

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety and COVID (of course!)

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Why was it needed
– complaints to the
Aged Care
Complaints
Commissioner

- Neglect in aged care facilities
- Elder abuse
- Insufficient services in the community

- Residential facility complaints
3211-4315/year (2015-18)
- Home and community care 725-
1464 (2015-18)

timeline

- Feb 2019 Started hearings
- Oct 2019 Interim report
- Oct 2020 Final submissions
- Feb 2021 Final report

- All transcripts published

<https://agedcare.royalcommission.gov.au/publications>



Aged Care Royal Commission

- 8th October 2018
- are aged care needs met in the community and aged care services
- Especially people with dementia and young <65 years
- 10200 submissions
- Across Australia
- Review of innovative models in Australia and overseas



Interim report

- A shocking tale of neglect
- Dreadful food ,nutrition, hydration
- Inadequate wound care
- Poor continence care
- High use of physical restraints
- Overprescribing of psychotropic medications
- Low availability of palliative care

- Aged care is built around funding not care

outcomes

- 124 recommendations:
- governance
- Financial (cost/profit/government funding model/new pricing authority)
- Staffing (numbers/education,nursing,allied health)
- Change of practices
- Increased community services
- Research
- One assessment for community and aged care facilities
- All under 65s to go back into the community

Better access to health care

- GP accreditation
- Fund local health districts to provide more services
- Dental
- Rural enhancement
- Telehealth
- Only geriatricians and psychiatrists to prescribe antipsychotics
- Rehabilitation in aged care facilities

A few interesting comments

Royal Commission is a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a better system for the elderly

The hallmark of a civilised society is how it treats its vulnerable populations -
Late Commissioner Tracey

My personal experience

Provide a lot of service to the community and aged care facilities

Chronic/sub-acute/acute services

Acute services-providing assessment in the person's home/aged care facilities....avoiding hospitalisation

Darwin was calling

Provision of our services to aged care facilities and community

COVID

- 2 aged care facilities (Newmarch and in NSW
- Victorian aged care facilities
- → Royal Commission
- Our experience in SESLHD-103 aged care facilities:2 residents only

PREPAREDNESS is the key:

- Identification(swabbing)
- Isolation/environment/infection control
- Equipment PPE
- Staffing (nursing/allied health/administrative/medical)
- Advance care directives /hospitalisation
- telehealth



Thank you!