

Inspection Report

9 November 2023



Lisburn Intermediate Care Centre

Type of service: Nursing Home
Address: 119b Hillsborough Road, Lisburn, BT28 1JX
Telephone number: 028 9266 9523

www.rqia.org.uk

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/Registered Provider: Beaumont Care Homes Limited</p> <p>Responsible Individual: Mrs Ruth Burrows</p>	<p>Registered Manager: Mrs Alfie Corvera</p> <p>Date registered: 19 March 2020</p>
<p>Person in charge at the time of inspection: Mrs Alfie Corvera</p>	<p>Number of registered places: 61</p> <p>This number includes a maximum of 12 patients accommodated within category of care NH-DE and located within the designated dementia unit (lower ground floor).</p>
<p>Categories of care: Nursing (NH): DE – dementia 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 TI – terminally ill</p>	<p>Number of patients accommodated in the nursing home on the day of this inspection: 53</p>
<p>Brief description of the accommodation/how the service operates: Lisburn Intermediate Care Centre is a registered nursing home which is registered to provide care for up to 61 patients. The home is divided into three units over three floors. The Lagan Suite on the ground floor is a 12 bedded dementia care unit. The units on the first and second floor provide general nursing care. The home also has a 12 bedded intermediate care unit which is supported by the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust.</p>	

2.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 9 November 2023, from 10.00am to 1.30pm. The inspection was completed by two pharmacist inspectors and focused on medicines management within the home.

The purpose of the inspection was to assess if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the home was well led with respect to medicines management.

The areas for improvement identified at the last care inspection have been carried forward for review at the next care inspection.

Review of medicines management found that robust arrangements were in place for the safe management of medicines. Medicine records and medicine related care plans were well maintained. There were effective auditing processes in place to ensure that staff were trained and competent to manage medicines and patients were administered their medicines as prescribed.

Based on the inspection findings and discussions held, RQIA are satisfied that this service is providing safe and effective care in a caring and compassionate manner; and that the service is well led by the management team with respect to medicines management.

RQIA would like to thank the staff for their assistance throughout the inspection.

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.

To prepare for this inspection, information held by RQIA about this home was reviewed. This included previous inspection findings, incidents and correspondence. The inspection was completed by examining a sample of medicine related records, the storage arrangements for medicines, staff training and the auditing systems used to ensure the safe management of medicines. The inspectors spoke to staff and management about how they plan, deliver and monitor and the management of medicines.

4.0 What people told us about the service

The inspectors met with nursing staff and the manager. Staff interactions with patients were warm, friendly and supportive. It was evident that they knew the patients well.

Staff expressed satisfaction with how the home was managed. They also said that they had the appropriate training to look after patients and meet their needs.

Feedback methods included a staff poster and paper questionnaires which were provided to the manager for any patient or their family representative to complete and return using pre-paid, self-addressed envelopes. At the time of issuing this report, no questionnaires had been received by RQIA.

5.0 The inspection

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

Areas for improvement from the last inspection on 18 September 2023		
Action required to ensure compliance with The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Regulation 20 (1) (c) Stated: First time	The registered person shall ensure care staff have up to date mandatory training and there is a system in place to monitor this. This is specifically in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual handling • Adult Safeguarding • Infection Prevention and Control 	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 Care Standards for Nursing Homes, December 2022		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 12 Stated: Third time	The registered person shall ensure that fluid balance charts are totalled daily and evaluated in the patient's progress notes.	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.	
Area for improvement 2 Ref: Standard 12 Stated: Second time	The registered person shall ensure that the daily menu displayed reflects the meals served and is displayed in a suitable format for patients to read or understand it.	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 3</p> <p>Ref: Standard 39.1</p> <p>Stated: First time</p>	<p>The registered person shall ensure all agency staff who work within the home are inducted on arrival to the home and evidence of the induction is maintained.</p>	<p>Carried forward to the next inspection</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 23</p> <p>Stated: First time</p>		<p>The registered person shall ensure that where a patient has been assessed as requiring repositioning, the recommended frequency is recorded on the repositioning chart.</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 5</p> <p>Ref: Standard 12.17</p> <p>Stated: First time</p>		<p>The registered person shall ensure there is a selection of suitable snacks available at all times for patients' who have swallowing difficulties.</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 6</p> <p>Ref: Standard 37.4</p> <p>Stated: First time</p>		<p>The registered person shall review the management of patients on fluid balance charts to ensure that they are accurate, up-to-date and necessary.</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>		

5.2 Inspection findings

5.2.1 What arrangements are in place to ensure that medicines are appropriately prescribed, monitored and reviewed?

Patients in nursing homes should be registered with a general practitioner (GP) to ensure that they receive appropriate medical care when they need it. At times patients' needs may change and therefore their medicines should be regularly monitored and reviewed. This is usually done by the GP, the pharmacist or during a hospital admission.

Patients in the home were registered with a GP and medicines were dispensed by the community pharmacist.

Personal medication records were in place for each patient. These are records used to list all of the prescribed medicines, with details of how and when they should be administered. It is important that these records accurately reflect the most recent prescription to ensure that medicines are administered as prescribed and because they may be used by other healthcare professionals, for example, at medication reviews or hospital appointments.

The personal medication records reviewed at the inspection were accurate and up to date. In line with best practice, a second member of staff had checked and signed the personal medication records when they were written and updated to state that they were accurate.

Copies of patients' prescriptions/hospital discharge letters were retained in the home so that any entry on the personal medication record could be checked against the prescription. This is good practice.

Patients will sometimes get distressed and will occasionally require medicines to help them manage their distress. It is important that care plans are in place to direct staff on when it is appropriate to administer these medicines and that records are kept of when the medicine was given, the reason it was given and what the outcome was. If staff record the reason and outcome of giving the medicine, then they can identify common triggers which may cause the patient's distress and if the prescribed medicine is effective for the patient.

The management of medicines prescribed on a "when required" basis for distressed reactions was reviewed. Directions for use were clearly recorded on the personal medication records; and care plans directing the use of these medicines were in place. Staff knew how to recognise a change in a patient's behaviour and were aware that this change may be associated with pain. Records included the reason for and outcome of each administration.

The management of pain was discussed. Staff advised that they were familiar with how each patient expressed their pain and that pain relief was administered when required. Care plans and pain assessments were in place and reviewed regularly.

Some patients may need their diet modified to ensure that they receive adequate nutrition. This may include thickening fluids to aid swallowing and food supplements in addition to meals. Care plans detailing how the patient should be supported with their food and fluid intake should be in place to direct staff. All staff should have the necessary training to ensure that they can meet the needs of the patient.

The management of thickening agents were reviewed. A speech and language assessment report and care plan was in place. Records of prescribing and administration which included the recommended consistency level were maintained.

Care plans were in place when patients required insulin to manage their diabetes. There was sufficient detail to direct staff if the patient's blood sugar outside the recommended range.

5.2.2 What arrangements are in place to ensure that medicines are supplied on time, stored safely and disposed of appropriately?

Medicine stock levels must be checked on a regular basis and new stock must be ordered on time. This ensures that the patient's medicines are available for administration as prescribed. It is important that they are stored safely and securely so that there is no unauthorised access and disposed of promptly to ensure that a discontinued medicine is not administered in error.

The records inspected showed that medicines were available for administration when patients required them. Staff advised that they had a good relationship with the community pharmacist and that medicines were supplied in a timely manner.

The medicines storage areas were observed to be securely locked to prevent any unauthorised access. They were tidy and organised so that medicines belonging to each patient could be easily located. Temperatures of the medicine storage areas were monitored and recorded to ensure that medicines were stored appropriately. A medicine refrigerator and controlled drugs cabinet were available for use as needed.

Satisfactory arrangements were in place for the safe disposal of medicines.

5.2.3 What arrangements are in place to ensure that medicines are appropriately administered within the home?

It is important to have a clear record of which medicines have been administered to patients to ensure that they are receiving the correct prescribed treatment.

A sample of the medicines administration records was reviewed. The records were found to have been fully and accurately completed. Completed records were filed and readily retrievable for review.

Controlled drugs are medicines which are subject to strict legal controls and legislation. They commonly include strong pain killers. The receipt, administration and disposal of controlled drugs should be recorded in the controlled drug record book. There were satisfactory arrangements in place for the management of controlled drugs.

One patient has their medicines administered in food/drinks to assist administration. A care plan detailing how the patient likes to take their medicines was in place. Some of the practices followed by staff to assist administration mean that medicines are being administered outside the terms of their product licence. This means that the way the medicine is given has been changed to meet the need to the patient. While this is appropriate for most patients, this practice should be checked to ensure that the patient's GP agrees. Authorisation from the GP was in place when this practice occurred.

Management and staff audited medicine administration on a regular basis within the home. A range of audits were carried out. The date of opening was recorded on all medicines so that they could be easily audited. This is good practice.

5.2.4 What arrangements are in place to ensure that medicines are safely managed during transfer of care?

People who use medicines may follow a pathway of care that can involve both health and social care services. It is important that medicines are not considered in isolation, but as an integral part of the pathway, and at each step. Problems with the supply of medicines and how information is transferred put people at increased risk of harm when they change from one healthcare setting to another.

A review of records indicated that satisfactory arrangements were in place to manage medicines for new patients. Written confirmation of the patient's medicine regime was obtained at or prior to admission and details shared with the community pharmacy. The medicine records had been accurately completed.

Review of medicines for patients who had a recent hospital stay and were discharged back to this home, showed that hospital discharge letters had been received and a copy had been forwarded to the patients' GPs. The patients' personal medication records had been updated to reflect medication changes which had been initiated during the hospital stay. Medicines had been accurately received into the home and administered in accordance with the most recent directions.

5.2.5 What arrangements are in place to ensure that staff can identify, report and learn from adverse incidents?

Occasionally medicines incidents occur within homes. It is important that there are systems in place which quickly identify that an incident has occurred so that action can be taken to prevent a recurrence and that staff can learn from the incident. A robust audit system will help staff to identify medicine related incidents.

Management and staff were familiar with the type of incidents that should be reported. The medicine related incidents which had been reported to RQIA since the last inspection were discussed. There was evidence that the incidents had been reported to the prescriber for guidance, investigated and the learning shared with staff in order to prevent a recurrence.

The audits completed at the inspection indicated that the medicines were being administered as prescribed.

5.2.6 What measures are in place to ensure that staff in the home are qualified, competent and sufficiently experienced and supported to manage medicines safely?

To ensure that patients are well looked after and receive their medicines appropriately, staff who administer medicines to patients must be appropriately trained. The registered person has a responsibility to check that staff are competent in managing medicines and that they are supported. Policies and procedures should be up to date and readily available for staff reference.

There were records in place to show that staff responsible for medicines management had been trained and deemed competent. Ongoing review was monitored through supervision sessions with staff and at annual appraisal. Medicines management policies and procedures were in place.

6.0 Quality Improvement Plan/Areas for Improvement

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of Areas for Improvement	1*	6*

* The total number of areas for improvement includes seven which are carried forward for review at the next inspection.

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

Quality Improvement Plan

Action required to ensure compliance with The Nursing Home Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005

<p>Area for improvement 1</p> <p>Ref: Regulation 20 (1) (c)</p> <p>Stated: First time</p> <p>To be completed by: 31 October 2023</p>	<p>The registered person shall ensure care staff have up to date mandatory training and there is a system in place to monitor this.</p> <p>This is specifically in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual handling • Adult Safeguarding • Infection Prevention and Control
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Action required to ensure compliance with Care Standards for Nursing Homes, December 2022

<p>Area for improvement 1</p> <p>Ref: Standard 12</p> <p>Stated: Third time</p> <p>To be completed by: With immediate effect (18 September 2023)</p>	<p>The registered person shall ensure that fluid balance charts are totalled daily and evaluated in the patient's progress notes.</p>
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<p>Area for improvement 2</p> <p>Ref: Standard 12</p> <p>Stated: Second time</p> <p>To be completed by: With immediate effect (18 September 2023)</p>	<p>The registered person shall ensure that the daily menu displayed reflects the meals served and is displayed in a suitable format for patients to read or understand it.</p>
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The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

7th Floor, Victoria House
15-27 Gloucester Street
Belfast
BT1 4LS