



THE HON JUSTINE ELLIOT MP

Minister for Ageing

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$8.7 Million to Enhance Quality Aged Care

Nursing Homes across Australia will benefit from a new funding round worth more than \$8.7 million to encourage homes to use improved evidence-based clinical care.

Minister for Ageing, Mrs Justine Elliot, encouraged applications at a conference of aged care providers in Melbourne today.

Mrs Elliot said more than \$8.7 million would be provided in the round – part of the Australian Government's \$21.6 million over four year Encouraging Best Practice in Residential Aged Care (EBPRAC) program.

"This is about improving clinical care for residents by encouraging homes to use evidence-based best practice," Mrs Elliot said.

"There are many very dedicated and skilled workers in residential care homes providing our older Australians with a high level of care.

"New developments in treatment, care and research are happening all the time and it's important aged care providers are across these so they can provide best practice care," Mrs Elliot said.

The funding round will target areas including:

- wound management;
- incontinence management;
- behaviour management;
- infection control; and
- palliative care.

Mrs Elliot said the University of Wollongong had been contracted to conduct a national evaluation of the EBPRAC program.

"This evaluation will highlight what's been learned and identify opportunities for future activities.

"It will also measure the impact of the projects' implementation on management, staff and residents of aged care homes," Mrs Elliot said.

Projects funded through EBPRAC are run by consortiums consisting of a lead organisation, a number of aged care homes, as well as researchers and educators.

Details of the first round EBPRAC projects can be found at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing-bestpractice-program.htm

Further details of the EBPRAC funding round can be found on the Department of Health and Ageing's web site on the 'Tenders and Grants' page at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Listing+of+Tenders+and+Grants-1

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