INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NEW SOUTH WALES NURSING HOMES

Name: Name suppressed

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I believe registered nurses are essential in aged care. Many areas of care that are involved in aged care such as palliative care need the skills that only RN's have to determine treatment of symptoms that require specialized drugs which if not given correctly could have detrimental effects to patients. Other areas of aged care - catheters, PEG feeds, injections of various drugs, need the specialized care of RN's. Carers do not have the training or the confidence of dealing with many of these issues. Is the government going to put the money into adequately training and assessing these carers to enable them to confidently and SAFELY do these various procedures? Having worked in aged care for the last 17 years I would not like to see carers left to deal with these sort of care issues. I believe that aged care is a specialist field in its own right and the level of care will drop significantly if RN's are removed from aged care.