

Submission
No 81

INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NEW SOUTH WALES NURSING HOMES

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I work in a high care aged care facility. There are 73 residents currently in this facility. I am the only RN working on the floor. There is no management in our facility from 1630-0800 during the week. There are no Managers in this facility at weekends. There is one RN on each of the three shifts over 24 hours. The RN has a high clinical and document workload and also replaces staff and takes all phone calls after 1630 and at weekends. The RN is responsible for administering all regular S8 medications on the shift as well as making the decision to give prn medications. The RN carries out clinical procedures such as catheter changes, PEG feeds, subcutaneous lines, and dressings. Already I am stretched beyond capacity in managing the clinical needs for very frail aged high care residents. I have seen RN numbers decrease over the last eight years to this level and less qualified staff being employed.