



Unannounced Inspection Report 4 February 2020



Bramblewood Care Home

Type of Service: Nursing Home
Address: 201 Gransha Road, Bangor, BT19 7RB
Tel No: 028 91 454357
Inspector: Paul Nixon

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.

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 DHSSPS Care Standards for Nursing Homes, 2015.

1.0 What we look for



2.0 Profile of service

This is a nursing home which provides care for up to 35 patients.

3.0 Service details

Organisation/Registered Provider: Burnview Healthcare Ltd Responsible Individual: Mrs Briega Agnes Kelly	Registered Manager and date registered: Mrs Clair O'Connor 2 January 2019
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Mrs Clair O'Connor	Number of registered places: 35 The home is approved to provide care on a day basis for 2 persons.
Categories of care: Nursing Home (NH) I – Old age not falling within any other category. PH – Physical disability other than sensory impairment. PH(E) - Physical disability other than sensory impairment – over 65 years DE – Dementia. TI – Terminally ill.	Number of patients accommodated in the nursing home on the day of this inspection: 35

4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 4 February 2020 from 09.55 hours to 13.45 hours.

The inspection assessed progress with any areas for improvement identified since the last care and medicines management inspections 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 the management of medicines, the environment and the dining experience.

It was positive to note that all areas for improvement from the previous care and medicines management inspections had been met and there were no areas for improvement identified during this inspection.

Patients described living in the home in positive terms. Patients unable to voice their opinions were seen to be relaxed and comfortable in their surrounding and in their interactions with staff.

Comments received from patients, people who visit them and staff during and after the inspection, are included in the main body of this report.

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
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 Clair O'Connor, 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 care inspection on 1 October 2019. Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

5.0 How we inspect

To prepare for this inspection we reviewed information held by RQIA about this home. This included the last inspection findings in relation to care and medicines management and any other written or verbal information received.

During our inspection we:

- where possible, speak with patients, people who visit them and visiting healthcare professionals about their experience of the home
- talk with staff and management about how they plan, deliver and monitor the care and support provided in the home
- observe practice and daily life
- review documents to confirm that appropriate records are kept.

During the inspection we met with six patients, four patients' representatives, the manager and nine members of care staff.

Questionnaires and 'Have We Missed You?' cards were provided to give patients and those who visit them the opportunity to contact us after the inspection with views of the home. A poster was provided for staff detailing how they could complete an electronic questionnaire.

During the inspection a sample of records was examined, which included ten patients' personal medication and medicine administration records.

The findings of the inspection were provided to the manager at the conclusion of the inspection.

6.0 The inspection

6.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent care inspection

Areas for improvement from the most recent care inspection (IN034634) dated 1 October 2019		
Action required to ensure compliance with The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Regulation 27.4 Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure that fire extinguishers can be easily accessed in the event of an emergency.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: Fire extinguishers were easily accessible.	
Area for improvement 2 Ref: Regulation 13 (4) Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure that dietary supplements that are prescribed for patients are stored safely in a secure place at all times in order to protect the health and welfare of patients.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: Dietary supplements were stored safely in a secure place in order to protect the health and welfare of patients.	
Action required to ensure compliance with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) Care Standards for Nursing Homes, April 2015		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 28 Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure that the management of warfarin is reviewed and revised.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The management of warfarin had been reviewed and revised. Warfarin administration records had been introduced in which the dose given, two staff signatures and the remaining stock balance were recorded.	

Area for improvement 2 Ref: Standard 29 Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure there are systems in place to record the administration of thickening agents.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: Four patients' administration of thickening agent records were reviewed. They had been appropriately maintained. The fluid intake charts had been adapted to include the type of thickening agent, the consistency and the amount of thickener used in each drink.	
Area for improvement 3 Ref: Standard 46 Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure that equipment is appropriately stored in order to comply with infection prevention and control policies, procedures and best practice guidance.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: Equipment was appropriately stored in order to comply with infection prevention and control policies, procedures and best practice guidance.	

6.2 Inspection findings

6.3 Is care safe?

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

We arrived in the home at 09.55 hours and were greeted by the manager and staff who were helpful and attentive. Some patients were seated in the main lounge whilst others remained in their rooms, in keeping with their personal preference or their assessed needs.

Observation of the delivery of care evidenced that staff attended to patients needs in a timely and caring manner.

The home was observed to be clean and warm, all areas inspected were appropriately decorated and clean. There were no malodours. Corridors were free from trip hazards and cleaning products were stored in areas not accessed by patients.

A sample of ten personal medication records and medicine administration records were reviewed. These had been maintained in a satisfactory manner. A range of audits on the administration of medicines was completed. There was evidence that medicines were being administered as prescribed.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the home's environment, staffing and the management of medicines.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.4 Is care effective?

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

There were procedures in place to ensure the safe management of medicines during a patient's admission to the home and for medicine changes. Systems were in place to manage the ordering of prescribed medicines to ensure adequate supplies were available and to prevent wastage. Newly prescribed medicines, including antibiotics, had been received into the home without delay.

Staff stated that there was effective teamwork; each staff member spoken to knew their role, function and responsibilities. All grades of staff consulted demonstrated the ability to communicate effectively with their colleagues.

We reviewed the lunchtime meal experience. Lunch commenced at 12.20 hours. Patients dined at the main dining area or at their preferred dining area such as their bedroom. Tables had been laid appropriately for the meal. The menu offered a choice of meal for lunch. Patients who required to have their meals modified were also afforded a choice of meal. Food was served directly from the kitchen when patients were ready to eat their meals or be assisted with their meals. The food served appeared nutritious and appetising. Staff were knowledgeable in relation to patients' dietary requirements. Patients wore clothing protectors where required and staff wore aprons when serving or assisting with meals. Staff were observed chatting with patients when assisting with meals and patients were assisted in an unhurried manner. Patients consulted spoke positively of the food provision.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the timely availability of newly prescribed medicines and antibiotics, communication between patients and staff and the assistance provided by staff to ensure that patients enjoyed a nutritious meal.

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 compassionate?

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

Staff demonstrated a detailed knowledge of patients' wishes, preferences and assessed needs and how to provide comfort if required. Staff interactions with patients were observed to be compassionate, caring and timely. Patients were afforded choice, privacy, dignity and respect.

Consultation with six patients confirmed that living in the home was a positive experience. Comments included:

- "It's fine here. Staff are always busy. Food is alright."
- "I am looked after very well. Staff are good. I am happy with the food."
- "I am looked after very well. I could do with a greater variety of food."
- "I couldn't complain at all, in fact it's perfect."
- "I am happy here. There is plenty to eat and plenty of good company. The food is very good."

Four visitors spoke very positively about the home. Comments included:

- "This is one of the best homes in the area. Staff are brilliant."
- "It is always welcoming here. Staff are very attentive to the residents. It's a good home."
- "This is an excellent home. Staff have time for my mum and for me. The atmosphere is good; very relaxed."
- "It's great; no problems at all."

Of the questionnaires that were issued, one was returned from patients or relatives. The responses indicated that they were very satisfied with all aspects of the care.

Patients who could not verbalise their feelings in respect of their care were observed to be relaxed and comfortable in their surroundings and in their interactions with staff and visitors.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the culture and ethos of the home, dignity and privacy, listening to and valuing patients and their representatives and taking account of the views of patients.

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 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.

Discussion with staff confirmed that management were supportive and responsive to any suggestions or concerns raised. Staff confirmed that, if they had any concerns, they could raise these with the manager or the nurse in charge. All staff spoken to stated that they enjoyed working in the home. They spoke positively about the impact that the manager had made.

We also sought staff opinion on staffing via the online survey. There were no responses received within the allocated time provided.

There were robust arrangements in place for the management of medicine incidents. Staff confirmed that they knew how to identify and report incidents. In relation to the regional safeguarding procedures, staff confirmed that they were aware that incidents may need to be reported to the safeguarding team.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found in relation to quality improvement and maintaining good working relationships.

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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