

Submission for Nurse Care Ratio in Aged Care

To Senator Sharkie and parliamentary members , Thankyou for listening to a Journey that began with working within an aged care sector to becomeing a Carer and watching the transition in Aged care over a 20 year timeframe . Ratios are like a KPI bench mark tick the boxes it must be right we look at bench marks and task orientation to meet the outcome .

However we have lost sight of what many cultures regard as the most important escence in life Elders are revealed not left in the waiting room Marking time .

The staff are only as good as the value that is given them , to not have true person centred care that allows for more than a high burn out rate for those that care bringing in a toxic mix of those that just want to pay the next electricity Bill .

Put a Name to a face and look in the mirror , many have worked hard yet life circumstance means they can't stay at home .

1. Registered Nurse to monitor intergrated care that means high care dementia sundowners and someone that just wants to go home with 1 carer to 15 residents is a melting pot of either frustration that causes even the best to not remain calm .

A home is a persons saftey , take away time to truly care means increased errors it may start with the wrong Hearing AIDS to no time to ensure that water is given preventing confusion due to urinary tract infections , that cause delirium that cause a hospital admission .

When an RN has to cross from one building to another to give care creates a culture of Shh don't call her for that she will get cranky .

RN 'S need to have a well trained team 13 weeks trains the carer to a task not a person centred care . Enrolled nurses need to be what they were trained for , not making clinical decissions of an RN then calling them . High tun over and sick leave means staff are not replaced as Agency staff are to expensive and don't know the residents .

Carers are burning out and feeling guilty because all they need is the right case mix .

My point in essence is Ratio 's are important just as is the right case mix .

Not only does the right Ratio of 2 RN'S 1 EN and 1:7 care ratio for Carer .

The need to look at registered Carers with a Board for misconduct and WWEC- working with Elderrly check be done on all staff and volunteers in care .

Otherwise the home will never truly be a home but a Prison where the voice goes un heard . The inspections will not change the outcome and one day you will be inspecting every facility

For now i am on this Journey again i will know all 58 Residents name and the staff are like family . Please don't let an inquiry just tick the box for i have had half my life saving a life and i just could not stand by this time without giving my mum a voice back as well as some of the dedicated staff on the front line
kind regards Marita O'Callaghan

