

A new resource kit for medication management in residential aged care



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Medication management – a shared responsibility

- The Commonwealth is the funder and regulator of residential care and determines the standard for medication management, as all other aspects.
- States and Territories regulate the possession, supply, and in some circumstances, administration of medication, so share a responsibility.
- Medication management requires a team approach.

The new resource kit

- The Commonwealth, through its sponsorship of the Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee (APAC) has published *Guidelines for Medication Management in Residential Aged Care Facilities* – now in a third edition.
- Victoria will contribute to quality medication management by developing a resource kit to assist facilities to implement the recommendation of the Guidelines in their own context.

Why a kit?

- Just one of 44 standards.
- Limited capacity of facilities to 'do it alone'.
We think it is really hard.
- Must be consistent with a continuous quality improvement approach – not prescriptive.
- Kit will target the Victorian context - but could be readily adapted.
- Complements other initiatives including extension of Division 2 scope of practice.

The plan

- Contracted experienced consultants HDG to carry out the project.
- Industry reference group with broad representation. Strong inter-government cooperation.
- Researched and tested with the aged care sector as it develops.
- Initial base-line survey conducted.
- Resource kit will be available to all 800 Victorian aged care facilities.

Distribution of the kit and education sessions

- Will conduct up to 40 sessions at a wide range of metropolitan and country sites where two representatives from each Victorian facility may attend a session on implementing the resource kit.
- Two copies of the kit will be made available to each facility – without charge.
- We hope to complete the project by July/August

What we hope to achieve

- Victoria recognises that achievement of quality residential aged care requires a team approach: levels of government, professions, industry and unions and many individuals.
- We hope to support a team approach to better quality evidenced by:
 - Heightened awareness of the issues,
 - Compliance with accreditation standards,
 - High quality outcomes for residents.