

Care homes do not have immediate access to medication, it must be prescribed by the GP and dispensed from community pharmacy. Ensure all medications are provided with changes communicated to the receiving care team.

Medication



Dressings, creams/ ointments must be prescribed individually, no stock is kept on site. Dressings cannot be shared. Ensure adequate supply on transfer with enough for emergency use e.g. leaky wounds.

Dressings



Residential, nursing, assisted living, specialist homes all offer different services and support. This will affect arrangements required to ensure a smooth transition. Be clear on destination when planning.

Home Type



Access to equipment varies. Residential homes order equipment individually assessed and cannot be shared. Ensure arrangements for equipment, aids/ appliances are communicated prior to transfer for safety and comfort

Equipment



Care homes offer safe and supported living. These are environments where people can enjoy life, maximising their independence and build positive relationships with others. These are homes and should not be regarded as an extension to inpatient settings. All referrals to professionals should be communicated fully prior to transfer



Skill mix



Buildings Env't



Legal Obligations



Family

Staffing requirements vary. Residential homes do not employ registered nursing staff and depend upon community nursing teams for support. Skill mix may affect the ability to accept transfers.

Some homes are older buildings repurposed to provide accommodation. Living rooms might be cosy, bedrooms and bathrooms shared, observing isolation guidance challenging. These factors will influence suitability for placement.

Registered Managers have legal responsibility 24hrs for the home and the right to make all ultimate decisions. It is vital communication is open, transparent and accurate to ensure safety of all residents and staff.

Person centred care is essential. For people to live together safely and happily the Registered Manager has to balance the needs of all in the home including families/ significant others. This is important when assessing placement to prevent distress.