

Recognising and reporting changes in residents' health:

An education and training package for aged care facility staff.



What is the education and training package?

This education and training package is specifically aimed at residential aged care personal care workers (PCWs) and personal care assistants (PCAs).

It was developed to support PCWs/PCAs to recognise changes in a resident's health status and report these to the appropriate person in the facility. The package is interactive and engaging and was developed using principles of adult learning.

Why was the package developed?

Residents in aged care facilities are increasingly frail, have multiple health conditions including dementia and providing care can be challenging and complex. Being able to recognise and report changes in residents' health early, can prevent admission to hospital.

PCWs/PCAs are at the front line of care and are crucial in the early identification of the deteriorating resident.

The package can be delivered to current care staff as a refresher, or to those who are new to aged care.

What will PCWs/PCAs learn?

This package comprises eight modules which can be taught over 10 hours. Modules can be delivered individually or as an entire package, to individuals or small groups, and in any order.



Each module supports understanding of:

- How the body system works
- The ageing process and what happens to the body
- How to recognise a change in residents' health and wellbeing
- How to report these changes verbally and in writing.

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The modules comprise:

















What does the Recognise and Report package contain?

- One full set of presentation slides complete with text, case studies/vignettes, video clips and images (Windows and Mac compatible)
- One hardcopy of the facilitator's manual
- One hardcopy of the presentation slides with explanatory notes for the facilitator
- Hardcopies of the participants' work book (quantity dependent on facility size), plus PDF for self-print option
- One hardcopy set of activity sheets, flash cards and templates, plus PDF for self-print option
- One hardcopy of a summary sheet for each module, plus PDF for self-print option.

The content of the package can be provided on either:





Who can deliver the education?

The package contains comprehensive facilitator notes and activity guides to allow registered or enrolled nurses to facilitate participants' learning, guide problem solving and reflection, and build self-confidence to recognise and communicate observations verbally, or in writing.

Who developed the package?

The Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care (ACEBAC) at La Trobe University, Melbourne, is an internationally recognised leader in evidence based aged care. ACEBAC has a wealth of experience developing, identifying and promoting the dissemination and integration of evidence into aged care practice.

Who can I contact for more information?

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