

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: CM: NSW Health Comments – Residential Aged Care Accommodation Pricing Review
Date: Thursday, 6 November 2025 3:21:47 PM

Dear Mr Ray and Assoc. Professor Sutton

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the independent Residential Aged Care Accommodation Pricing Review Consultation Paper. Given the focus of your Review, NSW Health does not intend to make a formal submission on the issues raised, however you may wish to consider some broader matters as part of reviewing the submissions that you receive.

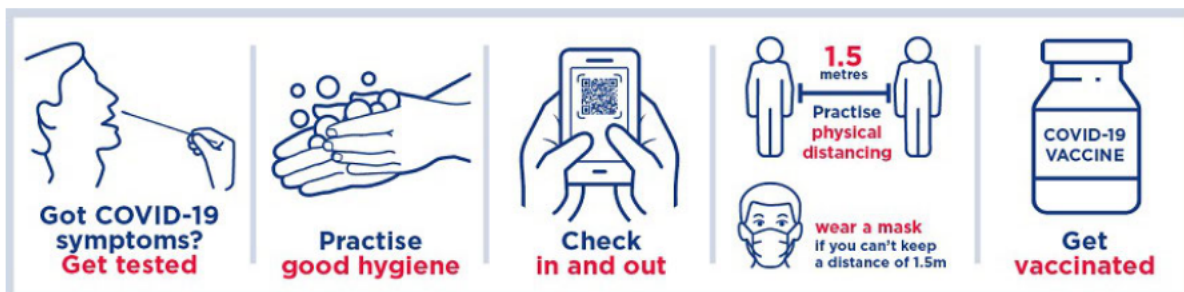
Currently, there is an ever-growing cohort of discharge delayed older people in NSW public hospitals (and indeed across Australia), who have been assessed as eligible for residential aged care but are unable to access a bed in that sector due to a number of reasons, predominately lack of residential aged care supply.

We consider that there is a known gap between the current pricing set by IHACPA and cost of care for this cohort which must be addressed to ensure the system is fit for purpose as the population ages and people live longer with more complex conditions. Reformed pricing should incentivise aged care providers to accept and maintain residents with complex care needs, in addition to those with low financial means. Unless this gap is addressed, people with complex care needs will continue presenting to hospitals and remaining there well beyond their clinical need without safe and timely discharge options. In addition, we would suggest the Accommodation Supplement also include incentives for buildings to be designed in line with best practice principles – particularly for dementia and bariatric-needs for example.

Improving sector viability and capacity may assist in relieving future growth in this area. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide some overarching comments on this issue.

Regards
Stef

[REDACTED]
Director, Aged Care | [Health and Social Policy Branch](#)
[REDACTED]
www.health.nsw.gov.au



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