INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NEW SOUTH WALES NURSING HOMES

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I am really worried about the reduction of Registered Nurses (RN) in Nursing homes. My mother spent from July 2014 until her death on March 18 2015 in . The facility looked beautiful, but unfortunately the staffing was dreadful - usually only one, maximum 2 registered nurses in a very large facility with extremely ill patients. On more than one occasion my mother was very ill but the staff looking after her had not noticed (they were not Registered Nurses). I feel these homes will be nothing more than organised death factories without RNs there checking on these unskilled staff. Some of these unskilled staff were not smart at all. They frequently were poorly educated and as a result not great decision makers. Some of them spent their days roaming the hallways handing out biscuits and gossiping - I am not exaggerating! The only staff worth even discussing my mum’s care with were the RNs. Even the Facility Manager, , was a very smooth but not very helpful person. She would not do anything to improve the staffing despite me and other patients relatives begging for weekend staffing to be increased and for more skilled staff to be hired. We are going down a slippery slope here - and remember, even MPs need to go to nursing homes! You may find yourselves in one of these dreadful facilities. I urge you not to reduce RNs in aged care facilities