

Changes to care of residential aged care recipients from 1 July 2014

Information for approved providers

The Australian Government has worked with governments, providers, consumers and stakeholders to reform the aged care system. This means some changes to your business strategies, to your prices, to your services, and to your workforce so that there is a sustainable, affordable and equitable system for our future.

What is changing?

From 1 July 2014, the care and services you must provide to residents, and which residents you may charge additional fees for providing those care and services, are changing. These changes apply to all new and continuing residents.

Refer to the *Quality of Care Principles 2014* available at the [ComLaw website](#) for full details.

Specified care and services

From 1 July 2014, changes to the Schedule of specified care and services for residential care services (Schedule 1, *Quality of Care Principles 2014*) come into effect. The changes consolidate and modernise the Schedule, and apply to the care of new and continuing residents.


You continue to be required to provide the care and services in any Item of the Schedule to any resident who needs them. You also continue to be required to provide care and services in a way that meets the Accreditation Standards (Schedule 2, *Quality of Care Principles 2014*).

Changes are summarised at **Attachment A**.

Additional fees for providing specified care and services

You may continue to charge some residents 'additional fees' – that is, fees over and above the maximum daily amount of resident fees – for providing the care and services in Part 3 of the Schedule. These care and services include nursing, allied health, incontinence aids, mobility goods and specialised bedding materials.

You must obtain the resident's agreement to the cost before you charge for any specified care and services for which there is an additional fee, and provide the resident with an itemised account.



Residents you **cannot** charge additional fees for specified care and services are:

- Permanent residents
 - with a high domain category in any Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI) domain;
 - with a medium domain category in at least two ACFI domains;
 - without an ACFI classification as yet; or
 - who are subject to grandparenting arrangements from earlier reforms (see paragraph 7(6) of the *Quality of Care Principles 2014* for details).
- High care residential respite care recipients.

Compared to current arrangements, from 1 July 2014 you can no longer charge additional fees for care and services in Part 3 of the Schedule to new and continuing residents with the NHN ACFI classification.

Additional (optional) care and services

You may continue to charge additional fees for optional additional care and services not specified in the Schedule or an Extra Service agreement.

You must obtain the resident's agreement to the cost before you charge for optional additional care and services, and provide the resident with an itemised account.

Ageing in place

From 1 July 2014, permanent residents have the right to indefinite residence as their care needs change, unless conditions are met to ask the resident to leave in accordance with the *User Rights Principles 2014*.

Resident Agreement

Resident Agreements must continue to specify a number of matters, including:

- the care and services you have the capacity to provide to the resident;
- the policies and practices you will follow in setting fees for providing care and services; and
- the circumstances in which you may ask the resident to leave.

Further information

Information on aged care reforms is available at the [Department's website](#).

Attachment A

Schedule Item	Change
Item 1.9 Toiletry goods	Amended by addition – now includes: tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, denture cleaning preparations, mouthwashes, moisturiser, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, disposable razors, deodorant
Item 2.4 Treatments and procedures	Amended by addition – now includes: bandages, dressings, swabs, saline
Item 2.9 Support for residents with cognitive impairment	Amended by deletion – deletes outdated content: Individual attention and support to residents with cognitive impairment (for example, dementia and other behavioural disorders)
Item 3.2 Bedding materials	Amended by deletion – deletes outdated content: restrainers
Item 3.3 Toiletry goods	Deletion of Item 3.3: all toiletry goods are now in Item 1.9
Item 3.7 Basic medical and pharmaceutical supplies and equipment	Deletion of Item 3.7: all specified goods to support treatments are now in Item 2.4 Additional guidance: additional fees may now be charged to all residents for all pharmaceuticals.
Item 3.8 Nursing services	Amended by addition – now includes: Initial assessment and care planning carried out by a nurse practitioner or registered nurse, and ongoing management and evaluation carried out by a nurse practitioner, registered nurse or enrolled nurse acting within their scope of practice. Nursing services carried out by a nurse practitioner, registered nurse or enrolled nurse ... acting within their scope of practice. Additional guidance: for nurse scopes of practice, refer to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia's <i>Competency Standards for the Registered Nurse</i> and <i>Competency Standards for the Enrolled Nurse</i> .
Item 3.10 Medications	Deletion of Item 3.10: All medication management content is now in Item 2.4
Item 3.12 Oxygen and oxygen equipment	Deletion of Item 3.12: Resident oxygen needs continue to be covered by Item 3.8(l) oxygen therapy