

Inspection Report

22 August 2023



Braefield Nursing Home

Type of Service: Nursing Home
Address: 2-6 Carncome Road, Connor,
Ballymena, BT42 3LA
Tel no: 028 2589 2233

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Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

Information on legislation and standards underpinning inspections can be found on our website <https://www.rqia.org.uk/>

1.0 Service information

<p>Organisation: Healthcare Ireland (Belfast) Limited</p> <p>Responsible Individual: Ms Amanda Mitchell</p>	<p>Registered Manager: Mrs Rebecca Lawless</p> <p>Date registered: Not registered</p>
<p>Person in charge at the time of inspection: Rebecca Lawless - manager</p>	<p>Number of registered places: 57</p> <p>21 patients in Kells unit in category NH-DE; 17 patients in Ballee Unit in categories NH-I and NH-PH; 8 patients in Killybegs unit and 10 patients in Connor unit in categories NH-A; NH-MP; NH-MP(E); NH-PH and NH-PH(E)</p>
<p>Categories of care: Nursing Home (NH) I – Old age not falling within any other category. DE – Dementia. MP – Mental disorder excluding learning disability or dementia. MP(E) - Mental disorder excluding learning disability or dementia – over 65 years. PH – Physical disability other than sensory impairment. PH(E) - Physical disability other than sensory impairment – over 65 years. A – Past or present alcohol dependence.</p>	<p>Number of patients accommodated in the nursing home on the day of this inspection: 44</p>
<p>Brief description of the accommodation/how the service operates: This is a registered Nursing Home which provides care for a maximum of 57 patients. The home is divided into three units over two floors. The dementia care unit is situated on the ground floor, the mental health and general nursing units on the first floor. Patients have access to their own bedrooms, communal dining and lounges. A residential care home is located in a two storey extension adjoining the nursing home; the first floor of the extension is divided between the residential care home and nursing home.</p>	

2.0 Inspection summary

An announced variation to registration inspection took place on 22 August 2023 from 10.00 am to 12.15 pm by a care and an estates inspector.

The inspection focussed on the variation to registration application VA0122203, the assessment of the accommodation converted to provide a ten bed NH-MH category unit on the first floor level, reducing the overall maximum registration to 56 patients. Access to safe external space at ground floor level was included in the variation application.

Building engineering maintenance reports and certificates were examined prior to and during the inspection, the building fabric and building services were maintained in accordance with the Minimum Standards and good practice.

No areas requiring improvement were identified during this inspection.

The findings of this report will provide the manager with the necessary information to improve staff practice and the patients' experience.

3.0 How we inspect

RQIA's inspections form part of our ongoing assessment of the quality of services. Our reports reflect how they were performing at the time of our inspection, highlighting both good practice and any areas for improvement. It is the responsibility of the service provider to ensure compliance with legislation, standards and best practice, and to address any deficits identified during our inspections.

In preparation for this inspection, a range of information about the service was reviewed to help us plan the inspection.

Throughout the inspection RQIA will seek to speak with patients, their relatives or visitors and staff for their opinion on the quality of the care and their experience of living, visiting or working in this home.

A range of documents were examined to determine that effective systems were in place to manage the home.

The findings of the inspection were discussed with the management team and Mr David Yates (Healthcare Ireland Estates Manager).

4.0 The inspection

4.1 What has this service done to meet any areas for improvement identified at or since last inspection?

The last estates inspection in this nursing home was a variation to registration inspection completed on 04 April 2023, ref IN042959, there were no resultant areas for improvement identified.

The last care inspection in this nursing home noted the following AFI's. The QIP was not reviewed during this inspection and will therefore all AFIs will be carried forward for review at the next care inspection visit.

Areas for improvement from the last care inspection on 3 May 2022		
Action required to ensure compliance with The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Regulation 13 (7) Stated: Second time To be completed by: With immediate effect	The responsible individual shall make suitable arrangements to minimise the risk of infection by addressing the IPC issues highlighted in the report. Ref: 5.1 and 5.2.3	Carried forward to the next inspection
Action required to ensure compliance with this regulation was not reviewed as part of this inspection and this is carried forward to the next inspection.		
Action required to ensure compliance with the Care Standards for Nursing Homes (April 2015)		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 4 Stated: Second time To be completed by: With immediate effect	The responsible individual shall ensure that care plans are kept up to date and contain detailed plans reflective of the changing needs of the patient. Ref: 5.1 and 5.2.2	Carried forward to the next inspection
Action required to ensure compliance with this standard was not reviewed as part of this inspection and this is carried forward to the next inspection.		

<p>Area for improvement 2</p> <p>Ref: Standard 44</p> <p>Stated: First time</p> <p>To be completed by: 30 June 2022</p>	<p>The responsible individual shall ensure the premises are well maintained and suitable for their states purpose.</p> <p>Ref: 5.2.3</p> <p>Action required to ensure compliance with this standard was not reviewed as part of this inspection and this is carried forward to the next inspection.</p>	<p>Carried forward to the next inspection</p>
<p>Area for improvement 3</p> <p>Ref: Standard 44.4</p> <p>Stated: First time</p> <p>To be completed by: 30 June 2022</p>	<p>The responsible individual shall ensure that changes to patients' allocated bedrooms are only undertaken in consultation with the patient.</p> <p>Ref: 5.2.3</p> <p>Action required to ensure compliance with this standard was not reviewed as part of this inspection and this is carried forward to the next inspection.</p>	<p>Carried forward to the next inspection</p>
<p>Area for improvement 4</p> <p>Ref: Standard 11</p> <p>Stated: First time</p> <p>To be completed by: With immediate effect</p>	<p>The responsible individual shall ensure a range of meaningful activities are provided for all patients on a regular basis.</p> <p>Ref: 5.2.4</p> <p>Action required to ensure compliance with this standard was not reviewed as part of this inspection and this is carried forward to the next inspection.</p>	<p>Carried forward to the next inspection</p>

4.2 Inspection findings

4.2.1 Building services & environment

The building conversion works plan configuration and associated building services were compliant with the Nursing Homes standards.

The required risk assessment reports and action plans were submitted for review and deemed to be compliant with the Nursing Homes Minimum Standards estates/environment requirements.

The variation to registration application for the ten bed NH-MH unit complied with requirements for registration from an estates inspector`s perspective and subject to care inspector approval the application may be processed by RQIA registration team.

4.2.2 Staffing arrangements

Review of recruitment records and discussion with the management team showed that there was evidence that a robust recruitments system was in place to ensure staff were recruited correctly to protect patients. An induction process was also in place for newly recruited staff to the home.

The staff duty rota reflected the planned staffing levels for the home on a daily basis. The managers hours were included and the person in charge was identified on the staff rota.

4.2.3 Management of the Environment and Infection Prevention and Control

Observation of the home`s environment evidenced that the home was tidy and well furnished, however a number of areas required further maintenance and cleaning. The manager confirmed the following day that all areas which were identified as requiring maintenance and cleaning had been addressed.

A nurse call system was in place and a call indication point was in place. Nurse call points requiring maintenance were confirmed to have been repaired following the inspection.

Access from the unit to the outside ground floor area is through use of a lift in the main foyer. It was agreed that a keypad would be installed to the upstairs lift doors and the entrance to the frail elderly unit for access and security.

4.2.4 Management and governance arrangements

A planned schedule of audits is in place to ensure the governance and monitoring of the quality of care and other services provided in the home.

A range of established policies and procedures are already in place in the home to ensure the quality of care provision.

4.2.5 Statement of purpose and patient guide

The statement of purpose and patients` guide were submitted to the RQIA prior to the pre-registration visit. Areas of both documents required updating. These documents were completed and re-submitted following the inspection with the requested changes having been made.

5.0 Quality Improvement Plan/Areas for Improvement

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with, Rebecca Lawless, manager, as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

The QIP AFI items listed in the previous care inspection report which were not reviewed are listed for review at the next inspection.

Quality Improvement Plan		
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The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority
James House
2-4 Cromac Avenue
Gasworks
Belfast
BT7 2JA

Tel 028 9536 1111
Email info@rqia.org.uk
Web www.rqia.org.uk
Twitter @RQIANews

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