

**INQUIRY INTO REGISTERED NURSES IN NEW SOUTH
WALES NURSING HOMES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I have worked in aged care in both the private and NGO sectors. I am disturbed by the gradual transition of tasks, which can only be handled safely by an RN, to untrained care staff. The dispensing of medications is a simple task but the knowledge of possible side-effects or unwanted effects is something only the training of an RN copes you with.

I see a lack of monitoring of the effects of analgesic patches, hypotensive agents and pschotropic medication because untrained care staff do not have the knowledge or training to know what to look for.

Also, there are a number of conditions of normal senescence (e.g. ectropion) that are misdiagnosed by untrained staff as disease processes necessitating unwanted treatments and medications. We need RN's to keep the cost of aged care down by ensuring unwanted effects of drugs are minimised and that unwanted treatments are not inflicted on our residents.