Aged Care – Encouraging Best Practice

Why is this important?
- While clinical and practice guidelines exist for residential and community aged care, these are not always nationally consistent or linked to the standards under the Aged Care Act 1997. This leads to inconsistencies in applying best practice in aged care homes.
- Leading aged care services will work with groups of aged care homes, researchers and educators to define and implement the most up-to-date, evidence based, care practices including for clinical assessment, medication management, wound management, infection control and falls prevention.

Who will benefit?
- Initially the staff and residents of around 20 aged care homes will benefit from direct involvement in the development of best practice care, with more homes and their residents benefiting as the care practices developed are promoted and taken up more widely.

What funding is the Government committing to the initiative?
- The Government has committed new funding of $21.6 million over four years to support this initiative.

What have we done in the past?
- This initiative will complement accreditation, quality reporting and other processes already in place to support aged care services in providing best practice care.

When will the initiative conclude?
- This initiative will be reviewed in the 2010-11 Budget.