients, representatives, staff and other stakeholders to direct improvement activities. Improvement activities are documented on the plan for continuous improvement. Management uses a range of monitoring processes such as audits and quality indicators to monitor the performance of the home's quality management systems. Outcomes are evaluated for effectiveness and ongoing monitoring of new processes occurs. Care recipients, representatives, staff and other personnel are provided with feedback about improvements. During this accreditation period the organisation has implemented initiatives to improve the quality of care and services it provides. Recent examples of improvements in Standard 1 Management systems, staffing and organisational development are:

- Due to staff shortages during an outbreak, management identified they needed to recruit more staff to ensure adequate coverage. A plan was developed to recruit 10 new staff including: two registered nurses (RN), five assistants in nursing (AIN), two general service officers (GSO) and one physiotherapist aide. Over a three week period 24 interviews were held and two RNs, two AINs, one GSO and the physiotherapist aide have been recruited to date. The provider is working to continue interviewing to fill the other positions.
- Implemented an upgrade of the care recipient database system, including completion of a suite of new forms and tools. Training was held with relevant staff regarding use of the new forms and tools. Current care recipients had a range of reviews conducted to complete new documentation and all new care recipients had all forms completed within seven days of entry.
- An audit regarding call bells identified 84% of care recipients received assistance after buzzing. Management advised this was within a five minute period. Training was provided to staff with the call bell company representative with discussions in staff meetings and the Clinical manager monitoring response rates over the following four months. No care recipient complaints were raised and care recipients were satisfied with the call bell answering response. July call bell reports did not highlight any concerns and call bell responses are being monitored on an ongoing basis.

1.2 Regulatory compliance

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation’s management has systems in place to identify and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and guidelines”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has a system to identify relevant legislation, regulatory requirements and guidelines, and for monitoring these in relation to the Accreditation Standards. The organisation's management has established links with external organisations to ensure they are informed about changes to regulatory requirements. Where changes occur, the organisation takes action to update policies and procedures and communicate the changes to care recipients, their representatives and staff as appropriate. A range of systems and processes have been established by management to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Staff have an awareness of legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and guidelines relevant to their roles. Management are aware of the regulatory responsibilities in relation to police certificates and the requirement to provide advice to care recipients and their representatives about re-accreditation site audits and there are processes to ensure these responsibilities are met. Relevant documentation was evidenced on site that demonstrated compliance; for example police certificates, professional staff qualifications and reportable assaults. Compliance is managed through the home's risk management framework and observation by key personnel, incident reporting and quality systems audits.

1.3 Education and staff development

This expected outcome requires that “management and staff have appropriate knowledge and skills to perform their roles effectively”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home's processes support the recruitment of staff with the required knowledge and skills to perform their roles. New staff participate in an orientation program that provides them with information about the organisation, key policies and procedures and equips them with mandatory skills for their role. Staff are scheduled to attend regular mandatory training; attendance is monitored and a process available to address non-attendance. The effectiveness of the education program is monitored through attendance records, evaluation records and observation of staff practice. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied staff have the knowledge and skills to perform their roles and staff are satisfied with the education and training provided. Examples of education and training provided in relation to Standard 1 Management systems, staffing and organisational development include: reportable incidents, use of the organisation’s electronic systems and complaints processes.

1.4 Comments and complaints

This expected outcome requires that "each care recipient (or his or her representative) and other interested parties have access to internal and external complaints mechanisms".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

There are processes to ensure care recipients, their representatives and others are provided with information about how to access complaint mechanisms. Care recipients and others are supported to access these mechanisms. Facilities are available to enable the submission of confidential complaints and ensure privacy of those using complaints mechanisms. Complaints processes link with the home's continuous improvement system and where

appropriate, complaints trigger reviews of and changes to the home's procedures and practices. The effectiveness of the comments and complaints system is monitored and evaluated. Results show complaints are considered and feedback is provided to complainants if requested. Management and staff have an understanding of the complaints process and how they can assist care recipients and representatives with access. Care recipients, their representatives and other interested people interviewed have an awareness of the complaints mechanisms available to them and are satisfied they can access these without fear of reprisal.

1.5 Planning and Leadership

This expected outcome requires that "the organisation has documented the residential care service's vision, values, philosophy, objectives and commitment to quality throughout the service".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home's vision and philosophy are consistently documented. Observations demonstrated the home's vision and philosophy are displayed in the home. The organisation's commitment to quality is also provided to care recipients and their representatives through the care recipient information pack and to staff through their induction documentation.

1.6 Human resource management

This expected outcome requires that "there are appropriately skilled and qualified staff sufficient to ensure that services are delivered in accordance with these standards and the residential care service's philosophy and objectives".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

There are systems and processes to ensure there are sufficient skilled and qualified staff to deliver services that meet the Accreditation Standards and the home's philosophy and objectives. Recruitment, selection and induction processes ensure staff have the required knowledge and skills to deliver services. Staffing levels and skill mix are reviewed in response to changes in care recipients' needs and there are processes to address planned and unplanned leave. The home's monitoring, human resource and feedback processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to human resource management. Staff are satisfied they have sufficient time to complete their work and meet care recipients' needs. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the availability of skilled and qualified staff and the quality of care and services provided.

1.7 Inventory and equipment

This expected outcome requires that "stocks of appropriate goods and equipment for quality service delivery are available".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has processes to monitor stock levels, order goods and maintain equipment to ensure delivery of quality services. Goods and equipment are securely stored and, where appropriate, stock rotation occurs. Preventative maintenance and cleaning schedules ensure equipment is monitored for operation and safety. The home purchases equipment to meet care recipients' needs and maintains appropriate stocks of required supplies. Staff receive training in the safe use and storage of goods and equipment. Staff, care recipients and representatives interviewed stated they are satisfied with the supply and quality of goods and equipment available at the home.

1.8 Information systems

This expected outcome requires that "effective information management systems are in place".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has systems to provide all stakeholders with access to current and accurate information. Management and staff have access to information that assists them in providing care and services. Electronic and hard copy information is stored securely and processes are in place for backup, archive and destruction of obsolete records, in keeping with legislative requirements. Key information is collected, analysed, revised and updated on an ongoing basis. Data obtained through information management systems is used to identify opportunities for improvement. The home regularly reviews its information management systems to ensure they are effective. Staff interviewed stated they are satisfied they have access to current and accurate information. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied the information provided is appropriate to their needs, and supports them in their decision-making.

1.9 External services

This expected outcome requires that "all externally sourced services are provided in a way that meets the residential care service's needs and service quality goals".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has mechanisms to identify external service needs and quality goals. The home's expectations in relation to service and quality is specified and communicated to the external providers. The home has agreements with external service providers which outline minimum performance, staffing and regulatory requirements. There are processes to review the quality of external services provided and, where appropriate, action is taken to ensure the needs of care recipients and the home are met. Staff are able to provide feedback on external service providers. Care recipients, representatives and staff interviewed stated they are satisfied with the quality of externally sourced services.

Standard 2 – Health and personal care

Principle:

Care recipients' physical and mental health will be promoted and achieved at the optimum level in partnership between each care recipient (or his or her representative) and the health care team.

2.1 Continuous improvement

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation actively pursues continuous improvement”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.1 Continuous Improvement for information about the home's systems to identify and implement improvements. Recent examples of improvements in Standard 2 Health and personal care are:

- The home decreased the use of bed rails in the home to become restraint free in line with Opal's policies. Education was provided to staff, families and care recipients and family case conferences were held with care recipients who had bed rails and restraint assessments were reviewed. Lo-Lo beds were ordered progressively as bed rails were phased out. Initially falls increased but the provider implemented additional equipment to reduce the incidence of falls. The provider advised nil bed rails are currently in use at the home.
- Advanced care directives have been reviewed for all care recipients in the home through case conferences. The home put in place a procedure to ensure all new care recipients had advanced care directives in place within 24 hours of entry. An audit held in April 2017 identified that 100% of care recipients now had advanced care directives in place and this will be monitored on an ongoing basis.
- Internal audits identified that care plan reviews were only 55%. The need for care plan reviews for individual care recipients were discussed with registered nurses and dates were set for reviews. This was discussed at a compulsory registered nurse meeting and progressive audits were held to monitor the completion of care plans. All reviews were completed and processes developed for monitoring on a daily basis to ensure they do not get behind again.

2.2 Regulatory compliance

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation's management has systems in place to identify and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and guidelines about health and personal care”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.2 Regulatory compliance for information about the home's systems to identify and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements. Relevant to Standard 2 Health and personal care, management and staff are aware of the regulatory responsibilities in relation to specified care and services and professional registrations and there are systems to ensure these responsibilities are met. Staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the notification of unexplained absences of care recipients and medication management is in accordance with relevant legislation and best practice guidelines.

2.3 Education and staff development

This expected outcome requires that “management and staff have appropriate knowledge and skills to perform their roles effectively”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has a system to monitor and ensure staff have the knowledge and skills to enable them to effectively perform their roles in relation to health and personal care. Refer to Expected outcome 1.3 Education and staff development for more information. Examples of education and training provided in relation to Standard 2 Health and personal care include: wound care, bowel management, continence and behaviour management education.

2.4 Clinical care

This expected outcome requires that “care recipients receive appropriate clinical care”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has mechanisms to ensure care recipients receive clinical care that is appropriate to their needs and preferences. Care needs are identified on entry and on an ongoing basis through a review and transfer of information, consultation with the care recipient and/or their representative and assessment processes. Individual care plans are developed by qualified staff and reviewed regularly. There are processes to ensure staff have access to current information to inform care delivery including care plans, progress notes and handovers. Care recipients' clinical care needs are monitored, evaluated and reassessed through incident analysis, reviews and feedback. The home regularly reviews and evaluates the effectiveness of the clinical care system and tools used. Changes in care needs are identified and documented; where appropriate, referrals are made to medical officers or health professionals. Staff provide care consistent with individual care plans. Care recipients and representatives interviewed stated they are satisfied with the clinical care being provided.

2.5 Specialised nursing care needs

This expected outcome requires that “care recipients' specialised nursing care needs are identified and met by appropriately qualified nursing staff”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' specialised nursing care needs are identified through assessment processes on entry to the home. Care is planned and managed by appropriately qualified staff. This information, together with instructions from medical officers and health professionals is documented in the care plan. Specialised nursing care needs are reassessed when a change in care recipient needs occur and on a regular basis. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to specialised nursing care systems and processes. Staff have access to specialised equipment, information and other resources to ensure care recipients' needs are met. Specialised nursing care is delivered by appropriately qualified staff consistent with the care plan. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with how care recipients' specialised nursing care needs are managed.

2.6 Other health and related services

This expected outcome requires that “care recipients are referred to appropriate health specialists in accordance with the care recipient's needs and preferences”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has systems to ensure care recipients are referred to appropriate health specialists in accordance with their needs and preferences. Health specialist directives are communicated to staff and documented in the care plan and care is provided consistent with these instructions. Staff practices are monitored to ensure care is in accordance with the care recipients' needs and preferences. Staff support care recipients to attend external appointments with health specialists. Care recipients and representatives interviewed stated they are satisfied referrals are made to appropriate health specialists of their choice and staff carry out their instructions.

2.7 Medication management

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients' medication is managed safely and correctly".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has systems to ensure care recipients' medication is managed safely and correctly. There are processes to ensure adequate supplies of medication are available and medication is stored securely and correctly. Medical officers prescribe and review medication orders and these are dispensed by the pharmacy service. Documented medication orders provide guidance to staff when administering or assisting with medications. Procedural guidelines provide clarification surrounding safe medication practices. The home's monitoring processes include reviews of the medication management system and analysis of medication incident data. Opportunities for improvement in relation to the medication management system are identified and addressed. Staff who administer or assist with medications receive education in relation to this. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied care recipients' medications are provided as prescribed and in a timely manner.

2.8 Pain management

This expected outcome requires that "all care recipients are as free as possible from pain".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' pain is identified through assessment processes on entry to the home and as needs change. Specific assessment tools are available for care recipients who are not able to verbalise their pain. Care plans are developed from the assessed information and are evaluated to ensure interventions remain effective. Medical officers and allied health professionals are involved in the management of care recipients' pain. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to pain management systems and processes. Staff assess care recipients' verbal and non-verbal indicators of pain and implement appropriate actions, including utilising a range of strategies to manage comfort levels. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied care recipients' are as free as possible from pain.

2.9 Palliative care

This expected outcome requires that "the comfort and dignity of terminally ill care recipients is maintained".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has processes for identifying and managing care recipients' individual palliative care needs and preferences. Assessments are completed with the care recipient and/or

representative to identify end of life care wishes and this information is documented in an end of life plan. The home uses a multidisciplinary approach that addresses the physical, psychological, emotional, cultural and spiritual support required by care recipients and their representatives. There is a supportive environment which provides comfort and dignity to the care recipient and their representatives. Care recipients remain in the home whenever possible, in accordance with their preferences. Referrals are made to medical officers, palliative care specialist teams and other health specialist services as required. Staff practices are monitored to ensure the delivery of palliative care is in accordance with the end of life plan. Staff follow end of life plans and respect any changes which may be requested. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied care recipients' comfort, dignity and palliative care needs are maintained.

2.10 Nutrition and hydration

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients receive adequate nourishment and hydration".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' nutrition and hydration requirements, preferences, allergies and special needs are identified and assessed on entry. Care recipients' ongoing needs and preferences are monitored, reassessed and care plans updated. There are processes to ensure catering and other staff have information about care recipient nutrition and hydration needs. Staff monitor care recipients' nutrition and hydration and identify those care recipients who are at risk. The home provides staff assistance, equipment, special diets and dietary supplements to support care recipients' nutrition and hydration. Staff have an understanding of care recipients' needs and preferences including the need for assistance, texture modified diet or specialised equipment. Staff practices are monitored to ensure nutrition and hydration needs are delivered in accordance with care recipients' needs and preferences. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied care recipients' nutrition and hydration requirements are met.

2.11 Skin care

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients' skin integrity is consistent with their general health".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' skin care requirements, preferences and special needs are assessed and identified, in consultation with care recipients and/or representatives. Care plans reflect strategies to maintain or improve care recipients' skin integrity and are reviewed regularly. Skin care needs are monitored, evaluated and reviewed as required. Referral processes to other health specialists are available if a need is identified. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to skin care; this includes a process for documenting and analysing incidents relating to skin integrity. Staff promote skin integrity through the use of (moisturisers, pressure relieving devices, pressure area care and safe manual handling techniques). Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the assistance provided to maintain skin integrity.

2.12 Continence management

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients' continence is managed effectively".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' continence needs and preferences are identified during the assessment process and reassessments occur as required. Strategies to manage care recipients' continence are documented in the care plan and regular evaluation occurs to ensure strategies remain effective. Care staff have an understanding of individual care recipients' continence needs and how to promote privacy when providing care. Changes in continence patterns are identified, reported and reassessed to identify alternative management strategies. Equipment and supplies such as continence aids are available to support continence management. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to continence management; this includes the collection and analysis of data relating to infections. Staff are conscientious of care recipients' dignity while assisting with continence needs. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the support provided to care recipients in relation to continence management.

2.13 Behavioural management

This expected outcome requires that "the needs of care recipients with challenging behaviours are managed effectively".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The needs of care recipients with challenging behaviours are identified through assessment processes and in consultation with the care recipient, their representative and/or allied health professionals. Individual strategies to manage responsive behaviours are identified and documented in the care plan and are regularly evaluated to ensure they remain effective. The home practices a minimal restraint policy and management advised no physical or chemical restraint was in use at the time of this reaccreditation audit. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement relating to behaviour management; this includes the collection and analysis of behavioural incident data. Staff have an understanding of how to manage individual care recipients' responsive behaviours, including those care recipients who are at risk of wandering. Care recipients and representatives interviewed said staff are responsive and support care recipients with behaviours which may impact on others.

2.14 Mobility, dexterity and rehabilitation

This expected outcome requires that "optimum levels of mobility and dexterity are achieved for all care recipients".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' mobility, dexterity and rehabilitation needs are identified through assessment processes and in consultation with the care recipient and/or their representative. Where a need is identified, referrals are made to medical officers and other health specialists, including physiotherapists. Strategies to manage care recipients' mobility and dexterity are documented in the care plan and are regularly evaluated and reviewed to ensure care recipients' needs are met. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to mobility, dexterity and rehabilitation, including the collection and analysis of data relating to accidents and incidents. Care recipients and staff have access to a variety of equipment to assist with care recipients' mobility, dexterity and rehabilitation needs. Associated programs are delivered by appropriately skilled staff, consistent with the care plan. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the support provided for achieving optimum levels of mobility and dexterity.

2.15 Oral and dental care

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients' oral and dental health is maintained".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' oral and dental health needs are identified through assessment processes and in consultation with the care recipient and/or their representative. Care strategies are documented on the care plan and are regularly evaluated and reviewed to ensure care recipients' changing needs are met. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to oral and dental management systems and processes, including clinical monitoring processes and consultation. Equipment to meet care recipients' oral hygiene needs is available. Staff provide assistance with oral and dental care and where necessary referrals are made to health specialists such as dentists. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the assistance given by staff to maintain care recipients' teeth, dentures and overall oral hygiene.

2.16 Sensory loss

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients' sensory losses are identified and managed effectively".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Sensory losses are identified through assessment processes and in consultation with care recipients and/or their representative. Care plans identify individual needs and preferences and are reviewed regularly. Care recipients are referred to health specialists, such as audiologists and optometrists, according to assessed need or request and are assisted to attend appointments as required. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to how sensory loss is managed, including clinical monitoring processes and consultation with care recipients, representatives and health professionals. Staff receive instruction in the correct use and care of sensory aids and are aware of the assistance required to meet individual care recipients' needs. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the support provided to manage care recipient sensory needs.

2.17 Sleep

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients are able to achieve natural sleep patterns".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' sleep patterns, including settling routines and personal preferences, are identified through assessment processes on entry. Care plans are developed and reviewed to ensure strategies to support natural sleep remain effective and reflect care recipients' needs and preferences. Care recipients experiencing difficulty sleeping are offered a range of interventions to promote sleep; where appropriate medical officers are informed of sleep problems. The environment is optimised to ensure it supports natural sleep and minimises disruption. Environmental and clinical monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to sleep management. Staff support care recipients when normal sleep patterns are not being achieved. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied support is provided to care recipients and they are assisted to achieve natural sleep patterns.

Standard 3 – Care recipient lifestyle

Principle:

Care recipients retain their personal, civic, legal and consumer rights, and are assisted to achieve control of their own lives within the residential care service and in the community.

3.1 Continuous improvement

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation actively pursues continuous improvement”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.1 Continuous Improvement for information about the home's systems to identify and implement improvements. Recent examples of improvements in Standard 3 Care recipient lifestyle are:

- There were several stable type doors in the home. Management identified that this may be confusing for some care recipients as they were open but they could still not access the room. These types of doors also posed a privacy concern around having adequate rooms for private discussions for staff, care recipients and representatives. These doors have now been remodelled so that they are attached to the lower half of the door and now appear as one door. Staff reported this initiative has improved private discussions between staff and representatives and care recipients providing alternate rooms for private discussion to that of the care recipient's shared bedroom.
- Purchase of a larger bus to meet the needs of the eight facility hub area. The bus is located at Annandale and is shared between eight Opal homes in their region. Storage areas for the proposed bus were reviewed and modifications to the car port made. The contract has been completed and the bus is due to be delivered shortly.
- Monthly audit results identified that consent forms were not in place for all care recipients. All care recipient clinical and financial files were reviewed and a spot check conducted in January for December admissions. 100% of care recipient files now have completed consent forms.

3.2 Regulatory compliance

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation’s management has systems in place to identify and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and guidelines, about care recipient lifestyle”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.2 Regulatory compliance for information about the home's systems to identify and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements. Relevant to Standard 3 Care recipient lifestyle, management are aware of the regulatory responsibilities in relation to compulsory reporting, user rights, security of tenure and care recipient agreements. There are systems to ensure these responsibilities are met. The home maintains compliance with all aspects of regulatory compliance through monitoring, surveys, audits and observations of staff practices. Staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to alleged and suspected reportable assaults.

3.3 Education and staff development

This expected outcome requires that “management and staff have appropriate knowledge and skills to perform their roles effectively”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has a system to monitor and ensure staff have the knowledge and skills to enable them to effectively perform their roles in relation to care recipient lifestyle. Refer to Expected outcome 1.3 Education and staff development for more information. Examples of education and training provided in relation to Standard 3 Care recipient lifestyle include: privacy and dignity, cultural needs and relevant lifestyle staff can access training in the provision of activities for individuals and groups.

3.4 Emotional support

This expected outcome requires that "each care recipient receives support in adjusting to life in the new environment and on an ongoing basis".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' emotional needs are identified on entry and on an ongoing basis. Processes to assist care recipients include the provision of information prior to entering the home, support during the settling in period, involvement of family and significant others and a lifestyle plan that meets care recipient needs and preferences. Emotional support is provided to care recipients on an ongoing basis based on their identified need; concerns relating to emotional health are referred to appropriate support services. The home's monitoring processes, including feedback and care reviews, identify opportunities for improvement in relation to the emotional support provided. Staff engage with care recipients and support emotional wellbeing in accordance with care recipient preferences. Most care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied care recipients are supported on entry to the home and on an ongoing basis, including times of personal crisis. One care recipient stated there were no staff she could talk to if she was feeling a bit sad or worried and seven other care recipients provided a neutral response to this question.

3.5 Independence

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients are assisted to achieve maximum independence, maintain friendships and participate in the life of the community within and outside the residential care service".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' needs and preferences are assessed on entry and on an ongoing basis to ensure there are opportunities to maximise independence, maintain friendships and participate in the life of the community. Consideration is given to sensory and communication needs as an element of this process. Strategies to promote care recipients' independence are documented in the care plan and are evaluated and reviewed to ensure they remain current and effective. The living environment is monitored and equipment is available to ensure care recipients' independence is maximised. The home's monitoring processes, including feedback, and environmental and care reviews, identify opportunities for improvement in relation to care recipient independence. Staff are familiar with the individual needs of care recipients. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied with the information and assistance provided to care recipients to achieve independence, maintain friendships and participate in the community within and outside the home.

3.6 Privacy and dignity

This expected outcome requires that "each care recipient's right to privacy, dignity and confidentiality is recognised and respected".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' preferences in relation to privacy, dignity and confidentiality are identified on entry and on an ongoing basis to ensure these needs are recognised and respected. Strategies for ensuring privacy and dignity are planned and implemented; this information is documented in the care plan. The living environment supports care recipients' need for personal space and provides areas for receiving guests. The home's monitoring processes, including feedback, meetings and care reviews, identify opportunities for improvement in relation to the home's privacy, dignity and confidentiality systems and processes. Staff have received education in relation to privacy, dignity and confidentiality and their practices support this. Care recipients and representatives interviewed said staff treat everyone with respect and feel their information is secure.

3.7 Leisure interests and activities

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients are encouraged and supported to participate in a wide range of interests and activities of interest to them".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Care recipients' interests and activities of choice are identified on entry; barriers to participation, past history, and cultural and spiritual needs are recognised. This information is documented and regularly updated to inform staff of care recipients' current preferred leisure choices. A varied program of activities is available and is reviewed and evaluated to ensure it continues to meet the needs and preferences of care recipients. The activities program respects care recipients' varied needs and includes group, one-on-one and community activities. Staff encourage and support care recipient participation. Care recipients are satisfied with activities and confirm they are supported to participate in activities of interests to them.

3.8 Cultural and spiritual life

This expected outcome requires that "individual interests, customs, beliefs and cultural and ethnic backgrounds are valued and fostered".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Individual care recipients' customs, beliefs and cultural and ethnic backgrounds are identified on entry through consultation with the care recipient and their representatives. Relevant information relating to care recipients' cultural and spiritual life is documented in care plans which are regularly evaluated and reviewed. The home has access to support services such as interpreters and community groups and provision is made for the observation of special days. Care recipients' cultural and spiritual needs are considered in meal planning and the facilitation of leisure activities. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to the way care recipients' cultural and spiritual life is valued and fostered. Staff support care recipients to attend and participate in activities of their choice. Care recipients and representatives interviewed confirmed care recipients' customs and beliefs are respected.

3.9 Choice and decision making

This expected outcome requires that "each care recipient (or his or her representative) participates in decisions about the services the care recipient receives, and is enabled to exercise choice and control over his or her lifestyle while not infringing on the rights of other people".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has processes to ensure care recipients and their representatives are provided with information about their rights and responsibilities on entry to the home and on an ongoing basis. The home assesses each care recipients' ability to make decisions and identifies authorised representatives where care recipients are not able to make decisions for themselves. Staff are provided with information about care recipients' rights and responsibilities and provide opportunities for the care recipient to exercise choice and make decisions when providing care and services. Staff practices are monitored to ensure care and services delivered are in line with the choices and preference of care recipients. Staff demonstrated their understanding of care recipients' rights to make choices and how to support them in their choices. Care recipients are satisfied they can participate in decisions about the care and services they receive and that staff respect their choices.

3.10 Care recipient security of tenure and responsibilities

This expected outcome requires that "care recipients have secure tenure within the residential care service, and understand their rights and responsibilities".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has processes to ensure new care recipients and representatives are provided with information on security of tenure, their rights and responsibilities and the choices available to them regarding care and services. A care recipient agreement is provided to each care recipient/representative to formalise occupancy arrangements. The agreement includes information for care recipients about their rights and responsibilities, specified care and services, fees and charges, complaints management, security of tenure and the process for termination of the agreement. Care recipients/representatives are advised to seek independent legal and/or financial advice prior to signing the agreement. Care recipients and representatives interviewed advised they are satisfied with the information provided to them regarding their rights and responsibilities and security of tenure.

Standard 4 – Physical environment and safe systems

Principle:

Care recipients live in a safe and comfortable environment that ensures the quality of life and welfare of care recipients, staff and visitors.

4.1 Continuous improvement

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation actively pursues continuous improvement”.

Team’s findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.1 Continuous Improvement for information about the home's systems to identify and implement improvements. Recent examples of improvements in Standard 4 Physical environment and safe systems are:

- Refurbishment of the back yard area to include raised garden beds. The aim was to encourage care recipients who are able to be involved with growing herbs and vegetables. The garden area has been planted and was observed on the visit to be well-tended. Care recipients advised ‘they like to see the plants and the yard looks nicer’.
- A tripping hazard was identified on the driveway near the kitchen back door. Appropriate works have been completed and staff interviewed advised the area is now much safer.
- As a result of feedback from staff and management observation, it was identified that stronger lighting was required in the home as the lights were too dull. New LED lights were installed around the home and staff and care recipient/representative feedback has been received that ‘the lighting is much better now’.

4.2 Regulatory compliance

This expected outcome requires that “the organisation’s management has systems in place to identify and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and guidelines, about physical environment and safe systems”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Refer to Expected outcome 1.2 Regulatory compliance for information about the home's systems to identify and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements. Relevant to Standard 4 environment and safe systems, management are aware of the regulatory responsibilities in relation to work, health and safety, fire systems and food safety. There are systems to ensure these responsibilities are met. The home maintains compliance with all aspects of regulatory compliance through monitoring, surveys, audits and observations of staff practices. The home’s food safety program has received accreditation and food safety training is available to guide staff. Material safety data sheets are also available to staff and current tagging and testing processes are evident on all electrical appliances.

4.3 Education and staff development

This expected outcome requires that “management and staff have appropriate knowledge and skills to perform their roles effectively”.

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has a system to monitor the knowledge and skills of staff members and enable them to effectively perform their roles in relation to physical environment and safe systems. Refer to Expected outcome 1.3 Education and staff development for more information.

Examples of education and training provided in relation to Standard 4 Physical environment and safe systems include: infection control, chemical handling and food safety with staff feedback demonstrating their knowledge of responsibilities under Standard 4.

4.4 Living environment

This expected outcome requires that "management of the residential care service is actively working to provide a safe and comfortable environment consistent with care recipients' care needs".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home's environment reflects the safety and comfort needs of care recipients, including comfortable temperatures, noise and light levels, sufficient and appropriate furniture and safe, easy access to internal and external areas. Environmental strategies are employed to minimise care recipient restraint. The safety and comfort of the living environment is assessed and monitored through feedback from meetings, surveys, incident and hazard reporting, audits and inspections. There are appropriate preventative and routine maintenance programs for buildings, furniture, equipment and fittings. Staff support a safe and comfortable environment through hazard, incident and maintenance reporting processes. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied the living environment is safe and comfortable.

4.5 Occupational health and safety

This expected outcome requires that "management is actively working to provide a safe working environment that meets regulatory requirements".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

There are processes to support the provision of a safe working environment, including policies and procedures, staff training, routine and preventative maintenance and incident and hazard reporting mechanisms. Opportunities for improvement in the occupational health and safety program are identified through audits, inspections, supervision of staff practice, and analysis of incident and hazard data. Sufficient goods and equipment are available to support staff in their work and minimise health and safety risks. Staff have an understanding of safe work practices and are provided with opportunities to have input to the home's workplace health and safety program. Staff were observed to carry out their work safely and are satisfied management is actively working to provide a safe working environment.

4.6 Fire, security and other emergencies

This expected outcome requires that "management and staff are actively working to provide an environment and safe systems of work that minimise fire, security and emergency risks".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

Policies and procedures relating to fire, security and other emergencies are documented and accessible to staff; this includes an emergency evacuation plan. Staff are provided with education and training about fire, security and other emergencies when they commence work at the home and on an ongoing basis. Emergency equipment is inspected and maintained and the environment is monitored to minimise risks. Staff have an understanding of their roles and responsibilities in the event of a fire, security breach or other emergency and there are routine security measures. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are aware of what they should do on hearing an alarm and feel safe and secure in the home.

4.7 Infection control

This expected outcome requires that there is "an effective infection control program".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home has processes to support an effective infection control program. The infection control program includes regular assessment of care recipients' clinical care needs in relation to current infections, susceptibility to infections and prevention of infections. Staff and management follow required guidelines for reporting and management of notifiable diseases. Care plans describe specific prevention and management strategies. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to infection control; this includes observation of staff practices, analysis of clinical and infection data and evaluation of results. Preventative measures used to minimise infection include staff training, a food safety program, cleaning regimes, vaccination programs, a pest control program, waste management and laundry processes. Staff are provided with information about infections at the home and have access to policies and procedures and specific equipment to assist in the prevention and management of an infection or outbreak. Care recipients, representatives and staff interviewed are satisfied with the prevention and management of infections.

4.8 Catering, cleaning and laundry services

This expected outcome requires that "hospitality services are provided in a way that enhances care recipients' quality of life and the staff's working environment".

Team's findings

The home meets this expected outcome

The home identifies care recipients' needs and preferences relating to hospitality services on entry to the home through assessment processes and consultation with the care recipient and their representatives. There are processes available that support care recipients to have input into the services provided and the manner of their provision. The home's monitoring processes identify opportunities for improvement in relation to the hospitality services provided; this includes feedback from care recipients and representatives and monitoring of staff practices. Hospitality staff interviewed said they readily have access to information about care recipient preferences and receive feedback about services provided. Staff are satisfied the hospitality services enhance the working environment. Care recipients and representatives interviewed are satisfied the hospitality services meet their needs and make their stay more enjoyable/help them to feel at home. Meals are a part of the day they look forward to. However one care recipient interviewed said 'they only like the food sometimes'.