# M & K Atkins Limited - The Waratah Retirement Home

## Introduction

This report records the results of a Certification Audit of a provider of aged residential care services against the Ngā paerewa Health and disability services standard (NZS8134:2021).

The audit has been conducted by BSI Group New Zealand Ltd, an auditing agency designated under section 32 of the Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001, for submission to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health).

The abbreviations used in this report are the same as those specified in section 0.4 of the Ngā paerewa Health and disability services standard (NZS8134:2021).

You can view a full copy of the standard on the Manatū Hauora website by clicking [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/certification-health-care-services/health-and-disability-services-standards).

The specifics of this audit included:

**Legal entity:** M & K Atkins Limited

**Premises audited:** The Waratah Retirement Home

**Services audited:** Hospital services - Medical services; Hospital services - Geriatric services (excl. psychogeriatric); Rest home care (excluding dementia care)

**Dates of audit:** Start date: 14 May 2024 End date: 15 May 2024

**Proposed changes to current services (if any):** None

**Total beds occupied across all premises included in the audit on the first day of the audit:** 57

# Executive summary of the audit

## Introduction

This section contains a summary of the auditors’ findings for this audit. The information is grouped into the six sections contained within the Ngā paerewa Health and disability services standard:

* ō tātou motika **│** our rights
* hunga mahi me te hanganga │ workforce and structure
* ngā huarahi ki te oranga │ pathways to wellbeing
* te aro ki te tangata me te taiao haumaru │ person-centred and safe environment
* te kaupare pokenga me te kaitiakitanga patu huakita │ infection prevention and antimicrobial stewardship
* here taratahi │ restraint and seclusion.

As well as auditors’ written summary, indicators are included that highlight the provider’s attainment against the subsection in each of the sections. The following table provides a key to how the indicators are arrived at.

**Key to the indicators**

| **Indicator** | **Description** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Includes commendable elements above the required levels of performance | All subsections applicable to this service fully attained with some subsections exceeded |
|  | No short falls | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained |
|  | Some minor shortfalls but no major deficiencies and required levels of performance seem achievable without extensive extra activity | Some subsections applicable to this service partially attained and of low risk |
|  | A number of shortfalls that require specific action to address | Some subsections applicable to this service partially attained and of medium or high risk and/or unattained and of low risk |
|  | Major shortfalls, significant action is needed to achieve the required levels of performance | Some subsections applicable to this service unattained and of moderate or high risk |

## General overview of the audit

The Waratah Retirement Home provides rest home, and hospital (medical and geriatric) levels of care for up to 58 residents. There were 57 residents on the days of audit. This certification audit was conducted against the Nga Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard 2021 and the contracts with Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora - Waitematā. The audit process included the review of policies and procedures, the review of residents and staff files, observations, interviews with residents, family, management, staff, and a general practitioner.

The facility manager is appropriately qualified and experienced and is supported by a quality systems/audit manager, and clinical manager (registered nurse). There are quality systems and processes being implemented. Feedback from residents and families was very positive about the care and the services provided. An induction and in-service training programme are in place to provide staff with appropriate knowledge and skills to deliver care.

This certification audit identified the service meets the standards.

## Ō tātou motika │ Our rights

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes 10 subsections that support an outcome where people receive safe services of an appropriate standard that comply with consumer rights legislation. Services are provided in a manner that is respectful of people’s rights, facilitates informed choice, minimises harm,  and upholds cultural and individual values and beliefs. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

The Waratah Retirement Home provides an environment that supports resident rights and safe care. Staff demonstrated an understanding of residents' rights and obligations. There is a Māori and Pacific health plan. The service works to provide high-quality and effective services and care for residents.

Residents receive services in a manner that considers their dignity, privacy, and independence. The service provides services and support to people in a way that is inclusive and respects their identity and their experiences. The service listens and respects the voices of the residents and effectively communicates with them about their choices. Care plans accommodate the choices of residents and/or their family/whānau. There is evidence that residents and family are kept informed. The rights of the resident and/or their family to make a complaint is understood, respected, and upheld by the service. Complaints processes are implemented, and complaints and concerns are actively managed and well-documented.

## Hunga mahi me te hanganga │ Workforce and structure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes five subsections that support an outcome where people receive quality services through effective governance and a supported workforce. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

The business plan includes a mission statement and operational objectives. The service has effective quality and risk management systems in place that take a risk-based approach, and these systems meet the needs of residents and their staff. Quality improvement projects are implemented. Internal audits, meetings, and collation of data were all documented as taking place as scheduled, with corrective actions as indicated.

There is a staffing and rostering policy. Human resources are managed in accordance with good employment practice. A role specific orientation programme and regular staff education and training are in place. The service ensures the collection, storage, and use of personal and health information of residents is secure, accessible, and confidential.

## Ngā huarahi ki te oranga │ Pathways to wellbeing

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes eight subsections that support an outcome where people participate in the development of their pathway to wellbeing, and receive timely assessment, followed by services that are planned, coordinated, and delivered in a manner that is tailored to their needs. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

There is an admission package available prior to or on entry to the service. The registered nurses are responsible for each stage of service provision. The registered nurses assess, plan and review residents' needs, outcomes, and goals with the resident and/or family/whānau input. Care plans viewed demonstrated service integration and were evaluated at least six-monthly. Resident files included medical notes by the general practitioner and visiting allied health professionals.

Medication policies reflect legislative requirements and guidelines. Registered nurses and senior caregivers are responsible for administration of medicines. They complete annual education and medication competencies. The electronic medicine charts reviewed met prescribing requirements and were reviewed at least three-monthly by the general practitioner.

The activities coordinator provides and implements an interesting and varied activity programme. The programme includes outings, entertainment and meaningful activities that meet the individual recreational preferences. Opportunities are facilitated to participate in te ao Māori.

Residents' food preferences, cultural needs and dietary requirements are identified at admission and all meals are cooked on site. Food, fluid, and nutritional needs of residents are provided in line with recognised nutritional guidelines and additional requirements/modified needs were being met. The service has a current food control plan.

Transfer and discharges occur in a coordinated manner in collaboration with the resident, family/whanau, and other service providers to ensure continuity of care.

## Te aro ki te tangata me te taiao haumaru │ Person-centred and safe environment

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes two subsections that support an outcome where Health and disability services are provided in a safe environment appropriate to the age and needs of the people receiving services that facilitates independence and meets the needs of people with disabilities. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

The building holds a current warrant of fitness. An implemented maintenance plan ensures the plant, equipment and fixtures are safe. Hot water temperatures are checked regularly. There is a recent upgraded call bell system that is appropriate for the residents to use.

Residents can freely mobilise within the communal areas with safe access to the outdoors, seating, and shade. Rooms are spacious.

All rooms have full ensuite, dual purpose and for single occupancy. Rooms are personalised with ample light and adequate heating.

Documented systems are in place for essential, civil defence, emergency, and security services. There is always a staff member on duty with a current first aid certificate.

## Te kaupare pokenga me te kaitiakitanga patu huakita │Infection prevention and antimicrobial stewardship

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes five subsections that support an outcome where Health and disability service providers’ infection prevention (IP) and antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) strategies define a clear vision and purpose, with quality of care, welfare, and safety at the centre. The IP and AMS programmes are up to date and informed by evidence and are an expression of a strategy that seeks to maximise quality of care and minimise infection risk and adverse effects from antibiotic use, such as antimicrobial resistance. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

Infection prevention management systems are in place to minimise the risk of infection to consumers, service providers and visitors. The infection control programme is implemented and meets the needs of the organisation and provides information and resources to inform the service providers. Documentation evidenced that relevant infection control education is provided to all staff as part of their orientation and as part of the ongoing in-service education programme. Antimicrobial usage is monitored. The type of surveillance undertaken is appropriate to the size and complexity of the organisation. Standardised definitions are used for the identification and classification of infection events. Results of surveillance are acted upon, evaluated, and reported to relevant personnel in a timely manner. Pandemic response (including Covid-19) plans are in place and the service has access to personal protective equipment supplies. There has been one outbreak (Covid-19) since the previous audit.

Chemicals are stored securely throughout the facility. Staff receive training and education to ensure safe and appropriate handling of waste and hazardous substances, there are documented processes in place, and incidents are reported in a timely manner. Fixtures, fittings, and flooring are appropriate and toilet/shower facilities are constructed for ease of cleaning. Documented policies and procedures for the cleaning and laundry services are implemented with appropriate monitoring systems in place to evaluate the effectiveness of these services.

## Here taratahi │ Restraint and seclusion

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Includes four subsections that support outcomes where Services shall aim for a restraint and seclusion free environment, in which people’s dignity and mana are maintained. |  | Subsections applicable to this service fully attained. |

The service aims to eliminate restraint. This is supported by the policies and procedures. Restraint minimisation is overseen by the restraint coordinator. There were four hospital residents using restraint at the time of audit. Staff demonstrated a sound knowledge and understanding of providing the least restrictive practice, de-escalation techniques and alternative interventions. Staff complete restraint competencies. Restraint elimination strategies are discussed at various meetings. Restraint is benchmarked.

## Summary of attainment

The following table summarises the number of subsections and criteria audited and the ratings they were awarded.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attainment Rating** | **Continuous Improvement**  **(CI)** | **Fully Attained**  **(FA)** | **Partially Attained Negligible Risk**  **(PA Negligible)** | **Partially Attained Low Risk**  **(PA Low)** | **Partially Attained Moderate Risk**  **(PA Moderate)** | **Partially Attained High Risk**  **(PA High)** | **Partially Attained Critical Risk**  **(PA Critical)** |
| **Subsection** | 0 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Criteria** | 0 | 176 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attainment Rating** | **Unattained Negligible Risk**  **(UA Negligible)** | **Unattained Low Risk**  **(UA Low)** | **Unattained Moderate Risk**  **(UA Moderate)** | **Unattained High Risk**  **(UA High)** | **Unattained Critical Risk**  **(UA Critical)** |
| **Subsection** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Criteria** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Attainment against the Ngā paerewa Health and disability services standard

The following table contains the results of all the subsections assessed by the auditors at this audit. Depending on the services they provide, not all subsections are relevant to all providers and not all subsections are assessed at every audit.

For more information on the standard, please click [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/certification-health-care-services/health-and-disability-services-standards).

For more information on the different types of audits and what they cover please click [here](http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/services-and-support/health-care-services/services-older-people/rest-home-certification-and-audits).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subsection with desired outcome** | **Attainment Rating** | **Audit Evidence** |
| Subsection 1.1: Pae ora healthy futures  Te Tiriti: Māori flourish and thrive in an environment that enables good health and wellbeing. As service providers: We work collaboratively to embrace, support, and encourage a Māori worldview of health and provide high-quality, equitable, and effective services for Māori framed by Te Tiriti o Waitangi. | FA | A Māori Health Plan is documented for the service. This acknowledges Te Tiriti O Waitangi as a founding document for New Zealand. The service currently has residents who identify as Māori.  As part of staff training, The Waratah Retirement Home incorporate the Māori health strategy (He Korowai Oranga), Te Whare Tapa Wha Māori Model of Health and wellbeing. They also discuss the importance of the Treaty of Waitangi and how the principles of partnership, protection and participation are enacted in the work with residents. Elements of this are woven through other training as appropriate. All staff have access to relevant Tikanga guidelines.  The service has links with local iwi through current staff members, with kaumatua and kuia being available to support the organisations cultural journey.  The service supports increasing Māori capacity by employing more Māori staff members. At the time of the audit there were Māori staff members. Staff members interviewed stated that they are supported in a culturally safe way and staff are encouraged to use both te reo and relevant tikanga in their work with the residents as detailed in the Māori health plan and tikanga guidelines.  Residents and whānau are involved in providing input into the resident’s care planning, their activities, and their dietary needs. Nine staff members interviewed; three caregivers, three registered nurses (RN), one cook, one cleaner, and one activity coordinator, described how care is based on the resident’s individual values, beliefs, and preferences. Care plans included the physical, spiritual, family/whānau, and psychological health of the residents. |
| Subsection 1.2: Ola manuia of Pacific peoples in Aotearoa  The people: Pacific peoples in Aotearoa are entitled to live and enjoy good health and wellbeing. Te Tiriti: Pacific peoples acknowledge the mana whenua of Aotearoa as tuakana and commit to supporting them to achieve tino rangatiratanga. As service providers: We provide comprehensive and equitable health and disability services underpinned by Pacific worldviews and developed in collaboration with Pacific peoples for improved health outcomes. | FA | The Waratah recognises the uniqueness of Pacific cultures and the importance of recognising that dignity and the sacredness of life are integral in the service delivery of Health and Disability Services for Pacific people. There is a comprehensive Pacific Health plan documented. This was developed in consultation with Pasifika by a well-known external consultant within the aged care sector and implemented by the service. At the time of the audit, there were staff who identified as Pasifika.  On the day of audit there were no Pasifika residents living at the Waratah. Ethnicity information and Pacific people’s cultural beliefs and practices are identified during the admission process and entered into the residents’ files. Whānau are encouraged to be present during the admission process and the service welcomes input from the resident and family when documenting the initial care plan and long term care plan. Individual cultural beliefs are documented in the activities profile, activities plan and care plan.  The service is actively recruiting new staff. The facility manager confirmed how they encourage and support any staff that identifies as Pasifika beginning at the employment process. This was confirmed in interviews with staff who identified as Pasifika.  Interviews with staff members, four rest home residents, two hospital residents, and seven relatives (two rest home, and five hospital) identified that the service puts people using the services, whānau, and the Waratah community at the heart of their services. The service can consult with Pacific Island staff, and industry advisors who identify as Pasifika to access community links and continue to provide equitable employment opportunities for the Pasifika community. |
| Subsection 1.3: My rights during service delivery  The People: My rights have meaningful effect through the actions and behaviours of others. Te Tiriti:Service providers recognise Māori mana motuhake (self-determination). As service providers: We provide services and support to people in a way that upholds their rights and complies with legal requirements. | FA | The Health and Disability Commissioner’s (HDC) Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights (the Code) is displayed in multiple locations. Details relating to the Code are included in the information that is provided to new residents and their family. The facility manager, or clinical manager discusses aspects of the Code with residents and their whanau on admission.  Discussions relating to the Code are also held during the six-monthly resident/whanau meetings. All residents and whanau interviewed reported that the residents’ rights are being upheld by the service. Interactions observed between staff and residents during the audit were respectful.  Information about the Nationwide Health and Disability Advocacy Service and the resident advocacy is available at the entrance to the facility and in the entry pack of information provided to residents and their family/whanau. There are links to spiritual support through local churches. Church services are held regularly.  Staff receive education in relation to the Code at orientation and through the education and training programme which includes (but is not limited to) understanding the role of advocacy services. Advocacy services are linked to the complaints process.  The service recognises Māori mana motuhake: self-determination, independence, sovereignty, authority, as evidenced in their Māori health plan and through interviews with management and staff. |
| Subsection 1.4: I am treated with respect  The People: I can be who I am when I am treated with dignity and respect. Te Tiriti: Service providers commit to Māori mana motuhake. As service providers: We provide services and support to people in a way that is inclusive and respects their identity and their experiences. | FA | Staff members interviewed described how they support residents in their choices. Residents interviewed stated they had choice and examples were provided. Residents are supported to make decisions about whether they would like family/whānau members to be involved in their care or other forms of support.  The service’s annual training plan demonstrates training that is responsive to the diverse needs of people across the service. It was observed that residents are treated with dignity and respect. Satisfaction surveys completed most recently in January 2024 confirmed that residents and families are treated with respect. This was also confirmed during interviews with residents and families.  A sexuality and intimacy policy is in place and is supported through staff training. Staff interviewed stated they respect each resident’s right to have space for intimate relationships. Staff were observed to use person-centred and respectful language with residents. Residents and families interviewed were positive about the service in relation to their values and beliefs being considered and met. Privacy is ensured and independence is encouraged. Residents' files and care plans identified residents’ preferred names. Values and beliefs information is gathered on admission with relative’s involvement and is integrated into the residents' care plans. The service promotes te reo Māori and tikanga Māori through all their activities. There is signage in te reo Māori in various locations throughout the facility. Te reo Māori is reinforced by those staff who are able to speak/understand te reo Māori. Māori cultural days are celebrated and include Matariki and Māori language week.  All staff attend specific cultural training that covers Te Tiriti o Waitangi, tikanga Māori and health equity from a Māori perspective, and complete a cultural competency in order to build knowledge and awareness about the importance of addressing accessibility barriers. The service works alongside tāngata whaikaha and supports them to participate in individual activities of their choice including supporting them with te ao Māori. |
| Subsection 1.5: I am protected from abuse  The People: I feel safe and protected from abuse. Te Tiriti: Service providers provide culturally and clinically safe services for Māori, so they feel safe and are protected from abuse. As service providers: We ensure the people using our services are safe and protected from abuse. | FA | A staff code of conduct is discussed during the new employee’s induction to the service with evidence of staff signing the code of conduct policy. This code of conduct policy addresses the elimination of discrimination, harassment, and bullying. All staff are held responsible for creating a positive, inclusive and a safe working environment. Staff are encouraged to address issues of racism and to recognise own bias. The service promotes a strengths-based and holistic model to ensure wellbeing outcomes for their Māori residents is prioritised. Review of resident care plans identified goals of care included interventions to promote positive outcomes, and care staff interviewed confirmed an understanding of holistic care for all residents.  Staff complete education during orientation and annually as per the training plan on how to identify abuse and neglect. Staff are educated on how to value the older person, showing them respect and dignity. Residents expressed that they have not witnessed any abuse or neglect, and said they are treated fairly, feel safe, are protected from abuse and neglect, and their property is respected. All residents and whanau interviewed confirmed that staff are very caring, supportive, and respectful.  Police checks are completed as part of the employment process. The service implements a process to manage residents’ comfort funds, such as sundry expenses. Professional boundaries are defined in job descriptions and are covered as part of orientation. All staff members interviewed confirmed their understanding of professional boundaries, including the boundaries of their role and responsibilities. |
| Subsection 1.6: Effective communication occurs  The people: I feel listened to and that what I say is valued, and I feel that all information exchanged contributes to enhancing my wellbeing. Te Tiriti: Services are easy to access and navigate and give clear and relevant health messages to Māori. As service providers: We listen and respect the voices of the people who use our services and effectively communicate with them about their choices. | FA | Information is provided to residents and whanau on admission. Six-monthly resident meetings identify feedback from residents and consequent follow-up by the service.  Policies and procedures relating to accident/incidents, complaints, and open disclosure policy alert staff to their responsibility to notify whanau/next of kin of any accident/incident that occurs. Electronic accident/incident forms have a section to indicate if next of kin have been informed (or not) of an accident/incident. This is also documented in the progress notes. Twelve accident/incident forms reviewed identified whanau/next of kin are kept informed, and this was confirmed through the interviews with whanau.  An interpreter policy and contact details of interpreters are available. Interpreter services are used where indicated. At the time of the audit there were residents who could not speak and understand English. Caregivers and the registered nurses interviewed described how they are able to assist residents that do not speak English with interpreters or resources to communicate as the need arises.  Non-subsidised residents are advised in writing of their eligibility and the process to become a subsidised resident should they wish to do so. The residents and next of kin are informed prior to entry of the scope of services and any items that are not covered by the agreement.  The service communicates with other agencies that are involved with the resident such as the hospice and Health New Zealand specialist services (e.g., physiotherapist, clinical nurse specialist for wound care, older adult mental health service, hospice nurse, speech language therapist and dietitian). The delivery of care includes a multidisciplinary team and residents/relatives provide consent and are communicated with regarding services involved. The clinical manager described an implemented a process around providing residents with time for discussion around care, time to consider decisions, and opportunity for further discussion, if required. |
| Subsection 1.7: I am informed and able to make choices  The people: I know I will be asked for my views. My choices will be respected when making decisions about my wellbeing. If my choices cannot be upheld, I will be provided with information that supports me to understand why. Te Tiriti: High-quality services are provided that are easy to access and navigate. Providers give clear and relevant messages so that individuals and whānau can effectively manage their own health, keep well, and live well. As service providers: We provide people using our services or their legal representatives with the information necessary to make informed decisions in accordance with their rights and their ability to exercise independence, choice, and control. | FA | There are policies around informed consent. Informed consent processes are discussed with residents and family/whānau on admission. Eight electronic resident files were reviewed and written general consents sighted for outings, photographs, release of medical information, medication management and medical cares are included and signed as part of the admission process. Specific consent has been signed by resident or their enduring power of attorney (EPOA) for procedures such as influenza, Covid vaccines and other clinical consent. Discussions with all staff interviewed confirmed that they are familiar with the requirements to obtain informed consent for entering rooms and personal care.  The admission agreement is appropriately signed by the resident or the EPOA. The service welcomes the involvement of family/whānau in decision making where the person receiving services wants them to be involved. Enduring power of attorney documentation is filed in the residents’ electronic charts and is activated as applicable for residents assessed as incompetent to make an informed decision. Where EPOA had been activated a medical certificate for incapacity is on file.  An advance directive policy is in place. Advance directives for health care including resuscitation status had been completed by residents deemed to be competent. Where residents were deemed incompetent to make a resuscitation decision, the GP has made a medically indicated resuscitation decision. There is documented evidence of discussion with the EPOA. Discussion with family/whānau identified that the service actively involves them in decisions that affect their relative’s lives. Discussions with the caregivers and RNs confirmed that staff understand the importance of obtaining informed consent for providing personal care and accessing residents’ rooms. Training has been provided to staff around Code of Rights including informed consent.  The service follows relevant best practice tikanga guidelines by incorporating and considering the residents’ cultural identity when planning care. The RNs and the clinical manager have a good understanding of the organisational process to ensure Māori residents involved the family/whānau for collective decision making. Support services for Māori are available. |
| Subsection 1.8: I have the right to complain  The people: I feel it is easy to make a complaint. When I complain I am taken seriously and receive a timely response. Te Tiriti: Māori and whānau are at the centre of the health and disability system, as active partners in improving the system and their care and support. As service providers: We have a fair, transparent, and equitable system in place to easily receive and resolve or escalate complaints in a manner that leads to quality improvement. | FA | The complaints procedure is provided to residents and relatives on entry to the service. The service maintains a record of all complaints, both verbal and written on complaints register. There have been no complaints in 2022, two in 2023, and none in 2024 year to date since the previous audit in November 2022. There has been one external complaint received in 2023 via the Health and Disability Commissioner (HDC) and Health New Zealand. The complaint related to end-of-life care and wound care, and is still in progress, with the facility having supplied all the relevant information to HDC. This audit identified no issues related to the complaint topics.  The management team could evidence the complaint documentation process including acknowledgement, investigation, follow-up letters and resolution to demonstrate that complaints are managed in accordance with guidelines set by the Health and Disability Commissioner (HDC).  Staff interviewed confirmed they are informed of complaints (and any subsequent corrective actions) in the staff, clinical and quality meetings. Complaints are a standard agenda item in all staff, clinical and senior team meetings (meeting minutes sighted).  Discussions with residents and relatives confirmed they were provided with information on complaints and complaints forms are available throughout the facility. Residents have a variety of avenues they can choose from to make a complaint or express a concern. Resident meetings are held six monthly. Communication is maintained with individual residents with updates at activities and mealtimes and one on one reviews. Residents/relatives making a complaint can involve an independent support person in the process if they choose. On interview residents and family stated they felt comfortable to raise issues of concern with management at any time.  The complaints process is equitable for Māori, complaints related documentation is available in te reo Māori, and the management team are aware of the preference of face-to-face interactions for some Māori.  In response to pre audit feedback a complaint received by Health New Zealand (14 February 2024). This audit identified no issues related to the complaint topics, with evidence of the recommended practises related to wound photographs and open communication regarding end of life planning sighted. |
| Subsection 2.1: Governance  The people: I trust the people governing the service to have the knowledge, integrity, and ability to empower the communities they serve. Te Tiriti: Honouring Te Tiriti, Māori participate in governance in partnership, experiencing meaningful inclusion on all governance bodies and having substantive input into organisational operational policies. As service providers: Our governance body is accountable for delivering a highquality service that is responsive, inclusive, and sensitive to the cultural diversity of communities we serve. | FA | The Waratah Retirement Home is located in Henderson, Waitematā. The Waratah provides care for up to 58 residents at rest home and hospital (medical and geriatric) levels of care. On the day of the audit there were 57 residents: 25 rest home, and 32 hospital residents (including one private respite). All residents apart from the respite were under the aged related residential care (ARRC) agreement. All beds are certified for dual purpose use and are designed for single occupancy.  The Waratah has a current business plan in place with clear goals to support their documented vision, mission, and values. The values espouse quality care, innovation, dignity, and respect. The model of care sits within this framework and incorporates Māori concept of wellbeing – Te Whare Tapa Wha.  The current business plan includes a mission statement and operational objectives with site specific goals. The management team liaises with a director who is on site most days and acts as a conduit to the other two owner/directors.  The director interviewed confirmed the strategic plan, its reflection of collaboration with Māori that aligns with the Ministry of Health strategies and addresses barriers to equitable service delivery. There are community links that provide advice to the directors in order to further explore and implement solutions on ways to achieve equity and improve outcomes for tāngata whaikaha. The working practices at The Waratah are holistic in nature, inclusive of cultural identity, spirituality and respect the connection to family, whānau and the wider community as an intrinsic aspect of wellbeing and improved health outcomes for Māori and tāngata whaikaha. Clinical governance is provided by the clinical manager and GP.  The management team and directors have completed cultural training to ensure they are able to demonstrate expertise in Te Tiriti, health equity and cultural safety.  The quality programme includes quality goals (including site specific business goals) that are reviewed monthly in meetings.  The service is managed by an experienced facility manager (health/administration background) who has been in her current role one and a half years and has worked at the Waratah for over fifteen years in a number of roles. They are supported by a clinical manager (CM) who has worked at the facility for six years (as CM for one-year, assistant CM three years and RN prior), and a quality systems/audit manager who has been at the facility for five years. The facility manager liaises with the directors on a weekly basis.  The facility manager and clinical manager have both maintained at least eight hours annually of professional development activities related to managing a rest home. This includes cultural training, specific to Te Whare Tapa Wha and te ao Māori. |
| Subsection 2.2: Quality and risk  The people: I trust there are systems in place that keep me safe, are responsive, and are focused on improving my experience and outcomes of care. Te Tiriti: Service providers allocate appropriate resources to specifically address continuous quality improvement with a focus on achieving Māori health equity. As service providers: We have effective and organisation-wide governance systems in place relating to continuous quality improvement that take a risk-based approach, and these systems meet the needs of people using the services and our health care and support workers. | FA | The Waratah has established quality and risk management programmes. These systems include performance monitoring and benchmarking through internal audits, through the collection, collation, and internal benchmarking of clinical indicator data. Ethnicities are documented as part of the resident’s entry profile and any extracted quality indicator data can be critically analysed for comparisons and trends to improve health equity.  Policies and procedures and associated implementation systems provide a good level of assurance that the facility is meeting accepted good practice and adhering to relevant standards. A document control system is in place. Policies are regularly reviewed and any new policies or changes to policy are communicated to staff.  Regular management meetings, monthly clinical and quality, and fortnightly staff meetings provide an avenue for discussions in relation to (but not limited to) quality data, health and safety, infection control/pandemic strategies, complaints received (if any), staffing, and education. Internal audits, meetings, and collation of data are documented as taking place with corrective actions documented where indicated to address service improvements with evidence of progress and sign off when achieved. Quality data and trends in data are posted, and accessible to staff in the staff room and nurses’ stations. Corrective actions are discussed at staff/quality meetings to ensure any outstanding matters are addressed with sign-off when completed.  The resident and family satisfaction surveys indicate that both residents and family have reported high levels of satisfaction with the service provided.  A health and safety system is in place with identified health and safety goals. Health and safety is a part of all staff and senior management meetings, with the facility manager acting as the health and safety officer. Manufacturer safety data sheets are up to date. Hazard identification forms and an up-to-date hazard register is kept (sighted). Health and safety policies are implemented and monitored by the health and safety officer.  A staff noticeboard keeps staff informed on health and safety. Staff and external contractors are orientated to the health and safety programme. There are regular manual handling training sessions for staff. In the event of a staff accident or incident, a debrief process is documented on the accident/incident form. Well-being programmes include offering employees individual assistance as required.  All staff have completed cultural safety training to ensure a high-quality service is provided for Māori. Individual falls prevention strategies are in place for residents identified at risk of falls. A physiotherapist is available weekly. Strategies implemented to reduce the frequency of falls include the use of sensor mats, regular resident checks, comprehensive handovers and the regular toileting of residents who require assistance. Transfer plans are documented, evaluated, and updated when changes occur. The clinical manager, and registered nurses evaluate interventions for individual residents. Residents are encouraged to attend daily exercises as part of the activities programme.  Electronic reports are completed for each incident/accident, with immediate action noted and any follow-up action(s) required, evidenced in twelve accident/incident forms reviewed (witnessed and unwitnessed falls, an abrasion, and skin tears). Incident and accident data is collated monthly and analysed. Benchmarking occurs internally and via an external consultant. Next of kin are notified following adverse events (confirmed in interviews). Opportunities to minimise future risks are identified by the clinical manager who reviews every adverse event.  Discussions with the management team evidenced awareness of their requirement to notify relevant authorities in relation to essential notifications. There have been section 31 notifications completed to notify HealthCERT around changes in management, and pressure injuries. There has been one outbreak (Covid-19 December 2023) since the previous audit, which was appropriately managed, and staff debriefed. |
| Subsection 2.3: Service management  The people: Skilled, caring health care and support workers listen to me, provide personalised care, and treat me as a whole person. Te Tiriti: The delivery of high-quality health care that is culturally responsive to the needs and aspirations of Māori is achieved through the use of health equity and quality improvement tools. As service providers: We ensure our day-to-day operation is managed to deliver effective person-centred and whānau-centred services. | FA | There is a staffing policy that describes rostering requirements, and the service provides 24/7 registered nurse cover.  The registered nurses and a selection of caregivers hold current first aid certificates. There is a first aid trained staff member on duty 24/7. The management team are available Monday to Friday. They share an on-call roster with the RN staff.  Interviews with caregivers, RN and management team confirmed that their workload is manageable. Staff and residents are informed when there are changes to staffing levels, evidenced in staff interviews, staff meetings and resident meetings.  There is an annual education and training schedule being implemented. The education and training schedule lists compulsory training which includes cultural awareness training. Competencies are completed by staff, which are linked to the education and training programme. All caregivers are required to complete annual competencies for restraint, handwashing, correct use of PPE, cultural safety and moving and handling. A record of completion is maintained.  The service supports and encourages caregivers to obtain a New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA) qualification. Out of a total of 28 caregivers, 23 have achieved a level three NZQA qualification or higher.  Additional RN specific competencies include syringe driver, medication, and interRAI assessment competency. Four RNs (including the clinical manager) are interRAI trained. Staff participate in learning opportunities that provide them with up-to-date information on Māori health outcomes and disparities, and health equity. Staff confirmed that they were provided with resources during their cultural training. Facility meetings provide a forum to encourage collecting and sharing of high-quality Māori health information.  Staff wellness is encouraged through participation in health and wellbeing activities. |
| Subsection 2.4: Health care and support workers  The people: People providing my support have knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that align with my needs. A diverse mix of people in adequate numbers meet my needs. Te Tiriti: Service providers actively recruit and retain a Māori health workforce and invest in building and maintaining their capacity and capability to deliver health care that meets the needs of Māori. As service providers: We have sufficient health care and support workers who are skilled and qualified to provide clinically and culturally safe, respectful, quality care and services. | FA | There are human resources policies in place, including recruitment, selection, orientation and staff training and development. Staff files are securely stored in hard copy. Seven staff files reviewed (one RN, four caregivers, one cleaner, and one cook) evidenced implementation of the recruitment process, employment contracts, police checking and completed orientation.  There are job descriptions in place for all positions that includes outcomes, accountability, responsibilities, and functions to be achieved in each position. All staff sign their job description during their on-boarding to the service. Job descriptions reflect the expected positive behaviours and values, responsibilities, and any additional functions (e.g., restraint coordinator, infection control coordinator).  A register of practising certificates is maintained for all health professionals (e.g., RNs, GPs, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry, and dietitian). There is an appraisal policy. All staff who had been employed for over one year have an annual appraisal completed.  The service has a role-specific orientation programme in place that provides new staff with relevant information for safe work practice and includes buddying when first employed. Competencies are completed at orientation. The service demonstrates that the orientation programmes support RNs and caregivers to provide a culturally safe environment to Māori.  Volunteers are used (particularly with activities) and an orientation programme and policy for volunteers is in place.  Ethnicity data is identified, and an employee ethnicity database is available.  Following any staff incident/accident, evidence of debriefing and follow-up action taken are documented. Wellbeing support is provided to staff. |
| Subsection 2.5: Information  The people: Service providers manage my information sensitively and in accordance with my wishes. Te Tiriti: Service providers collect, store, and use quality ethnicity data in order to achieve Māori health equity. As service provider: We ensure the collection, storage, and use of personal and health information of people using our services is accurate, sufficient, secure, accessible, and confidential. | FA | Resident files and the information associated with residents and staff are retained both electronically and in hard copy (kept in locked cabinets when not in use). Electronic information is regularly backed-up using cloud-based technology and password protected. There is a documented business continuity plan in case of information systems failure.  The resident files are appropriate to the service type and demonstrated service integration. Records are uniquely identifiable, legible, and timely. Signatures that are documented include the name and designation of the service provider. Residents archived files are securely stored in a locked room and are easily retrievable when required.  Residents entering the service have all relevant initial information recorded within 24 hours of entry into the resident’s individual record. An initial care plan is also developed in this time. Personal resident information is kept confidential and cannot be viewed by other residents or members of the public. The service is not responsible for National Health Index registration. |
| Subsection 3.1: Entry and declining entry  The people: Service providers clearly communicate access, timeframes, and costs of accessing services, so that I can choose the most appropriate service provider to meet my needs. Te Tiriti: Service providers work proactively to eliminate inequities between Māori and non-Māori by ensuring fair access to quality care. As service providers: When people enter our service, we adopt a person-centred and whānau-centred approach to their care. We focus on their needs and goals and encourage input from whānau. Where we are unable to meet these needs, adequate information about the reasons for this decision is documented and communicated to the person and whānau. | FA | The service receives referrals from the NASC service, the local hospital, and directly from family/whānau. Residents who are admitted to the service have been assessed by the needs assessment service coordination (NASC) service to determine the required level of care. The clinical manager screens the prospective residents prior to admission.  In cases where entry is declined, there is close liaison between the service and the referral team. The service refers the prospective resident back to the referrer and maintains data around the reason for declining. The clinical manager described reasons for declining entry would only occur if the service could not provide the required service the prospective resident required, after considering staffing and the needs of the resident. The other reason would be if there were no beds available.  The admission policy/decline to entry policy and procedure guide staff around admission and declining processes including required documentation. The service collects ethnicity information at the time of admission from individual residents; and performs routine analysis of same for the purposes of identifying entry and decline rates.  The service has an information pack relating to the services provided at Waratah Retirement Home which is available to family/whānau prior to admission or on entry to the service. Admission agreements reviewed were signed and aligned with contractual requirements. Exclusions from the service are included in the admission agreement. The organisation has a person-centred approach to services provided. Interviews with residents and family/whānau all confirmed they received comprehensive and appropriate information and communication, both at entry and on an ongoing basis.  The service identifies and implements supports to benefit Māori and family/whānau. The service has information available for Māori, in English and in te reo Māori. At the time of audit there were residents identifying as Māori. The service has an established relationships with Māori communities and organisations to benefit Māori. |
| Subsection 3.2: My pathway to wellbeing  The people: I work together with my service providers so they know what matters to me, and we can decide what best supports my wellbeing. Te Tiriti: Service providers work in partnership with Māori and whānau, and support their aspirations, mana motuhake, and whānau rangatiratanga. As service providers: We work in partnership with people and whānau to support wellbeing. | FA | Eight resident files were reviewed and included three rest home level residents and five hospital level residents (including one on respite care). There are clinical management policies and procedures to guide RNs in the development of care plans. The RNs are responsible for conducting all assessments and for the development of care plans. There was evidence of resident and family/whānau involvement in the interRAI assessments and long-term care plans reviewed and this was documented in progress notes. The service supports Māori and family/whānau to identify their own pae ora outcomes in their care plan. The service implements a resident centred care model based on `Te Whare Tapa Whā` for holistic and a strength-based care to wellbeing. The resident care plan and integrated records evidence the implementation of this philosophy.  All residents have admission assessment information collected and an initial care plan completed at the time of admission. Long-term care plans had been completed within 21 days for long-term residents and first interRAI assessments had been completed within the required timeframes. The resident on respite care had an interim care plan completed within 24 hours of admission which addresses cultural considerations, medical and physical needs. Additionally, all files had a suite of assessments completed to form the basis of the long-term care plan or interim care plan.  The assessments and care plans include details to manage selfcare, oral and dental health personal hygiene, continence, nutrition, skin, sleep and comfort, communication, behaviour and mood, intimacy and sexuality, cultural/spiritual needs, cardio-respiratory needs, cognitive, leisure /social needs, and end of life. Additional risk assessment tools include wound assessments as applicable.  All residents had been assessed by the general practitioner (GP) within five working days of admission. The GP service visits routinely weekly and provides out of hours cover. The GP (interviewed) commented positively on the communication and quality of leadership at the facility. Specialist referrals are initiated as needed. Allied health interventions were documented and integrated into care plans. Barriers that prevent tāngata whaikaha and whānau from independently accessing information are identified and strategies to manage these documented. The care plan in place for Māori reflects the partnership and support of residents, family/whānau, and the extended family/whānau as applicable to support wellbeing.  Residents are assessed by the contracted physiotherapist as required, and equipment is available as needed. The service contracts with a physiotherapist for two hours a week and a podiatrist visits every six weeks. Specialist services including mental health, dietitian, speech language therapist, gerontology nurse specialist, wound care and continence nurse specialist are available as required through Health New Zealand - Waitematā.  Care staff interviewed could describe a verbal and written handover at the beginning of each duty that maintains a continuity of service delivery. Progress notes are written electronically every shift and as necessary by caregivers and at least daily by the RNs. The RNs further add to the progress notes if there are any incidents or changes in health status. When a resident’s condition alters, the staff alert the RN who then initiates a review with a GP if required.  Residents interviewed reported their needs and expectations were being met, and family/ whānau confirmed the same. Family/whānau stated they are notified of all changes to health including infections, accident/incidents, GP visits, medication changes and any changes to health status and this has been consistently documented on the electronic resident record.  There were fourteen wounds (chronic lower leg ulcer, skin tears, surgical wounds, and skin lesions/conditions) being managed at the time of the audit. All wounds reviewed had comprehensive wound assessments including photographs (for complex wounds) to show the healing progress. An electronic wound register is maintained, and wound management plans are implemented. There is access to the clinical nurse specialist if needed. There were no pressure injuries at the time of the audit.  Caregivers and RNs interviewed stated there are adequate clinical supplies and equipment provided including wound care supplies and pressure injury prevention resources. Continence products are available and resident files included a continence assessment, with toileting regimes and continence products identified for day use and night use.  Caregivers and the RNs complete monitoring charts including bowel chart, intentional rounding, restraint monitoring, repositioning charts, vital signs, weight, food and fluid chart, blood sugar levels, and behaviour as required. Neurological observations are completed as per the falls prevention programme and neurological observation and recording policy.  Evaluations are completed six-monthly or sooner for a change in health condition and contained written progress towards care goals. InterRAI assessments sampled had been reviewed six-monthly. The GP reviews the residents at least three-monthly or earlier if required. Ongoing nursing evaluations are undertaken by the nurses as required and are documented within the progress notes. Short-term care plans were well utilised for issues such as infections, weight loss, and wounds. |
| Subsection 3.3: Individualised activities  The people: I participate in what matters to me in a way that I like. Te Tiriti: Service providers support Māori community initiatives and activities that promote whanaungatanga. As service providers: We support the people using our services to maintain and develop their interests and participate in meaningful community and social activities, planned and unplanned, which are suitable for their age and stage and are satisfying to them. | FA | There is one activities coordinator working from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm and one part time activities assistant that assists on Mondays. Activities are provided seven days a week with booked entertainers on a Friday. Waratah Retirement Home activities programme is resident and aged focused. There are volunteers involved in the programme with scrabble and knitting groups facilitated during the weekend. The programme meets the recreational needs of the residents and reflects normal patterns of life. The programme is flexible to adapt to resident outings and also includes impromptu activities. The programme reflects residents’ choices.  A monthly activities calendar is posted on the noticeboards and delivered to the residents’ rooms. All interactions observed on the day of the audit evidenced engagement between residents and the activities staff. There are seating areas where quieter activities can occur. There is a hairdressing salon and library.  There are daily exercises as part of the regular programme and a walking group. There are weekly church services. At least two staff accompany residents on outings, (one of these staff has a current first aid certificate). Cultural themed activities are integrated into the activities programme, which includes Māori and Pasifika entertainers. Staff and residents are encouraged to use te reo and the facility has everyday Māori words and their meanings prominently displayed in resident areas. The service links with Māori communities through their Māori residents and Turaungawaewae Marae.  A resident social and leisure profile is completed on admission in consultation with the resident and family/whānau (as appropriate). The activities documentation in the resident files reviewed were tailored to reflect the specific requirements of each resident. The residents are involved in decisions that relate to themselves and to what happens in their home. Residents’ interviews evidence that the activity programme had a focus on maintaining independence and valuable social connections.  In the files reviewed the social and leisure plans had been evaluated six monthly and updated where required. The service receives feedback and suggestions for the programme through resident meetings and resident surveys. The residents and family/whānau interviewed were satisfied with the variety of activities provided |
| Subsection 3.4: My medication  The people: I receive my medication and blood products in a safe and timely manner. Te Tiriti: Service providers shall support and advocate for Māori to access appropriate medication and blood products. As service providers: We ensure people receive their medication and blood products in a safe and timely manner that complies with current legislative requirements and safe practice guidelines. | FA | There are policies available for safe medicine management that meet legislative requirements. Staff (RNs and medication competent caregivers) who administer medications have been assessed for competency on an annual basis. Education around safe medication administration has been provided.  Staff were observed to be safely administering medications. The RNs and caregivers interviewed could describe their role regarding medication administration. The service uses pre-packed for regular medication and ‘as required’ medications. All medications are checked on delivery against the medication chart and any discrepancies are fed back to the supplying pharmacy. The effectiveness of ‘as required’ medications is recorded in the electronic medication system and progress notes.  There is a secure medication room. Medications reviewed were appropriately stored in the medication trolley and medication rooms. The medication fridge and medication room temperatures are monitored daily, and the temperatures were within acceptable ranges. All eyedrops have been dated on opening. All over the counter vitamins or alternative therapies chosen to be used for residents, are considered, and prescribed by the GP.  Sixteen electronic medication charts were reviewed. The medication charts reviewed identified that the GP had reviewed all resident medication charts three-monthly, and each medication chart has a photo identification and allergy status identified. There were no residents self-administering their medications. The medication policy describes the procedure for residents wish to self-administer medications. There are no standing orders in use and no vaccines are kept on site.  There was documented evidence in the clinical files that residents and family/whānau are updated around medication changes, including the reason for changing medications and their side effects. The RNs described working in partnership with all residents to ensure the appropriate support is in place, advice is timely, medications are easily accessed, and treatment is prioritised to achieve better health outcomes. Residents are involved in their three-monthly medical reviews and 6-monthly multi-disciplinary reviews. Any changes to medication are discussed with the resident and or family/whānau. |
| Subsection 3.5: Nutrition to support wellbeing  The people: Service providers meet my nutritional needs and consider my food preferences. Te Tiriti: Menu development respects and supports cultural beliefs, values, and protocols around food and access to traditional foods. As service providers: We ensure people’s nutrition and hydration needs are met to promote and maintain their health and wellbeing. | FA | There is a head cook who oversees food services. All meals and baking are prepared and cooked on site. There is a second cook for weekends and a kitchen assistant for the morning and afternoons. A kitchen hand prepares the tea meal. All food service staff have completed online food safety training. A registered dietician has reviewed the six-week menu. The kitchen receives resident nutritional profiles at admission and is notified of any dietary changes for residents. Dislikes and special dietary requirements are accommodated including food allergies. The cook confirmed their knowledge around international dysphagia diet standard initiative (IDDSI) for food and drink modification.  The food is served by the cook to the residents in the adjacent dining room. There is a tray service provided and food is covered with insulated lids. There is a coffee and tea making area available in a kitchenette for family/whānau to use.  There is a current food control plan in place and expires on 15 August 2025. Daily temperature checks are recorded for freezer, fridge, chiller, inward goods, end-cooked foods, reheating (as required), dishwasher rinse and wash temperatures. All perishable foods and dry goods were date labelled. Cleaning schedules are maintained. Staff were observed to be wearing appropriate personal protective clothing. Chemicals were stored safely. Chemical use and dishwasher efficiency is monitored daily. Residents provide verbal feedback on the meals through the resident meetings. Resident preferences are considered when menus are reviewed. The cook interviewed stated they provide cultural meals. Residents are offered choices at each mealtime. Resident surveys are completed annually and evidence satisfaction with the food service. Residents interviewed expressed their satisfaction with the meal service.  There is a weight management policy that guides weight management. Residents are weighed monthly unless this has been requested more frequently due to weight loss. Residents experiencing unintentional weight loss are seen by a dietitian and fortified smoothies and meals are provided. Caregivers interviewed had a good understanding of tikanga guidelines related to food. |
| Subsection 3.6: Transition, transfer, and discharge  The people: I work together with my service provider so they know what matters to me, and we can decide what best supports my wellbeing when I leave the service. Te Tiriti: Service providers advocate for Māori to ensure they and whānau receive the necessary support during their transition, transfer, and discharge. As service providers: We ensure the people using our service experience consistency and continuity when leaving our services. We work alongside each person and whānau to provide and coordinate a supported transition of care or support. | FA | Planned discharges or transfers were coordinated in collaboration with the resident and family/whānau to ensure continuity of care. The transfer/discharge of residents’ policy ensure discharge or transfer of residents is undertaken in a timely and safe manner. The residents and their family/whānau are involved in the process. Residents and their family/whānau are advised of their options to access other health and disability services, social support or kaupapa Māori agencies when required.  Transfer notes include advance directives, GP notes, summary of the care plan, a resident’s profile, including next of kin are detailed in the transfer documentation. Discharge summaries are uploaded to the electronic resident’s file as evidenced in one resident file reviewed. There is a comprehensive handover process between services |
| Subsection 4.1: The facility  The people: I feel the environment is designed in a way that is safe and is sensitive to my needs. I am able to enter, exit, and move around the environment freely and safely. Te Tiriti: The environment and setting are designed to be Māori-centred and culturally safe for Māori and whānau. As service providers: Our physical environment is safe, well maintained, tidy, and comfortable and accessible, and the people we deliver services to can move independently and freely throughout. The physical environment optimises people’s sense of belonging, independence, interaction, and function. | FA | The building holds a current warrant of fitness (expires 16 June 2024). The maintenance person is working 25-30 hours per week and oversees the annual preventative and planned maintenance plan. The gardening service is contracted out. The visual inspection of indoors and outdoors evidence all is well maintained. The building, art and décor is reflective of peoples’ cultures and supports cultural practices.  There is a maintenance request book for repair and maintenance requests located at the nurse’s station. This is checked daily and signed off when repairs have been completed. There is an annual maintenance plan that includes checking of equipment, call bell checks, calibration of medical equipment and weekly testing of hot water temperatures. Essential contractors/tradespeople are available as required. Maintenance and calibration of equipment have been completed in January 2024.  The reception, kitchen and laundry are situated near the main entrance. The facility is built on a single level with 58 dual purpose beds across an A and B wing. All rooms are single occupancy rooms with full ensuite facilities. Visitors and staff toilets are separate with signs to indicate vacant or occupied.  There is a spacious dining room area adjacent to the kitchen which can accommodate all the residents and mobility equipment. The is a main lounge in each wing with a family/whānau lounge.  Resident rooms are refurbished as they become vacant. Rooms are spacious to safely manoeuvre mobility and transfer equipment. Door entries are spacious and wide for the movement of transfer and ambulance equipment. The corridors are wide with handrails to promote safe mobility. Residents were observed moving freely around the areas with mobility aids. There are well maintained gardens, surrounding deck and all outdoor areas have seating and shade. There is an internal courtyard with raised garden beds. There is safe access to all communal areas and outdoor spaces.  All fixtures, fittings, and flooring are appropriate. Toilet/shower facilities are easy to clean. There is sufficient space in toilet and shower areas to accommodate any equipment required. Residents are encouraged to personalise bedrooms as viewed on the day of audit. All bedrooms and communal areas have ample natural light, ventilation, and heating.  There is no construction planned. If there were major refurbishments or building projects planned in the future, the service plans to engage with their staff who identify as Māori, residents and family/ whānau for feedback and consideration of how designs, art and environments reflect the aspirations and identity of Māori. |
| Subsection 4.2: Security of people and workforce  The people: I trust that if there is an emergency, my service provider will ensure I am safe. Te Tiriti: Service providers provide quality information on emergency and security arrangements to Māori and whānau. As service providers: We deliver care and support in a planned and safe way, including during an emergency or unexpected event. | FA | Refurbishment is ongoing as rooms become vacant. There is a documented security policy in place. There are close circuit television (CCTV) surveillance in the hallways, entry/exits and driveway. The service has recently upgraded their call bell system throughout the facility and extended CCTV surveillance to include the in the kitchen and dining room to support safety and security. Emergency management policies, including the pandemic plan, outlines specific emergency response and evacuation requirements as well as the duties/responsibilities of staff in the event of an emergency.  A fire evacuation plan is in place that has been approved by the New Zealand Fire Service 25 May 2000. A fire evacuation drill is repeated six-monthly in accordance with the facility’s building warrant of fitness with the last drill taking place 11 April 2024. Staff receive training at orientation and annually related to emergency management. Civil defence supplies are stored in an identified area and checked at regular intervals as part of the environmental audits.  A generator is available on site. There are sufficient water supplies in case of a civil defence emergency. A minimum of one person trained in first aid is available at all times.  Some residents have footwear with trackers (with consent) that alarm the sensor beams at certain areas on the grounds; should they move too close to the main street. Call bells are in resident rooms and communal areas (including toilets, showers), which are both audible and show on visual display panels located throughout the facility.  The building is secure out of hours with a bell to summon assistance from staff. Staff perform a security round in the evening to lock the facility internally. Doors leading to the outside are alarmed at night. Visitors and contractors sign in at entry to the building. Staff are easily identifiable |
| Subsection 5.1: Governance  The people: I trust the service provider shows competent leadership to manage my risk of infection and use antimicrobials appropriately. Te Tiriti: Monitoring of equity for Māori is an important component of IP and AMS programme governance. As service providers: Our governance is accountable for ensuring the IP and AMS needs of our service are being met, and we participate in national and regional IP and AMS programmes and respond to relevant issues of national and regional concern. | FA | The clinical manager (registered nurse) oversees infection control and prevention across the service. The job description outlines the responsibility of the role. The infection control programme, its content and detail, is appropriate for the size, complexity and degree of risk associated with the service. Infection control is linked into the quality risk and incident reporting system. The infection control programme is reviewed annually by the management team, infection prevention and control committee, and infection control audits are conducted. Infection rates are presented and discussed at staff, clinical and quality meetings. Infection control data is also reviewed by the management team and benchmarked internally, and via an external consultant. Infection control is part of the strategic and quality plans. The directors receive reports on progress quality and strategic plans relating to infection prevention, surveillance data, outbreak data and outbreak management, infection prevention related audits, resources and costs associated with infection prevention and control, and anti-microbial stewardship (AMS) on a monthly basis including any significant infection events.  The service also has access to an infection prevention clinical nurse specialist from Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora – Waitematā, and the general practitioner.  There are hand sanitisers strategically placed around the facility. Residents and staff are offered influenza vaccinations and most residents are fully vaccinated against Covid-19. |
| Subsection 5.2: The infection prevention programme and implementation  The people: I trust my provider is committed to implementing policies, systems, and processes to manage my risk of infection. Te Tiriti: The infection prevention programme is culturally safe. Communication about the programme is easy to access and navigate and messages are clear and relevant. As service providers: We develop and implement an infection prevention programme that is appropriate to the needs, size, and scope of our services. | FA | The service has a pandemic response plan (including Covid-19) which details the preparation and planning for the management of lockdown, screening, transfers into the facility and positive tests.  The infection control coordinator has completed online education and completed practical sessions in hand hygiene and personal protective equipment (PPE) donning and doffing. There is good external support from the GP, laboratory, external consultant, and Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand – Waitematā infection control nurse specialist. There are sufficient quantities of PPE equipment available as required.  The infection control manual outlines a comprehensive range of policies, standards and guidelines and includes defining roles, responsibilities and oversight, training, and education of staff. Policies and procedures are reviewed by the management team and all policies are available to staff.  There are policies and procedures in place around reusable and single use equipment and the service has incorporated monitoring through their internal audit process. All shared equipment is appropriately disinfected between use. Single use items are not reused. The service incorporates te reo information around infection control for Māori residents and works in partnership with Māori for the protection of culturally safe practices in infection prevention that acknowledge the spirit of Te Tiriti.  The infection control policy states that the facility is committed to the ongoing education of staff and residents. Infection prevention and control is part of staff orientation and included in the annual training plan. There has been additional training and education around pandemic responses (including Covid-19) and staff were informed of any changes by noticeboards, handovers, and electronic messages. Staff have completed handwashing and personal protective equipment competencies. Resident education occurs as part of the daily cares. Residents and families were kept informed and updated on Covid-19 policies and procedures through resident meetings, newsletters, and emails. Posters regarding good infection control practise were displayed in English, Te Reo, and are available in other languages.  There are policies that include aseptic techniques for the management of catheters and wounds to minimise healthcare acquired infections (HAI). The infection control coordinator has input into the procurement of high-quality consumables, personal protective equipment (PPE), and wound care products in collaboration with the facility manager. The management team and infection control coordinator would liaise with their community iwi links should the design of any new building or significant change be proposed to the existing facility. |
| Subsection 5.3: Antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) programme and implementation  The people: I trust that my service provider is committed to responsible antimicrobial use. Te Tiriti: The antimicrobial stewardship programme is culturally safe and easy to access, and messages are clear and relevant. As service providers: We promote responsible antimicrobials prescribing and implement an AMS programme that is appropriate to the needs, size, and scope of our services. | FA | The service has anti-microbial use policy and procedures and monitors compliance on antibiotic and antimicrobial use through evaluation and monitoring of medication prescribing charts, prescriptions, and medical notes. The anti-microbial policy is appropriate for the size, scope, and complexity of the resident cohort. Infection rates are monitored monthly and reported to the care staff, clinical and quality meetings, and management team. Prophylactic use of antibiotics is not considered to be appropriate and is discouraged. |
| Subsection 5.4: Surveillance of health care-associated infection (HAI)  The people: My health and progress are monitored as part of the surveillance programme. Te Tiriti: Surveillance is culturally safe and monitored by ethnicity. As service providers: We carry out surveillance of HAIs and multi-drug-resistant organisms in accordance with national and regional surveillance programmes, agreed objectives, priorities, and methods specified in the infection prevention programme, and with an equity focus. | FA | Infection surveillance is an integral part of the infection control programme and is described in the meetings, Waratah Retirement Home infection control manual. Monthly infection data is collected for all infections based on signs, symptoms, and definition of infection. Infections are entered into the infection register. Surveillance of all infections (including organisms) is entered onto a monthly infection summary. This data is monitored and analysed for trends internally, and quarterly by an external consultant. Culturally safe processes for communication between the service and residents who develop or experience a HAI are practised.  Infection control surveillance is discussed at staff/ quality, and management meetings. The service has incorporated ethnicity data into surveillance methods and data captured is easily extracted. Internal benchmarking is completed by the infection control coordinator, meeting minutes and graphs are displayed for staff. Action plans are required for any infection rates of concern. Internal infection control audits are completed with corrective actions for areas of improvement. The service receives information from Health New Zealand - Waitematā for any community concerns. There has been one outbreak (Covid-19) since the last audit. The facility followed their pandemic plan. There were clear communication pathways with responsibilities and include daily outbreak meetings and communication with residents, relatives, and staff. Staff wore personal protective equipment, cohorting of residents occurred to minimise risks and families were kept informed by phone or email. Visiting was restricted. |
| Subsection 5.5: Environment  The people: I trust health care and support workers to maintain a hygienic environment. My feedback is sought on cleanliness within the environment. Te Tiriti: Māori are assured that culturally safe and appropriate decisions are made in relation to infection prevention and environment. Communication about the environment is culturally safe and easily accessible. As service providers: We deliver services in a clean, hygienic environment that facilitates the prevention of infection and transmission of antimicrobialresistant organisms. | FA | There are policies regarding chemical safety and waste disposal. All chemicals were clearly labelled with manufacturer’s labels and stored in locked areas. Cleaning chemicals are kept in a locked cupboard on the cleaning trolleys and the trolleys are kept in a locked cupboard when not in use. Safety data sheets and product sheets are available. Sharps containers are available and meet the hazardous substances regulations for containers. Gloves, aprons, and masks are available for staff, and they were observed to be wearing these as they carried out their duties on the days of audit. Staff have completed chemical safety training. A chemical provider monitors the effectiveness of chemicals.  Resident’s personal laundry is managed onsite by the caregivers, with linen and towels being outsourced to an external contractor. The laundry area was seen to have a defined clean-dirty workflow, safe chemical storage, and the linen cupboards were well stocked. Cleaning and laundry services are monitored through the internal auditing system. There is appropriate sluice and sanitiser equipment available, and the cleaner interviewed was knowledgeable around systems and processes related to hygiene, infection prevention and control. |
| Subsection 6.1: A process of restraint  The people: I trust the service provider is committed to improving policies, systems, and processes to ensure I am free from restrictions. Te Tiriti: Service providers work in partnership with Māori to ensure services are mana enhancing and use least restrictive practices. As service providers: We demonstrate the rationale for the use of restraint in the context of aiming for elimination. | FA | Waratah Retirement Home is committed to providing service to residents without use of restraint. This is supported by the director and the aim of the guidelines in the restraint policy. At the time of the audit there were three hospital residents using a bedrail and another hospital resident that use a bedrail ad lap belt. Policies and procedures meet the requirements of the standards and include the approved restraints for Waratah Retirement Home. The clinical manager (restraint coordinator) is responsible for the elimination strategy and for monitoring restraint use in the facility. Restraint is discussed at the clinical and quality meetings.  The restraint policy confirms that restraint consideration and application must be done in partnership with families/whānau, and the choice of device must be the least restrictive possible. At all times when restraint is considered, the facility works in partnership with Māori, to promote and ensure services are mana enhancing. A review of the documentation available for residents using restraint, included processes and resources for assessment, authorisation and consent, monitoring, and evaluation. The restraint approval process includes the resident, EPOA, GP, and restraint coordinator.  Restraint related training which includes policies and procedures related to restraint, cultural training and de-escalation strategies is completed as part of the mandatory training plan and orientation. Staff have completed the annual restraint competency. The restraint audit is completed three-monthly and demonstrates compliance with expected standard. |
| Subsection 6.2: Safe restraint  The people: I have options that enable my freedom and ensure my care and support adapts when my needs change, and I trust that the least restrictive options are used first. Te Tiriti: Service providers work in partnership with Māori to ensure that any form of restraint is always the last resort. As service providers: We consider least restrictive practices, implement de-escalation techniques and alternative interventions, and only use approved restraint as the last resort. | FA | Approval processes of restraint are facilitated by the restraint coordination. Assessments for the use of restraint, consent, monitoring, and three-monthly reviews were documented and included all requirements of the Standard. Registered nurses create monitoring charts on to be reflective of the type of restraints, assessed risk and frequency required. Monitoring charts are hard copy, and these were completed as required. The care plans reviewed had interventions documented to monitor risks related to the type of restraint and the frequency of monitoring when restraint is in use.  Residents and family/whānau confirmed their involvement in the process. A restraint register is electronically maintained and contained enough information to provide an auditable record. Restraint discussions are completed as part of the clinical and quality meetings. All restraint reviews are completed three monthly by the restraint coordinator and GP, discussed with the resident (where able), resident’s next-of-kin / advocate where resident permission has been obtained or an Enduring Power of Attorney (EPOA) over personal welfare and health is enacted.  If emergency restraint is required, the restraint coordinator will consult and debrief with family/whānau and /or EPOA and the resident. |
| Subsection 6.3: Quality review of restraint  The people: I feel safe to share my experiences of restraint so I can influence least restrictive practice. Te Tiriti: Monitoring and quality review focus on a commitment to reducing inequities in the rate of restrictive practices experienced by Māori and implementing solutions. As service providers: We maintain or are working towards a restraint-free environment by collecting, monitoring, and reviewing data and implementing improvement activities. | FA | Three monthly reviews are completed and discussed with the resident (where able), resident’s next-of-kin / advocate where resident permission has been obtained or an Enduring Power of Attorney (EPOA) over personal welfare and health is enacted. Any changes to policies, guidelines, education, and processes are implemented as indicated. There is evidence that data analysis has been completed and discussed at clinical and quality meetings and include identified restraints in use, ways to minimise and eliminate the use of restrain for the individual resident, and ongoing restraint and challenging behaviour education to all staff. Restraint data is benchmarked within the electronic system. |

# Specific results for criterion where corrective actions are required

Where a subsection is rated partially attained (PA) or unattained (UA) specific corrective actions are recorded under the relevant criteria for the subsection. The following table contains the criterion where corrective actions have been recorded.

Criterion can be linked to the relevant subsection by looking at the code. For example, Criterion 1.1.1 My service provider shall embed and enact Te Tiriti o Waitangi within all its work, recognising Māori, and supporting Māori in their aspirations, whatever they are (that is, recognising mana motuhake) relates to subsection 1.1: Pae ora healthy futures in Section 1 Our rights.

If there is a message “no data to display” instead of a table, then no corrective actions were required as a result of this audit.

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# Specific results for criterion where a continuous improvement has been recorded

As well as whole subsections, individual criterion within a subsection can also be rated as having a continuous improvement. A continuous improvement means that the provider can demonstrate achievement beyond the level required for full attainment. The following table contains the criterion where the provider has been rated as having made corrective actions have been recorded.

As above, criterion can be linked to the relevant subsection by looking at the code. For example, Criterion 1.1.1 relates to subsection 1.1: Pae ora healthy futures in Section 1: Our rights.

If, instead of a table, these is a message “no data to display” then no continuous improvements were recorded as part of this audit.

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End of the report.