



Unannounced Medicines Management Inspection Report 8 October 2018



The Pines

Type of service: Residential Care Home
Address: 23 Upper Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT10 0GW
Tel No: 028 9060 2343
Inspector: Catherine Glover

www.rqia.org.uk

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 residential care home that provides care for up to 31 residents with a range of care needs as detailed in Section 3.0.

3.0 Service details

Organisation/Registered Provider: The Pines Responsible Individual: Mr Kevin McKinney	Registered Manager: See below
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Mrs Rhonda Spence	Date manager registered: Mrs Rhonda Spence (registration pending)
Categories of care: Residential Care (RC) I – Old age not falling within any other category DE – Dementia PH – Physical disability other than sensory impairment	Number of registered places: 31 Including a maximum of three residents in category of care RC-PH and a maximum of ten residents in category of care RC-DE

4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 8 October 2018 from 10.15 to 13.00.

This inspection was underpinned by The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards (2011).

The inspection assessed progress with any areas for improvement identified during and 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 medicines administration, medicine records, medicine storage and the management of controlled drugs.

No areas for improvement were identified.

Residents said they were happy living in the home and that the staff were good.

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

4.1 Inspection outcome

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Mrs Rhonda Spence, 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

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced care inspection undertaken on 13 June 2018. Other than those actions detailed in the QIP no further actions were required to be taken. 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 home was reviewed. This included the following:

- recent inspection reports and returned QIPs
- recent correspondence with the home
- the management of incidents; it was ascertained that no incidents involving medicines had been reported to RQIA since the last medicines management inspection.

We provided the manager with ten questionnaires to distribute to residents and their representatives, for completion and return to RQIA. 'Have we missed you?' cards were left in the foyer of the home to inform residents/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. Staff were invited to share their views by completing an online questionnaire.

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

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
- policies and procedures
- care plans
- training records
- medicines storage temperatures

Areas for improvement identified at the last medicines management inspection were reviewed and the assessment of compliance recorded as met, partially met, or not met.

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 13 June 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 20 February 2017

Areas for improvement from the last medicines management inspection		
Action required to ensure compliance with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards (2011)		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 30 Stated: First time	The registered provider should ensure that the maximum and minimum refrigerator temperatures are recorded daily.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The maximum and minimum refrigerator temperatures were recorded daily.	
Area for improvement 2 Ref: Standard 31 Stated: First time	The registered provider should ensure that specific dosage directions are recorded for medicines which are prescribed on a “when required” basis for the management of distressed reactions.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The specific dosage directions had been recorded for these medicines.	

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. 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. The community pharmacist provided additional training when the new medicines system was being implemented. Staff had all received training in safeguarding.

There were procedures in place to ensure the safe management of medicines during a resident'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. The manager 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 members of staff. 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. Checks were performed on controlled drugs which require safe custody, at the end of each shift.

Robust arrangements were observed for the management of high risk medicines e.g. warfarin. The use of separate administration charts was acknowledged.

Discontinued or expired medicines were disposed of appropriately.

Medicines were stored safely and securely and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Medicine storage areas were clean 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 was checked daily. It was noted that the temperature of the medicines refrigerator was occasionally falling below the acceptable range of 2°C to 8°C. The manager agreed that this would be closely monitored.

Areas of good practice

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

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	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 and pain was examined. Appropriate care plans were in place and medicine records were well maintained.

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

Medicine records were well maintained and facilitated the audit process. Areas of good practice were acknowledged.

Practices for the management of medicines were audited throughout the month by the staff and management. This included running stock balances for some medicines. In addition, a quarterly audit was completed by the community pharmacist.

Following discussion with the manager it was evident that other healthcare professionals are contacted when required to meet the needs of residents.

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
Total number of areas for improvement	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 residents was not observed during this inspection, however the manager was knowledgeable about the residents’ medicines and medical requirements.

It was found that there were good relationships between the staff and the residents. Staff were noted to be friendly and courteous; they treated the residents with dignity. It was clear from discussion and observation of staff, that the staff were familiar with the residents’ likes and dislikes.

We spoke with two residents. They were relaxed and comfortable in the home and said that they enjoyed living there. They said that the staff were good, they enjoyed the food and their rooms were comfortable. They described being able to meet up with friends and family nearby which was important to them.

One questionnaire was returned within the specified time frames (two weeks). The reply indicated that the resident was satisfied with the care provided in the home. The resident commented “I reckon this is one of the best care homes in my experience. Feels warm and friendly and safe. I feel my opinion is sought and respected.”

Any comments from residents 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

Staff listened to residents and took account of their views.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	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.

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

Written policies and procedures for the management of medicines were in place. The manager advised that these were in the process of being updated to reflect the new medicines system.

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.

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 manager it was evident that staff were familiar with their roles and responsibilities in relation to medicines management.

The manager confirmed that any concerns in relation to medicines management were shared with staff.

There were no responses to the online staff questionnaire.

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
Total number of areas for improvement	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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