

# **Unannounced Medicines Management Inspection Report 22 February 2018**



## **Domnall**

**Type of Service: Nursing Home**  
**Address: 48-50 Old Dundonald Road, Belfast, BT16 2EH**  
**Tel No: 028 9041 9796**  
**Inspector: Catherine Glover and Elaine Connolly**

[www.rqia.org.uk](http://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 nursing home with 52 beds that provides a mixture of intermediate care for patients upon discharge from hospital, respite care and long term care. The categories of care are described in Section 3.0.

### 3.0 Service details

<b>Organisation/Registered Provider:</b> Four Seasons Healthcare  <b>Responsible Individual:</b> Dr Maureen Claire Royston	<b>Registered Manager:</b> See below
<b>Person in charge at the time of inspection:</b> Mrs Laura Ferguson	<b>Date manager registered:</b> Mrs Laura Ferguson (acting, no application required)
<b>Categories of care:</b> Nursing Homes 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	<b>Number of registered places:</b> 52

### 4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 22 February 2018 from 09.40 to 14.00.

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 medicines administration, medicine records, care planning and the management of controlled drugs.

No areas requiring improvement were identified.

Patients said they were happy in the home and that the care was good.

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 Laura Ferguson, Manager and Gary Cousins, Business 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 13 December 2017. 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 four patients, the manager, Gary Cousins, Business Manager, the pharmacist provided by the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald and five registered nurses.

Ten questionnaires were provided for distribution to patients and their representatives for completion and return to RQIA. Staff were invited to share their views by completing an online questionnaire.

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

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

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

## 6.0 The inspection

### 6.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent inspection dated 13 December 2017

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 1 December 2016

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 registered nurses. Training in the management of medicines is completed annually and the impact of training was monitored through team meetings, supervision and annual appraisal. Competency assessments were completed annually. Refresher training in syringe drivers 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. Training had been completed by staff within the last year.

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 and newly prescribed medicines 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.

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

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. Additional checks were also performed on other controlled drugs which is good practice. One query regarding the time of administration of a controlled drug for one patient was raised during the inspection and was satisfactorily resolved.

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

Discontinued or expired medicines were disposed of appropriately. The manager was reminded that two staff should sign the disposal record. Discontinued controlled drugs were denatured and rendered irretrievable prior to disposal.

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. Medicine refrigerators and oxygen equipment were checked at regular intervals. The consistent nature of the recorded refrigerator temperature on the ground floor indicated that it was not being routinely reset. This was discussed with the manager at the conclusion of the inspection for remedial action.

### 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
<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.**

A sample of medicines were reviewed and were found to have been administered in accordance with the prescriber's instructions. There was evidence that time critical medicines e.g. those prescribed for the management of Parkinson's, had been administered at the correct time. There were arrangements in place to alert staff of when doses of weekly, monthly or three monthly medicines were due.

When a patient was prescribed a medicine for administration on a "when required" basis for the management of distressed reactions, the dosage instructions were recorded on the personal medication record. The reason for and the outcome of administration were recorded. A care plan was maintained.



The sample of records examined indicated that medicines which were prescribed to manage pain had been administered as prescribed. Staff were aware that ongoing monitoring was necessary to ensure that the pain was well controlled and the patient was comfortable. A pain assessment tool was used as needed and a care plan was maintained.

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 reported to the prescriber.

Medicine records were well maintained and facilitated the audit process. Areas of good practice were acknowledged. They included additional records for the site of administration of transdermal patches and regular monitoring of lithium levels when required.

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

Following discussion with the manager and staff and examination of care records, it was evident that other healthcare professionals are contacted when required to meet the needs of patients.

### 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 completed in a caring manner, patients were given time to take their medicines and medicines were administered as discreetly as possible. Appropriate arrangements were in place to facilitate patients' self-administration of medicines.

Throughout the inspection, good relationships were observed between the staff and the patients. Staff were noted to be friendly and courteous; they treated the patients with dignity.

Inspectors spoke with four patients individually and all were positive in relation to the care they received at the home and the attitudes of staff whom they found to be helpful and caring. There were no issues in relation to medicine administration raised with inspectors during the inspection.

Six questionnaires were returned within the time frame from patients and/or relatives who advised that they were satisfied with all aspects of the care in relation to the management of medicines.

Patients commented:

“The staff are second to none”.

“The food is very good...couldn't be better”

### Areas of good practice

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.**

Written policies and procedures for the management of medicines were in place. Following discussion with staff it was evident that they were familiar with the 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 manager, registered nurses and care staff, it was evident that staff were familiar with their roles and responsibilities in relation to medicines management.

Staff confirmed that any concerns in relation to medicines management were raised with management.



### 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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