# Experion Care NZ Limited – Okere House

## Introduction

This report records the results of a Provisional Audit of a provider of aged residential care services against the Health and Disability Services Standards (NZS8134.1:2008; NZS8134.2:2008 and NZS8134.3:2008).

The audit has been conducted by The DAA Group Limited, an auditing agency designated under section 32 of the Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001, for submission to the Ministry of Health.

The abbreviations used in this report are the same as those specified in section 10 of the Health and Disability Services (General) Standards (NZS8134.0:2008).

You can view a full copy of the standards on the Ministry of Health’s website by clicking [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/certification-health-care-services/health-and-disability-services-standards).

The specifics of this audit included:

**Legal entity:** Experion Care NZ Limited

**Premises audited:** Okere House

**Services audited:** Dementia care

**Dates of audit:** Start date: 11 July 2018 End date: 12 July 2018

**Proposed changes to current services (if any):** None

**Total beds occupied across all premises included in the audit on the first day of the audit:** 19

# Executive summary of the audit

## Introduction

This section contains a summary of the auditors’ findings for this audit. The information is grouped into the six outcome areas contained within the Health and Disability Services Standards:

* consumer rights
* organisational management
* continuum of service delivery (the provision of services)
* safe and appropriate environment
* restraint minimisation and safe practice
* infection prevention and control.

As well as auditors’ written summary, indicators are included that highlight the provider’s attainment against the standards in each of the outcome areas. The following table provides a key to how the indicators are arrived at.

**Key to the indicators**

| **Indicator** | **Description** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Includes commendable elements above the required levels of performance | All standards applicable to this service fully attained with some standards exceeded |
|  | No short falls | Standards applicable to this service fully attained  |
|  | Some minor shortfalls but no major deficiencies and required levels of performance seem achievable without extensive extra activity | Some standards applicable to this service partially attained and of low risk |
|  | A number of shortfalls that require specific action to address | Some standards applicable to this service partially attained and of medium or high risk and/or unattained and of low risk |
|  | Major shortfalls, significant action is needed to achieve the required levels of performance | Some standards applicable to this service unattained and of moderate or high risk |

## General overview of the audit

Okere House provides level three dementia care for up to 25 residents. The service is owned by Okere House Limited and is managed by a facility manager supported by a clinical lead. Families spoke positively about the care provided.

This provisional audit was conducted against the Health and Disability Services Standards and the service’s contract with the district health board. The audit process included review of policies and procedures, review of residents’ and staff files, observations and interviews with the prospective provider, residents, family, management, staff and a general practitioner.

There were no areas requiring improvement identified during this audit.

The audit was conducted prior to the proposed sale of the business. The prospective provider indicated he understands the Age-Related Residential Care (ARRC) agreement and had read and signed this. He reported that he had met with the DHB funding and portfolio managers to discuss the contracts held by Okere House, and says they were complimentary of the current management at the service. He stated that he understands the requirements for managing a dementia care service, the relevance of the restraint minimisation and safe practice standards for a dementia service, and that he intends to upskill himself further regarding these. He was aware that Okere House have a strong restraint minimisation culture. The prospective provider indicated a clear understanding of requirements in relation to staffing as per ARRC D17 including the qualifications of the manager and the employment of registered nurses. The prospective provider and the current staff are prepared for the change of ownership to ensure a seamless transition with no change in service delivery for the residents.

## Consumer rights

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 13 standards that support an outcome where consumers receive safe services of an appropriate standard that comply with consumer rights legislation. Services are provided in a manner that is respectful of consumer rights, facilities, informed choice, minimises harm and acknowledges cultural and individual values and beliefs. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

The Health and Disability Commissioner’s Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights (the Code) is made available to residents and their families. Opportunities to discuss the Code, consent and availability of advocacy services is provided at the time of admission and thereafter as required.

Services are provided that respect the choices, personal privacy, independence, individual needs and dignity of residents and staff were noted to be interacting with residents in a respectful manner.

Care for residents who identify as Maori is guided by a comprehensive Māori health plan and related policies.

There was no evidence of abuse, neglect or discrimination and staff understood and implemented related policies. Professional boundaries are maintained.

Open communication between staff, residents and families is promoted, and confirmed to be effective. There is access to formal interpreting services if required.

The service has linkages with a range of specialist health care providers, which contributes to ensuring services provided to residents are of an appropriate standard.

The facility manager is responsible for the management of complaints and a complaints register is maintained. There have been no new investigations by the Health and Disability Commissioner or other external agencies since the previous audit.

## Organisational management

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 9 standards that support an outcome where consumers receive services that comply with legislation and are managed in a safe, efficient and effective manner. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

Business and quality plans include the scope, direction, goals, values and mission statement of the organisation. Monitoring of the services provided to the governing body is regular and effective. An experienced and suitably qualified person manages the facility.

The quality and risk management system includes collection and analysis of quality improvement data, identifies trends and leads to improvements. Staff are involved, and feedback is sought from residents and families. Adverse events are documented with corrective actions implemented. Actual and potential risks, including health and safety risks, are identified and mitigated. Policies and procedures support service delivery and were current and reviewed regularly.

The appointment, orientation and management of staff is based on current good practice. A systematic approach to identify and deliver ongoing training supports safe service delivery and includes regular individual performance review. Staffing levels and skill mix meet the changing needs of residents.

Residents’ information is accurately recorded, securely stored and not accessible to unauthorised people. Up to date, legible and relevant residents’ records are maintained using integrated hard copy files.

## Continuum of service delivery

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 13 standards that support an outcome where consumers participate in and receive timely assessment, followed by services that are planned, coordinated, and delivered in a timely and appropriate manner, consistent with current legislation. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

The organisation works closely with the local Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination Service, to ensure access to the facility is appropriate and efficiently managed. When a vacancy occurs, sufficient and relevant information is provided to the potential resident/family to facilitate the admission.

Residents’ needs are assessed by the multidisciplinary team on admission within the required timeframes. Shift handovers and communication sheets guide continuity of care.

Care plans are individualised, based on a comprehensive and integrated range of clinical information. Short term care plans are developed to manage any new problems that might arise. All residents’ files reviewed demonstrated that needs, goals and outcomes are identified and reviewed on a regular basis. Residents and families interviewed reported being well informed and involved in care planning and evaluation, and that the care provided is of a high standard. Residents are referred or transferred to other health services as required, with appropriate verbal and written handovers.

The planned activity programme is overseen by a diversional therapist and provides residents with a variety of individual and group activities and maintains their links with the community. A facility van is available for outings.

Medicines are managed according to policies and procedures based on current good practice and consistently implemented using an electronic system. Medications are administered by registered nurses and care staff, all of whom have been assessed as competent to do so.

The food service meets the nutritional needs of the residents with special needs catered for. Policies guide food service delivery supported by staff with food safety qualifications. The kitchen was well organised, clean and meets food safety standards. Residents and family members verified overall satisfaction with meals.

## Safe and appropriate environment

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 8 standards that support an outcome where services are provided in a clean, safe environment that is appropriate to the age/needs of the consumer, ensure physical privacy is maintained, has adequate space and amenities to facilitate independence, is in a setting appropriate to the consumer group and meets the needs of people with disabilities. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

The facility meets the needs of residents and was clean and well maintained. There is a current building warrant of fitness. Electrical equipment is tested as required. Communal and individual spaces are maintained at a comfortable temperature. External areas are accessible, safe and provide shade and seating.

Waste and hazardous substances are well managed. Staff use protective equipment and clothing. Chemicals, soiled linen and equipment are safely stored. Laundry is undertaken onsite and evaluated for effectiveness.

Staff are trained in emergency procedures, use of emergency equipment and supplies and attend regular fire drills. Fire evacuation procedures are regularly practised. Families reported a timely staff response to call bells. Security is maintained.

## Restraint minimisation and safe practice

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 3 standards that support outcomes where consumers receive and experience services in the least restrictive and safe manner through restraint minimisation. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

The organisation has implemented policies and procedures that support the minimisation of restraint. No enablers or restraints were in use at the time of audit. A comprehensive assessment, approval and monitoring process with regular reviews is documented should it be required. Staff demonstrated a sound knowledge and understanding of the restraint and enabler processes.

## Infection prevention and control

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| Includes 6 standards that support an outcome which minimises the risk of infection to consumers, service providers and visitors. Infection control policies and procedures are practical, safe and appropriate for the type of service provided and reflect current accepted good practice and legislative requirements. The organisation provides relevant education on infection control to all service providers and consumers. Surveillance for infection is carried out as specified in the infection control programme. |  | Standards applicable to this service fully attained. |

The infection prevention and control programme, led by an experienced and appropriately trained infection control co-ordinator, aims to prevent and manage infections. Specialist infection prevention and control advice is accessed from the district health board, and an external provider. The programme is reviewed annually.

Staff demonstrated good principles and practice around infection control, guided by relevant policies and supported with regular education.

Aged care specific infection surveillance is undertaken, analysed and trended. Results are reported through all levels of the organisation. Follow-up action is taken as and when required.

## Summary of attainment

The following table summarises the number of standards and criteria audited and the ratings they were awarded.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attainment Rating** | **Continuous Improvement****(CI)** | **Fully Attained****(FA)** | **Partially Attained Negligible Risk****(PA Negligible)** | **Partially Attained Low Risk****(PA Low)** | **Partially Attained Moderate Risk****(PA Moderate)** | **Partially Attained High Risk****(PA High)** | **Partially Attained Critical Risk****(PA Critical)** |
| **Standards** | 0 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Criteria** | 0 | 94 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attainment Rating** | **Unattained Negligible Risk****(UA Negligible)** | **Unattained Low Risk****(UA Low)** | **Unattained Moderate Risk****(UA Moderate)** | **Unattained High Risk****(UA High)** | **Unattained Critical Risk****(UA Critical)** |
| **Standards** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Criteria** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Attainment against the Health and Disability Services Standards

The following table contains the results of all the standards assessed by the auditors at this audit. Depending on the services they provide, not all standards are relevant to all providers and not all standards are assessed at every audit.

Please note that Standard 1.3.3: Service Provision Requirements has been removed from this report, as it includes information specific to the healthcare of individual residents. Any corrective actions required relating to this standard, as a result of this audit, are retained and displayed in the next section.

For more information on the standards, please click [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/certification-health-care-services/health-and-disability-services-standards).

For more information on the different types of audits and what they cover please click [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/services-and-support/health-care-services/services-older-people/rest-home-certification-and-audits).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Standard with desired outcome** | **Attainment Rating** | **Audit Evidence** |
| Standard 1.1.1: Consumer Rights During Service DeliveryConsumers receive services in accordance with consumer rights legislation. | FA | Okere House has developed policies, procedures and processes to meet its obligations in relation to the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights (the Code). Staff interviewed understood the requirements of the Code and were observed demonstrating respectful communication, encouraging independence, providing options and maintaining dignity and privacy. Training on the Code is included as part of the orientation process for all staff employed and in ongoing training sessions presented by the local Health and Disability Commissioner’s (HDC) representative, as was verified in training records. |
| Standard 1.1.10: Informed ConsentConsumers and where appropriate their family/whānau of choice are provided with the information they need to make informed choices and give informed consent. | FA | Nursing and care staff interviewed understood the principles and practice of informed consent. Informed consent policies provide relevant guidance to staff. Clinical files reviewed showed that informed consent has been gained appropriately using the organisation’s standard consent form including for photographs, outings, invasive procedures and collection of health information. Advance care planning, establishing and documenting enduring power of attorney requirements and processes for residents unable to consent is defined and documented where relevant in the resident’s file. All residents, except for one, had an EPOA in place. The resident without an EPOA in place has appropriate strategies in place to manage this situation.Staff were observed to gain consent for day to day care on an ongoing basis. |
| Standard 1.1.11: Advocacy And SupportService providers recognise and facilitate the right of consumers to advocacy/support persons of their choice. | FA | During the admission process, residents, their EPOAs and family members are given a copy of the Code, which also includes information on the Advocacy Service. Posters related to the Advocacy Service were also displayed in the facility, and additional brochures were available at reception. Family members and EPOAs spoken with were aware of the Advocacy Service, how to access this and their right to have support persons.Staff were aware of how to access the Advocacy Service.  |
| Standard 1.1.12: Links With Family/Whānau And Other Community ResourcesConsumers are able to maintain links with their family/whānau and their community.  | FA | Residents are assisted to maximise their potential for self-help and to maintain links with their family and the community by attending a variety of organised outings, visits, shopping trips, activities, and entertainment. The facility has unrestricted visiting hours and encourages visits from residents’ families and friends. Family members and EPOAs interviewed stated they felt very welcome when they visited and comfortable in their dealings with staff. |
| Standard 1.1.13: Complaints Management The right of the consumer to make a complaint is understood, respected, and upheld.  | FA | The complaints policy and associated forms meet the requirements of Right 10 of the Code. Information on the complaint process is provided to residents and families on admission and those interviewed knew how to do so. The complaints register reviewed showed that two complaints have been received since the last audit and that actions taken, through to an agreed resolution, are documented and completed within the timeframes. Action plans show any required follow up and improvements have been made where possible. The manager is responsible for complaints management and works with the clinical lead to follow up. All staff interviewed confirmed a sound understanding of the complaint process and what actions are required. There have been no complaints received from external sources since the previous audit. |
| Standard 1.1.2: Consumer Rights During Service DeliveryConsumers are informed of their rights. | FA | Residents and family interviewed report being made aware of the Code and the Nationwide Health and Disability Advocacy Service (Advocacy Service) as part of the admission information provided and discussion with staff. The Code is displayed in common areas together with information on advocacy services, how to make a complaint and feedback forms. Interview with the prospective provider verified knowledge and understanding regarding the provider’s obligation to adhere to the Code.  |
| Standard 1.1.3: Independence, Personal Privacy, Dignity, And RespectConsumers are treated with respect and receive services in a manner that has regard for their dignity, privacy, and independence. | FA | Residents, their enduring power of attorney (EPOA) and families confirmed that they receive services in a manner that has regard for their dignity, privacy, sexuality, spirituality and choices. Staff understood the need to maintain privacy and were observed doing so throughout the audit, when attending to personal care, ensuring resident information is held securely and privately, exchanging verbal information and discussions with families and the general practitioner (GP). All residents have a private room.Residents are encouraged to maintain their independence by participating in community activities, regular outings to the local shops or areas of interest and participation in clubs of their choosing. Each plan included documentation related to the resident’s abilities, and strategies to maximise independence. Records reviewed confirmed that each resident’s individual cultural, religious and social needs, values and beliefs had been identified, documented and incorporated into their care plan. Staff understood the service’s policy on abuse and neglect, including what to do should there be any signs. Education on abuse and neglect is part of the orientation programme for staff, and is then provided on an annual basis, as confirmed by staff and training. |
| Standard 1.1.4: Recognition Of Māori Values And BeliefsConsumers who identify as Māori have their health and disability needs met in a manner that respects and acknowledges their individual and cultural, values and beliefs. | FA | There are five Maori residents in Okere House, however at the time of audit only three of these five identify as Māori. Documentation and interviews verify staff support residents who identify as Māori to integrate their cultural values and beliefs. The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are incorporated into day to day practice, as is the importance of whānau to Māori residents. There is a current Māori health plan developed with input from cultural advisers. |
| Standard 1.1.6: Recognition And Respect Of The Individual's Culture, Values, And BeliefsConsumers receive culturally safe services which recognise and respect their ethnic, cultural, spiritual values, and beliefs.  | FA | Residents, family members and EPOAs verified that they were consulted on their/the resident’s individual culture, values and beliefs and that staff respect these. Interviews also identified family members and EPOAs expressing a high level of satisfaction regarding how ‘welcoming and open’ staff at Okere House were when they visited. On interview they reported that they ‘loved their family member being at Okere House’ and that they appreciated the approachable manner of the facility manager (FM) and clinical leader (CL). Residents’ personal preferences, required interventions and special needs were included in all care plans reviewed, for example, food likes and dislikes and attention to preferences around activities of daily living.A resident/family satisfaction questionnaire included evaluation of how well residents’ cultural needs are met, and this supported that individual needs are being met.  |
| Standard 1.1.7: DiscriminationConsumers are free from any discrimination, coercion, harassment, sexual, financial, or other exploitation. | FA | Residents, EPOAs and family members interviewed stated that residents were free from any type of discrimination, harassment or exploitation and felt safe. A GP also expressed satisfaction with the standard of services provided to residents. The induction process for staff includes education related to professional boundaries and expected behaviours. All registered nurses (RN’s) have records of completion of the required training on professional boundaries. Staff are provided with a Copy of the House Rules, as part of their individual employment contract. Ongoing education is also provided on an annual basis, which was confirmed in staff training records. Staff are guided by policies and procedures and, when interviewed, demonstrated a clear understanding of what would constitute inappropriate behaviour and the processes they would follow should they suspect this was occurring.  |
| Standard 1.1.8: Good PracticeConsumers receive services of an appropriate standard. | FA | The service encourages and promotes good practice through evidence-based policies, input from external specialist services and allied health professionals, for example, services for older people, a psycho-geriatrician and mental health services for older persons, speech language therapists, and education of staff. The GP confirmed the service sought prompt and appropriate medical intervention when required and were responsive to medical requests. Staff reported they receive management support for external education and access to on-line forums, to support contemporary good practice.Other examples of good practice observed during the audit included a ‘stress-free’ environment, with a prompt responsiveness to the de-escalation of potential stressful situations. Staff were calm, respectful and gentle in their approach to residents. Routines were attended to in a relaxed calm manner. Commitment to ongoing improvement in the care provided was evident through an ongoing initiative aimed at a reduction in the use of antipsychotic and associated medications, and comments by family members and EPOAs regarding improvements in the services since the appointment of the present FM and CL. |
| Standard 1.1.9: CommunicationService providers communicate effectively with consumers and provide an environment conducive to effective communication. | FA | Residents, EPOAs and family members stated they were kept well informed about any changes to their own or their relative’s status, were advised in a timely manner about any incidents or accidents and outcomes of regular and any urgent medical reviews. This was supported in residents’ records reviewed. There was also evidence of family input into the care planning process. Staff understood the principles of open disclosure, which was supported by policies and procedures that meet the requirements of the Code.Residents, EPOAs and family members interviewed verified they were being kept well informed of the proposed sale of the business. Interpreter services can be accessed via Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB) when required. Staff reported interpreter services were rarely required due to all present residents being able to speak English. |
| Standard 1.2.1: GovernanceThe governing body of the organisation ensures services are planned, coordinated, and appropriate to the needs of consumers. | FA | The strategic and business plans, which have been reviewed annually and prior to the proposed sale, outline the purpose, values, scope, direction and goals of the organisation. The documents described annual and longer-term objectives and the associated operational plans. Monthly reports to the owner provide information to monitor performance including financial performance, emerging risks and issues. The service is managed by a facility manager who holds relevant qualifications and has been in the role for four years. Responsibilities and accountabilities are defined in a job description and individual employment agreement. The facility manager confirmed knowledge of the sector, regulatory and reporting requirements and maintains currency through attendance at relevant health sector conferences, seminars and the local aged care residential forum. The service holds contracts with the DHB, for stage three dementia care, respite and younger person with a disability (YPD) services. On the day of audit 16 residents were receiving stage three dementia services, two residents were receiving dementia services under the YPD contract and one person was receiving respite care. The service has 25 beds.Interview with the prospective provider indicates the current management structure will remain in place for the next six months. He reported no changes to personnel are intended in the short to medium term, including the registered nurse hours. Staff have been informed of the situation and are aware they will have one on one interviews with the new owner as part of the simple transition process. The transition plan timeline has commenced with notification letters to suppliers and residents’ families. The prospective provider has contacted and met with the relevant funder (that is, DHB) in regard to the proposed purchase. |
| Standard 1.2.2: Service Management The organisation ensures the day-to-day operation of the service is managed in an efficient and effective manner which ensures the provision of timely, appropriate, and safe services to consumers.  | FA | When the facility manager is absent, the clinical lead carries out all the required duties under delegated authority. During absences of key clinical staff, the clinical management is overseen by a registered nurse who is experienced in the sector and able to take responsibility for any clinical issues that may arise. Staff reported the current arrangements work well.The service management reflects a resident and family centred approach as indicated in the values of the organisation.The prospective owner stated service management, including staffing leave arrangements, will remain the same. |
| Standard 1.2.3: Quality And Risk Management SystemsThe organisation has an established, documented, and maintained quality and risk management system that reflects continuous quality improvement principles. | FA | The organisation has a planned quality and risk system that reflects the principles of continuous quality improvement. This includes management of incidents and complaints, audit activities, a regular family satisfaction survey, monitoring of outcomes, clinical incidents including infections, falls, medication errors, behavioural challenges and pressure injuries. Meeting minutes reviewed confirmed regular review and analysis of quality indicators and that related information is reported and discussed at the various team meetings, the quality meetings and staff meetings. Staff reported their involvement in quality and risk management activities through audit activities, and in response to incidents and complaints. Relevant corrective actions are developed and implemented to address any shortfalls. Resident and family satisfaction surveys are completed annually. The most recent survey, completed prior to the last audit, showed satisfaction with the services provided.Policies reviewed cover all necessary aspects of the service and contractual requirements, including reference to the interRAI Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) assessment tool and process. Policies are based on best practice and were current. The document control system ensures a systematic and regular review process, referencing of relevant sources, approval, distribution and removal of obsolete documents. The facility manager described the processes for the identification, monitoring, review and reporting of risks and development of mitigation strategies. The manager is familiar with the Health and Safety at Work Act (2015) and has implemented requirements. The prospective provider understands the need for an annual quality plan and a quality management system. He has indicated the plan and system used in his other services will be offered to the facility manager for consideration and use as a quality improvement framework. The prospective owner indicated there is no intention to change the current compliant operational policies and procedures at this time. |
| Standard 1.2.4: Adverse Event Reporting All adverse, unplanned, or untoward events are systematically recorded by the service and reported to affected consumers and where appropriate their family/whānau of choice in an open manner.  | FA | Staff document adverse and near miss events on an accident/incident form. A sample of incidents forms reviewed showed these were fully completed, incidents were investigated, action plans developed and actions followed-up in a timely manner. Adverse event data is collated, analysed and reported to the owner and staff through the monthly meetings.The facility manager described essential notification reporting requirements, including for pressure injuries. They advised there have been three notifications of significant events made to the Ministry of Health/DHB, since the previous audit.The prospective provider reports there are no known legislative compliance issues that could affect the service. |
| Standard 1.2.7: Human Resource Management Human resource management processes are conducted in accordance with good employment practice and meet the requirements of legislation.  | FA | Human resources management policies and processes are based on good employment practice and relevant legislation. The recruitment process includes referee checks, police vetting and validation of qualifications and practising certificates (APCs), where required. A sample of staff records reviewed confirmed the organisation’s policies are being consistently implemented and records are maintained.Staff orientation includes all necessary components relevant to the role. Staff reported that the orientation process prepared them well for their role. Staff records reviewed show documentation of completed orientation and a performance review after a three-month period. Continuing education is planned on an annual basis, including mandatory training requirements. Care staff have either completed or commenced a New Zealand Qualification Authority education programme to meet the requirements of the provider’s agreement with the DHB. The facility manager is the internal assessor for the programme. Fifteen staff have completed the required dementia care education and two new staff are to be enrolled at their three-month review. There are sufficient trained and competent registered nurses who are maintaining their annual competency requirements to undertake interRAI assessments. Records reviewed demonstrated completion of the required training and completion of annual performance appraisals. |
| Standard 1.2.8: Service Provider Availability Consumers receive timely, appropriate, and safe service from suitably qualified/skilled and/or experienced service providers. | FA | There is a documented and implemented process for determining staffing levels and skill mixes to provide safe service delivery, 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7). The facility adjusts staffing levels to meet the changing needs of residents. An afterhours on call roster is in place, with staff reporting that good access to advice is available when needed. Care staff reported there were adequate staff available to complete the work allocated to them. Family interviewed supported this. Observations and review of a four-week roster cycle confirmed adequate staff cover has been provided, with staff replaced in any unplanned absence. At least one staff member on duty has a current first aid certificate and there is 24/7 RN available on call for the home.The prospective provider confirmed he will maintain the current policy regarding staff skill mix which considers contractual obligations and the acuity of residents. |
| Standard 1.2.9: Consumer Information Management Systems Consumer information is uniquely identifiable, accurately recorded, current, confidential, and accessible when required. | FA | The resident’s name, date of birth and National Health Index (NHI) number are used as the unique identifier on all residents’ information sighted. All necessary demographic, personal, clinical and health information was fully completed in the residents’ files sampled for review. Clinical notes were current and integrated with GP and allied health service provider notes. Records were legible with the name and designation of the person making the entry identifiable.Archived records are held securely on site and are readily retrievable using a cataloguing system. Residents’ files are held for the required period before being destroyed. No personal or private resident information was on public display during the audit. |
| Standard 1.3.1: Entry To Services Consumers' entry into services is facilitated in a competent, equitable, timely, and respectful manner, when their need for services has been identified. | FA | Residents enter the service when their required level of care has been assessed and confirmed by the local Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) Service. Prospective residents and their families/EPOAs are encouraged to visit the facility prior to admission and meet with the clinical leader (CL). They are also provided with written information about the service and the admission process. Specialist referrals to the service and consents by the EPOAs is sighted in the files reviewed. Family members interviewed stated they were satisfied with the admission process and the information that had been made available to them at the time of admission. Files reviewed contained completed demographic details, assessments and signed admission agreements in accordance with contractual requirements. |
| Standard 1.3.10: Transition, Exit, Discharge, Or Transfer Consumers experience a planned and coordinated transition, exit, discharge, or transfer from services.  | FA | Exit, discharge or transfer is managed in a planned and co-ordinated manner, with an escort as appropriate. The service uses a transfer form to facilitate transfer of residents to and from acute care services. There is open communication between all services, the resident and the family. At the time of transition between services, appropriate information, including medication records and the care plan is provided for the ongoing management of the resident. All referrals are documented in the progress notes. An example reviewed of a patient recently transferred to the local acute care facility showed transfer was managed in a planned and co-ordinated manner. |
| Standard 1.3.12: Medicine Management Consumers receive medicines in a safe and timely manner that complies with current legislative requirements and safe practice guidelines. | FA | The medication management policy is current and identifies all aspects of medicine management in line with the Medicines Care Guide for Residential Aged Care. A safe system for medicine management using an electronic system was observed on the day of audit. The staff observed demonstrated good knowledge and had a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities related to each stage of medicine management. All staff who administer medicines are competent to perform the function they manage. Medications are supplied to the facility in a pre-packaged format from a contracted pharmacy. These medications are checked by a RN against the prescription. All medications sighted were within current use by dates. Clinical pharmacist input is provided on request. Controlled drugs are stored securely in accordance with requirements. Controlled drugs are checked by two staff for accuracy in administration. The controlled drug register provided evidence of weekly and six-monthly stock checks and accurate entries.The records of temperatures for the medicine fridge and the medication room reviewed were within the recommended range. Good prescribing practices noted include the prescriber’s signature and date recorded on the commencement and discontinuation of medicines and all requirements for pro re nata (PRN) medicines met. The required three-monthly GP review was consistently recorded on the electronic medicine chart. There were no residents who self-administer medications at the time of audit.Medication errors are reported to the CL and recorded on an accident/incident form. The resident and/or the designated representative are advised. There is a process for comprehensive analysis of any medication errors, and compliance with this process was verified. Standing orders are not used. |
| Standard 1.3.13: Nutrition, Safe Food, And Fluid ManagementA consumer's individual food, fluids and nutritional needs are met where this service is a component of service delivery.  | FA | The food service is provided on site by a cook and is in line with recognised nutritional guidelines for older people. The menu follows summer and winter patterns and has been reviewed by a qualified dietitian (June 2018). Recommendations made at that time have been implemented. A food control plan has been lodged with Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) in conjunction with Aged Care Association of NZ. The service is waiting acknowledgement the plan has been registered.All aspects of food procurement, production, preparation, storage, transportation, delivery and disposal comply with current legislation and guidelines. Food temperatures, including for high risk items, are monitored appropriately and recorded as part of the plan. The cook has undertaken a safe food handling qualification, with kitchen assistants completing relevant food handling training.A nutritional assessment is undertaken for each resident on admission to the facility and a dietary profile developed. The personal food preferences, any special diets and modified texture requirements are made known to kitchen staff and accommodated in the daily meal plan. Special equipment, to meet resident’s nutritional needs, is available.Evidence of resident satisfaction with meals was verified by residents, EPOAs and family interviews, satisfaction surveys and resident meeting minutes. Any areas of dissatisfaction were promptly responded to. Residents were seen to be given time to eat their meal in an unhurried fashion and those requiring assistance had this provided. There were sufficient staff on duty in the dining rooms at meal times to ensure appropriate assistance was available to residents as needed. Access to food items for residents are available always. |
| Standard 1.3.2: Declining Referral/Entry To Services Where referral/entry to the service is declined, the immediate risk to the consumer and/or their family/whānau is managed by the organisation, where appropriate.  | FA | If a referral is received, but the prospective resident does not meet the entry criteria or there is currently no vacancy, the local NASC is advised to ensure the prospective resident, EPOA and family are supported to find an appropriate care alternative. If the needs of a resident change and they are no longer suitable for the services offered, a referral for reassessment to the NASC is made and a new placement found, in consultation with the resident and whānau/family. Examples of this occurring were discussed with the CL. There is a clause in the access agreement related to when a resident’s placement can be terminated. |
| Standard 1.3.4: Assessment Consumers' needs, support requirements, and preferences are gathered and recorded in a timely manner. | FA | On admission, residents of Okere House are initially assessed using a range of nursing assessment tools, such as pain scale, falls risk, skin integrity, nutritional screening and depression scale, to identify any deficits and to inform initial care planning. Within three weeks of admission residents are assessed using the interRAI assessment tool, to inform longer term care planning. Reassessment using the interRAI assessment tool, in conjunction with additional assessment data, occurs every six months or more frequently if a resident’s changing condition requires this.In all files reviewed initial assessments were completed as per the policy and within 24 hours of admission. InterRAI assessments are completed within three weeks of admission and at least six monthly, unless the resident’s condition changes. Interviews, documentation and observation verified the RNs are familiar with the requirement for reassessment of a resident using the interRAI assessment tool when a resident has increasing or a changing level of needs. All residents have current interRAI assessments completed by the two trained interRAI assessors on site. InterRAI assessments are used to inform the care plan. |
| Standard 1.3.5: Planning Consumers' service delivery plans are consumer focused, integrated, and promote continuity of service delivery. | FA | Plans reviewed reflected the support needs of residents, and the outcomes of the integrated assessment process and other relevant clinical information. The needs identified by the interRAI assessments were reflected in the care plans reviewed. All files reviewed included a psychological health plan, that included management strategies to maximise residents’ psychological comfort, including de-escalating strategies to manage episodes of challenging behaviour.Care plans evidenced service integration with progress notes, activities notes, medical and allied health professional’s notations clearly written, informative and relevant. Any change in care required was documented and verbally passed on to relevant staff. EPOAs and families reported participation in the development and ongoing evaluation of care plans.  |
| Standard 1.3.6: Service Delivery/Interventions Consumers receive adequate and appropriate services in order to meet their assessed needs and desired outcomes. | FA | Documentation, observations and interviews verified the provision of care to residents was consistent with their needs, goals and the plan of care. The attention to meeting a diverse range of resident’s individualised needs was evident in all areas of service provision. The GP interviewed, verified that medical input is sought in a timely manner, that medical orders are followed, and care is of a high standard. Care staff confirmed that care was provided as outlined in the documentation. A range of equipment and resources was available, suited to the level of care provided and in accordance with the residents’ needs. |
| Standard 1.3.7: Planned ActivitiesWhere specified as part of the service delivery plan for a consumer, activity requirements are appropriate to their needs, age, culture, and the setting of the service. | FA | The activities programme is provided by a diversional therapist and a recreation officer. Activities are provided every day of the week.A social assessment and history is undertaken on admission to ascertain residents’ needs, interests, abilities and social requirements. A twenty-four-hour activity and behaviour management plan is developed for each resident. Activities assessments are regularly reviewed to help formulate an activity programme that is meaningful to the residents. The resident’s activity needs are evaluated regularly and as part of the formal six-monthly care plan review. The planned monthly activities programme sighted matches the skills, likes, dislikes and interests identified in assessment data. Activities reflected residents’ goals, ordinary patterns of life and include normal community activities. Individual, group activities and regular events are offered. Examples include outings to the cosmopolitan club, visits to other rest homes, visits to the beach and rural outings, visiting entertainers, school visits, visits by kapa haka groups, quiz sessions and daily news updates. The activities programme is discussed at the minuted residents’ and family meetings and indicated residents’ EPOAs and family input is sought and responded to. Resident and family satisfaction surveys demonstrated satisfaction and that information is used to improve the range of activities offered. EPOAs, residents and families interviewed confirmed they find the programme meets their needs. |
| Standard 1.3.8: Evaluation Consumers' service delivery plans are evaluated in a comprehensive and timely manner. | FA | Resident care is evaluated on each shift and reported in the progress notes. If any change is noted, it is reported to the RN. Formal care plan evaluations occur every six months in conjunction with the six-monthly interRAI reassessment or as residents’ needs change. Evaluations are documented by the RN. Where progress is different from expected, the service responds by initiating changes to the plan of care. Examples of short term care plans were reviewed for behaviour management, infections, pain, and weight loss and demonstrated progress was evaluated as clinically indicated and according to the degree of risk noted during the assessment process. Other plans, such as wound management plans were evaluated each time the dressing was changed. Families/whānau and EPOAs interviewed provided examples of involvement in evaluation of progress and any resulting changes. |
| Standard 1.3.9: Referral To Other Health And Disability Services (Internal And External)Consumer support for access or referral to other health and/or disability service providers is appropriately facilitated, or provided to meet consumer choice/needs.  | FA | Residents are supported to access or seek referral to other health and/or disability service providers. Although the service has a main medical provider, residents/family members may choose to use another medical practitioner. If the need for other non-urgent services are indicated or requested, the GP or RN sends a referral to seek specialist input. Copies of referrals were sighted in residents’ files, including to older persons’ mental health services. Referrals are followed up on a regular basis by the RN or the GP. The resident, EPOA and the family are kept informed of the referral process, as verified by documentation and interviews. Any acute/urgent referrals are attended to immediately, such as sending the resident to accident and emergency in an ambulance if the circumstances dictate. |
| Standard 1.4.1: Management Of Waste And Hazardous Substances Consumers, visitors, and service providers are protected from harm as a result of exposure to waste, infectious or hazardous substances, generated during service delivery. | FA | Staff follow documented processes for the management of waste and infectious and hazardous substances. Appropriate signage is displayed where necessary. There is a designated maintenance person who ensures minimum quantities of hazardous substances are held onsite. An external company is contracted to supply and manage all chemicals and cleaning products and they also provide relevant training for staff. Material safety data sheets were available where chemicals were stored, and staff interviewed knew what to do should any chemical spill/event occur. There is provision and availability of protective clothing and equipment and staff were observed using this. |
| Standard 1.4.2: Facility Specifications Consumers are provided with an appropriate, accessible physical environment and facilities that are fit for their purpose. | FA | A current building warrant of fitness (expiry date 22 June 2019) is publicly displayed. Appropriate systems are in place to ensure the residents’ physical environment and facilities are fit for their purpose and maintained. The testing and tagging of electrical equipment and calibration of bio medical equipment is current as confirmed in documentation reviewed, interviews with maintenance personnel and observation of the environment. Efforts are made to ensure the environment is hazard free, that residents are safe and independence is promoted.External areas are safely maintained and were appropriate to the resident group and setting. The walking paths are designed to encourage purposeful walking around the garden.Staff, family members/EPOA confirmed they knew the processes they should follow if any repairs or maintenance was required, that any requests are appropriately actioned and that they were happy with the environment.The prospective provider indicated that following the building report he commissioned, he does not intend to make any environmental changes to the service. |
| Standard 1.4.3: Toilet, Shower, And Bathing FacilitiesConsumers are provided with adequate toilet/shower/bathing facilities. Consumers are assured privacy when attending to personal hygiene requirements or receiving assistance with personal hygiene requirements. | FA | There are adequate numbers of shared accessible bathroom and toilet facilities throughout the facility. This includes six toilets and three showers. Appropriately secured and approved handrails are provided in the toilet/shower areas, and other equipment/accessories are available to promote resident independence. |
| Standard 1.4.4: Personal Space/Bed Areas Consumers are provided with adequate personal space/bed areas appropriate to the consumer group and setting.  | FA | Adequate personal space is provided to allow residents and staff to move around within their bedrooms safely. All bedrooms provide single accommodation. Rooms are personalised with furnishings, photos and other personal items displayed.There is room to store mobility aids, wheel chairs and mobility scooters. Staff and family reported the adequacy of bedrooms. |
| Standard 1.4.5: Communal Areas For Entertainment, Recreation, And DiningConsumers are provided with safe, adequate, age appropriate, and accessible areas to meet their relaxation, activity, and dining needs. | FA | Communal areas are available for residents to engage in activities. The dining and lounge areas are spacious and enable easy access for residents and staff. Residents can access areas for privacy, if required. Furniture is appropriate to the setting and residents’ needs. |
| Standard 1.4.6: Cleaning And Laundry ServicesConsumers are provided with safe and hygienic cleaning and laundry services appropriate to the setting in which the service is being provided. | FA | Laundry is undertaken on site in a dedicated laundry and by family members if requested. Care staff demonstrated a sound knowledge of the laundry processes, dirty/clean flow and handling of soiled linen. Family interviewed reported the laundry is managed well and the residents’ clothes are returned in a timely manner.There is a small experienced designated cleaning team who have received appropriate training. Chemicals were stored in a lockable cupboard and were in appropriately labelled containers. Cleaning and laundry processes are monitored through monthly meetings, regular feedback from staff and the internal audit programme. |
| Standard 1.4.7: Essential, Emergency, And Security Systems Consumers receive an appropriate and timely response during emergency and security situations. | FA | Policies and guidelines for emergency planning, preparation and response are displayed and known to staff. Emergency planning considers the unique needs of people with dementia. Disaster and civil defence planning guides direct the facility in their preparation for disasters and described the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire or other emergency. The current fire evacuation plan was approved by the New Zealand Fire Service in 2001. The facility has sprinklers, fire hoses and extinguishers throughout. A trial evacuation takes place six-monthly with a copy sent to the New Zealand Fire Service, the most recent being in April this year (2018). The orientation programme includes fire and security training. Staff confirmed their awareness of the emergency procedures.Adequate supplies for use in the event of a civil defence emergency, including food, water, blankets, mobile phones and gas BBQ’s were sighted and meet the requirements for the 19 residents. Water storage tanks are located around the complex, and there is a generator available if required. Emergency lighting is regularly tested.Call bells and sensor mats alert staff to residents requiring assistance. Call system audits are completed on a regular basis and families reported staff respond promptly to call bells.Appropriate security arrangements are in place. Doors and windows are locked at a predetermined time and staff do security checks at night. |
| Standard 1.4.8: Natural Light, Ventilation, And Heating Consumers are provided with adequate natural light, safe ventilation, and an environment that is maintained at a safe and comfortable temperature. | FA | All residents’ rooms and communal areas are heated and ventilated appropriately. Rooms have natural light, opening external windows and communal areas have doors that open onto secure outside garden areas. Heating is provided by heat pads in the ceiling in residents’ rooms and in the communal areas. Areas were warm and well ventilated throughout the audit and families confirmed the facilities are maintained at a comfortable temperature. |
| Standard 3.1: Infection control managementThere is a managed environment, which minimises the risk of infection to consumers, service providers, and visitors. This shall be appropriate to the size and scope of the service.  | FA | The service provides a managed environment that minimises the risk of infection to residents, staff and visitors by the implementation of an appropriate infection prevention and control (IPC) programme. Infection control management is guided by a comprehensive and current infection control manual, developed at organisational level with input from the infection control nurse (ICN) at the WDHB and an external advisor. The infection control programme and manual are reviewed annually. The CL is the designated infection control nurse coordinator, whose role and responsibilities are defined in a job description. Infection control matters, including surveillance results, are reported monthly and tabled at the monthly quality/risk and staff meetings. Infection control statistics are recorded in hard copy and graphed monthly for comparison against the previous months and previous years data. The facility owner is informed of infection control data at the monthly management meetings.Signage at the main entrance to the facility requests anyone who is or has been unwell in the past 48 hours not to enter the facility. The infection control manual provides guidance for staff about how long they must stay away from work if they have been unwell. Staff interviewed understood these related responsibilities. |
| Standard 3.2: Implementing the infection control programmeThere are adequate human, physical, and information resources to implement the infection control programme and meet the needs of the organisation. | FA | The infection control co-ordinator (ICC) has appropriate skills, knowledge and qualifications for the role, and has attended numerous study days on IC, as verified in training records sighted. Well-established local networks with the infection control team at the DHB are available and expert advice from an external advisor is available if additional support/information is required. The coordinator has access to residents’ records and diagnostic results to ensure timely treatment and resolution of any infections.The ICC confirmed the availability of resources to support the programme and any outbreak of an infection. |
| Standard 3.3: Policies and proceduresDocumented policies and procedures for the prevention and control of infection reflect current accepted good practice and relevant legislative requirements and are readily available and are implemented in the organisation. These policies and procedures are practical, safe, and appropriate/suitable for the type of service provided. | FA | The IPC policies reflect the requirements of the IPC standard and current accepted good practice. Policies were reviewed within the last year and included appropriate referencing. Care delivery, cleaning, laundry and kitchen staff were observed following organisational policies, such as appropriate use of hand-sanitisers, good hand-washing technique and use of disposable aprons and gloves, as was appropriate. Hand washing and sanitiser dispensers are readily available around the facility. Staff interviewed verified knowledge of infection control policies and practices.  |
| Standard 3.4: Education The organisation provides relevant education on infection control to all service providers, support staff, and consumers. | FA | Priorities for staff education are outlined in the infection control programme annual plan. Interviews, observation and documentation verified staff have received education in IPC at orientation and ongoing education sessions. Education is provided by the ICC. Content of the training was documented and evaluated to ensure it was relevant, current and understood. A record of attendance was maintained. When an infection outbreak or an increase in infection incidence has occurred, there was evidence that additional staff education has been provided in response. An example of this occurred when there was a recent increase in urinary tract infections. Education with residents is generally on a one-to-one basis and has included reminders about handwashing, advice about remaining in their room if they are unwell and increasing fluids during hot weather. |
| Standard 3.5: SurveillanceSurveillance for infection is carried out in accordance with agreed objectives, priorities, and methods that have been specified in the infection control programme. | FA | Surveillance of infections at Okere House is appropriate to that recommended for long term care facilities, with infection definitions reflecting a focus on symptoms rather than laboratory results. These include urinary tract, soft tissue, fungal, eye, gastro-intestinal, the upper and lower respiratory tract and scabies. When an infection is identified, a record of this is documented in the resident’s clinical record. New infections and any required management plan are discussed at handover, to ensure early intervention occurs. The ICC reviews all reported infections. Monthly surveillance data is collated and analysed to identify any trends, possible causative factors and required actions. Results of the surveillance programme are shared with staff via quality and staff meetings and at staff handovers. Surveillance data is entered in the organisation’s hard copy infection database. Graphs are produced that identify trends for the current year, and comparisons against previous years.  |
| Standard 2.1.1: Restraint minimisationServices demonstrate that the use of restraint is actively minimised.  | FA | A restraint free environment is actively encouraged throughout the service, with staff in all areas receiving regular training to support this. Policies and procedures meet the requirements of the restraint minimisation and safe practice standards and provide guidance on the safe use of both restraints and enablers, should they be required.The restraint coordinator provides support and oversight to maintain the restraint free environment of the facility. The restraint coordinator demonstrated a sound understanding of the organisation’s policies, procedures and practice and her role and responsibilities. The restraint approval group made up of the facility manager, restraint coordinator (a registered nurse) a senior caregiver and a general practitioner, are responsible for the approval of the use of restraints and the restraint processes. It was evident from review of restraint approval group meeting minutes, residents’ files and interviews with the coordinator that there are clear lines of accountability, that no restraints have been used since July 2017, the overall restraint free environment is being upheld and the lack of use of restraints is being monitored. The need to involve family/whānau/EPOA in the decision making was described by the restraint coordinator and facility manager. Use of techniques to negate the need for a restraint or an enabler is part of the plan of care.On the day of audit, no residents were using restraints or enablers. A similar process is followed for the use of enablers as is used for restraints should they be required.The prospective provider reported that he understands the relevance of restraint minimisation and safe practice and has also identified a need to upskill his knowledge in this area. |

# Specific results for criterion where corrective actions are required

Where a standard is rated partially attained (PA) or unattained (UA) specific corrective actions are recorded under the relevant criteria for the standard. The following table contains the criterion where corrective actions have been recorded.

Criterion can be linked to the relevant standard by looking at the code. For example, a Criterion 1.1.1.1: Service providers demonstrate knowledge and understanding of consumer rights and obligations, and incorporate them as part of their everyday practice relates to Standard 1.1.1: Consumer Rights During Service Delivery in Outcome 1.1: Consumer Rights.

If there is a message “no data to display” instead of a table, then no corrective actions were required as a result of this audit.

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| No data to display |

# Specific results for criterion where a continuous improvement has been recorded

As well as whole standards, individual criterion within a standard can also be rated as having a continuous improvement. A continuous improvement means that the provider can demonstrate achievement beyond the level required for full attainment. The following table contains the criterion where the provider has been rated as having made corrective actions have been recorded.

As above, criterion can be linked to the relevant standard by looking at the code. For example, a Criterion 1.1.1.1 relates to Standard 1.1.1: Consumer Rights During Service Delivery in Outcome 1.1: Consumer Rights

If, instead of a table, these is a message “no data to display” then no continuous improvements were recorded as part of this of this audit.

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End of the report.