



# Unannounced Medicines Management Inspection Report 13 September 2018



## Somerton Private Nursing Home

**Type of Service: Nursing Home**  
**Address: 77 Somerton Road, Belfast, BT15 4DE**  
**Tel No: 028 9077 6786**  
**Inspector: Catherine Glover**

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Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

It should be noted that this inspection report should not be regarded as a comprehensive review of all strengths and areas for improvement that exist in the service. The findings reported on are those which came to the attention of RQIA during the course of this inspection. The findings contained within this report do not exempt the service from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with legislation, standards and best practice.

## 1.0 What we look for



## 2.0 Profile of service

This is a nursing home with 26 beds that provides care for patients living with dementia.

### 3.0 Service details

<b>Organisation/Registered Provider:</b> Somerton Private Nursing Home  <b>Responsible Individuals:</b> Mr Henry Enda McCambridge Mr Paul Henry McCambridge	<b>Registered Manager:</b> Mrs Dhimi Daniel
<b>Person in charge at the time of inspection:</b> Mrs Dhimi Daniel	<b>Date manager registered:</b> 15 January 2018
<b>Categories of care:</b> Nursing Homes (NH) DE – Dementia	<b>Number of registered places:</b> 26

### 4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 13 September 2018 from 10.30 to 13.10.

This inspection was underpinned by The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) Care Standards for Nursing Homes, April 2015.

The inspection assessed progress with any areas for improvement identified since the last medicines management inspection and to determine if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the service was well led.

Evidence of good practice was found in relation to staff training, medicine records, medicines administration, care planning and the management of controlled drugs.

No areas for improvement were identified.

Patients were relaxed and comfortable in the home and good relationships with staff were evident.

The findings of this report will provide the home with the necessary information to assist them to fulfil their responsibilities, enhance practice and patients' experience.

### 4.1 Inspection outcome

	Regulations	Standards
<b>Total number of areas for improvement</b>	0	0

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Mrs Dhimi Daniel, Registered Manager, as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

#### 4.2 Action/enforcement taken following the most recent care inspection

Other than those actions detailed in the QIP no further actions were required to be taken following the most recent inspection on 20 March 2018. Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

#### 5.0 How we inspect

Prior to the inspection a range of information relevant to the service was reviewed. This included the following:

- recent inspection reports and returned QIPs
- recent correspondence with the home
- the management of medicine related incidents reported to RQIA since the last medicines management inspection.

A poster informing visitors to the home that an inspection was being conducted was displayed.

During the inspection we met with several patients in the dining room at lunch time, one registered nurse and the registered manager.

We provided the registered manager with ten questionnaires to distribute to patients and their representatives, for completion and return to RQIA. 'Have we missed you?' cards were left in the foyer of the home to inform patients/their representatives of how to contact RQIA, to tell us of their experience of the quality of care provided. Flyers providing details of how to raise any concerns were also left in the home.

We asked the registered manager to display a poster which invited staff to share their views and opinions by completing an online questionnaire.

A sample of the following records was examined during the inspection:

- medicines requested and received
- personal medication records
- medicine administration records
- medicines disposed of or transferred
- controlled drug record book
- medicine audits
- care plans
- training records
- medicines storage temperatures

The findings of the inspection were provided to the person in charge at the conclusion of the inspection.

## 6.0 The inspection

### 6.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent inspection dated 20 March 2018

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced care inspection. The completed QIP was returned and approved by the care inspector. This QIP will be validated by the care inspector at the next care inspection.

### 6.2 Review of areas for improvement from the last medicines management inspection dated 6 January 2017

There were no areas for improvement identified as a result of the last medicines management inspection.

## 6.3 Inspection findings

### 6.4 Is care safe?

**Avoiding and preventing harm to patients and clients from the care, treatment and support that is intended to help them.**

Medicines were managed by staff who have been trained and deemed competent to do so. An induction process was in place for agency or bank nurses when needed. The impact of training was monitored through team meetings, supervision and annual appraisal. Competency assessments were completed annually. Refresher training in medicines management was provided in the last year. In relation to safeguarding, staff advised that they were aware of the regional procedures and who to report any safeguarding concerns to.

There were procedures in place to ensure the safe management of medicines during a patient's admission to the home.

Systems were in place to manage the ordering of prescribed medicines to ensure adequate supplies were available and to prevent wastage. Staff advised of the procedures to identify and report any potential shortfalls in medicines. Antibiotics had been received into the home without delay. Satisfactory arrangements were in place for the acquisition and storage of prescriptions.

There were satisfactory arrangements in place to manage changes to prescribed medicines. Personal medication records and handwritten entries on medication administration records were updated by two registered nurses. This safe practice was acknowledged.

Records of the receipt, administration and disposal of controlled drugs subject to record keeping requirements were maintained in a controlled drug record book. One entry in this record had been omitted and staff were reminded that the controlled drugs record book should be included in the reconciliation checks which are done at the end of each shift. Additional checks were also performed on other controlled drugs which is good practice. The appropriate storage of

temazepam which had been included in blister packs for one patient was also discussed with the registered manager. All supplies of temazepam were stored in the controlled drugs cupboard at the conclusion of the inspection.

Medicines were stored safely and securely and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Medicine storage areas were clean, tidy and well organised. There were systems in place to alert staff of the expiry dates of medicines with a limited shelf life, once opened. The medicine refrigerator and oxygen equipment were checked at regular intervals.

### Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice in relation to staff training, competency assessment, the management of medicines on admission and the storage of medicines.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
<b>Total number of areas for improvement</b>	0	0

### 6.5 Is care effective?

**The right care, at the right time in the right place with the best outcome.**

The sample of medicines examined had been administered in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. There was evidence that time critical medicines had been administered at the correct time. There were arrangements in place to alert staff of when doses of weekly medicines were due.

The management of distressed reactions, pain and dysphagia was reviewed and found to be satisfactory.

Staff confirmed that compliance with prescribed medicine regimes was monitored and any omissions or refusals likely to have an adverse effect on the patient's health were discussed with the patient and reported to the prescriber.

Medicine records were well maintained and facilitated the audit process. Areas of good practice were acknowledged. They included the maintenance of additional records for transdermal patches and the use of thickening agents administered by care staff.

Practices for the management of medicines were audited regularly and good outcomes were achieved.

Following discussion with the nurses on duty and a review of the care plans, it was evident that, when applicable, other healthcare professionals were contacted in response to medication related issues. Staff advised that they had good working relationships with healthcare professionals involved in patient care.



### Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice in relation to the standard of record keeping, care planning and the administration of medicines.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
<b>Total number of areas for improvement</b>	0	0

#### 6.6 Is care compassionate?

**Patients and clients are treated with dignity and respect and should be fully involved in decisions affecting their treatment, care and support.**

The administration of medicines to patients was not observed during this inspection, however staff were knowledgeable about the patients' medicines and medical requirements.

At the end of the inspection we observed lunch being served in the dining room. It was found that there were good relationships between the staff and the patients. Staff were noted to be friendly and courteous; they treated the patients with dignity. It was clear from discussion and observation of staff, that the staff were familiar with the patients' likes and dislikes.

We spoke generally with a small group of patients who were waiting for lunch to be served. All patients seemed to be contented and one told us that the staff were great.

None of the questionnaires that were issued were returned within the specified time frame for inclusion in this report (two weeks). Any comments from patients and their representatives in questionnaires received after the return date will be shared with the manager for information and action as required.

### Areas of good practice

There was evidence that staff listened to patients and took account of their views.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
<b>Total number of areas for improvement</b>	0	0

## 6.7 Is the service well led?

**Effective leadership, management and governance which creates a culture focused on the needs and experience of service users in order to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care.**

We discussed arrangements in place in relation to the equality of opportunity for patients and the importance of staff being aware of equality legislation and recognising and responding to the diverse needs of patients. Arrangements were in place to implement the collection of equality data.

Written policies and procedures for the management of medicines were in place. They were not reviewed on this occasion. Following discussion with staff it was evident that they were familiar with policies and procedures and that any updates were highlighted to staff.

There were robust arrangements in place for the management of medicine related incidents. Staff confirmed that they knew how to identify and report incidents. Medicine related incidents reported since the last medicines management inspection were discussed. There was evidence of the action taken and learning implemented following incidents. In relation to the regional safeguarding procedures, staff confirmed that they were aware that medicine incidents may need to be reported to the safeguarding team.

A review of the audit records indicated that largely satisfactory outcomes had been achieved. Where a discrepancy had been identified, there was evidence of the action taken and learning which had resulted in a change of practice.

Following discussion with the registered manager and registered nurses, it was evident that staff were familiar with their roles and responsibilities in relation to medicines management. We were advised that there were effective communication systems in the home, to ensure that all staff were kept up to date.

No online questionnaires were completed by staff within the specified time frame (two weeks).

### Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice in relation to governance arrangements, the management of medicine incidents and quality improvement. There were clearly defined roles and responsibilities for staff.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
<b>Total number of areas for improvement</b>	0	0

## 7.0 Quality improvement plan

There were no areas for improvement identified during this inspection, and a QIP is not required or included, as part of this inspection report.





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