

To help the GP and the Aged Care Home, you and your family may choose



to nominate one family member or friend as a point of contact about your ongoing health needs or your preferred treatment options.

What about my future health care needs?

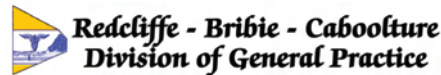
You can choose how to make decisions about your future health care needs.

There are three types of “Living Wills”: Advance Health Directives, Medical Enduring Power Of Attorney and Guardianship Orders. Generally these will only come into effect if you are unable to make your own decisions.

You need to use the correct forms for each of these “Wills”. For more information contact the Public Trustee or your solicitor.

Your health care team will work with you and your family to respect your wishes regarding your preferred treatment options.

For further information about aged care and community services please contact the Commonwealth Carelink Centre on
1800 052 222



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This brochure is for information purposes only, and is designed as a general reference and catalyst to seeking further information about some aspects of medical care provided in Residential Aged Care Homes in Australia.



“Who will look after me when I go into an AGED CARE HOME?”

Who will look after me when I go into an Aged Care Home?

Your care will be provided by a team which includes:

- A GP
- Aged Care Home Nursing staff
- Allied Health (eg Pharmacist, Podiatrist, Physiotherapist, etc.)
- Specialist services as required.

It is a good idea to speak with your GP to find out if they are able to continue to provide your medical care when you enter an Aged Care Home. If your GP is unable to visit you discuss other options with the Aged Care Home.

Aged Care Home nursing staff are experienced, professional and your first point of contact for your daily care needs. They will liaise with the GP who is looking after you.



How will the GP take care of me when I go into an Aged Care Home?

1. Regular visits to assess medical needs.

This may include an annual check-up that takes account of your

physical, psychological and social needs.

2. Medication

This will be prescribed by the GP who will regularly review this in consultation with a Pharmacist and others, as required.

3. Ongoing liaison with the health care team at your Aged Care Home.

This will include follow-up with the attending nursing staff plus allied health and specialist team members, as necessary.



4. After hours care

This may be provided by your GP, however many GPs use an after hours medical service which will give feedback to them.

How often will the GP see me at the Aged Care Home?

GPs will visit the home at a time determined by the needs of all their patients.

As the GP is not usually employed by the Aged Care Home, your care needs will determine the frequency of their visits to you.

Talk to the GP to see if there are any additional charges you may incur.

Sometimes you may be seen at the GP's practice.

What happens in an emergency?

If you become suddenly unwell, the nursing staff at the home will talk to the GP who will advise how to best meet your health needs.

Sometimes you may have to go to hospital to receive more specialised care.

How can my family and friends help me?

Family and friends may be helpful as they can represent and support you.

Their role may include:

- Visiting you;
- Taking you to appointments;
- Paying medical bills; and
- Taking you out for the day.