# National Aged Care Mandatory Quality Indicator Program (QI Program)

Information sheet for general practitioners (GPs) and allied health professionals

## What is the QI Program?

The QI Program reports quality indicator data from all Commonwealth-subsidised residential aged care services. Quality indicators measure important areas of care affecting peoples’ health and wellbeing. Since 1 July 2019, the QI Program has required all approved residential aged care providers to collect quarterly quality indicator data.

## What are the benefits of the QI Program?

The QI Program supports:

* services to measure, monitor and improve the quality of care they provide to older people
* older people and their families with transparent information when making choices about residential aged care
* policy and system-level improvement by providing measures of aged care quality.

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| **The QI Program includes the following quality indicators:** | |
| An icon of an arrow placing pressure on curved lines represent the Pressure injuries quality indicator. | **Pressure injuries**   * Percentage of care recipients with one or more pressure injuries. * Percentage of care recipients with pressure injuries reported against 6 pressure injury stages. |
| **An icon of a hand being physically restrained by the wrist represents the Physical Restraint quality indicator.** | **Restrictive practices (formerly physical restraint)**   * Percentage of care recipients who were subject to the use of a restrictive practice (excluding chemical restraint). * Percentage of care recipients who were subject to the use of a restrictive practice exclusively through the use of a secure area. |
| **An icon of feet on a weighing scale represents the Unplanned Weight Loss quality indicator.** | **Unplanned weight loss**   * Percentage of care recipients who experienced significant unplanned weight loss (5% or more). * Percentage of care recipients who experienced consecutive unplanned weight loss. |
| **An icon of a person slipping and falling represents the Falls and major injuries quality indicator.** | **Falls and major injuries**   * Percentage of care recipients who experienced one or more falls. * Percentage of care recipients who experienced one or more falls resulting in major injury. |
| **An icon of two medication pills represents the Medication management pill quality indicator.** | **Medication management**   * Percentage of care recipients who were prescribed nine or more medications. * Percentage of care recipients who received antipsychotic medications. |
| **An icon of a person using an assistive walking device represents the Activities of daily living quality indicator.** | **Activities of daily living**   * Percentage of care recipients who experienced a decline in activities of daily living. |
| **An icon of a  droplet represents the Incontinence care quality indicator.** | **Incontinence care**   * Percentage of care recipients who experienced incontinence associated dermatitis. |
| **An icon of a hospital cross with a pixelated top represents the Hospitalisation quality indicator.** | **Hospitalisation**   * Percentage of care recipients who had one or more emergency department presentations. * Percentage of care recipients who had one or more emergency presentations and hospitalisations. |
| **An icon of three people in a triangular shape (two at back and one at front) represent the Workforce quality indicator.** | **Workforce**   * Percentage of staff turnover. |
| **An icon of  thumbs up in a speech bubble represent the Consumer experience quality indicator.** | **Consumer experience**   * Percentage of care recipients who report ‘good’ or ‘excellent’ experience of the service. |
| **An icon of two cupped hands with a floating heart on top represent the Quality of life quality indicator.** | **Quality of life**   * Percentage of care recipients who report ‘good’ or ‘excellent’ quality of life. |
| **An icon of a nurse and a patient to represent the enrolled nursing quality indicator.** | **Enrolled nursing**   * Proportion of enrolled nursing care minutes. * Proportion of nursing care minutes. |
| **An icon of a person accessing health rehabilitation therapy to represent the allied health quality indicator.** | **Allied health**   * Allied health care minutes. * Percentage of recommended allied health services received. |
| **An icon of a lifestyle officer doing yoga and listening to music to represent the lifestyle officer quality indicator.** | **Lifestyle officer**   * Lifestyle officer care minutes. |

## What does the QI Program mean for me?

The QI Program supports access to information on the quality of care being delivered by aged care providers. This information can guide the delivery of better care through development of tailored care management plans and quality improvement activities.

QI Program data is also available to assist your care recipients and their families to make more informed decisions about residential aged care options.

Dedicated resources to assist understanding of QI Program data and to support quality improvement activities are available on the [QI Program website](https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/qi-program/resources).

## How can I access QI Program data?

Approved providers of residential aged care can access their own QI Program data and national average reports via the Government Provider Management System.

National, state and territory level QI Program reports are published every three months on the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare [GEN Aged Care Data website,](https://gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/) with data also available by remoteness.

A subset of the QI Program data also feeds into the quality measures rating in Star Ratings. Star Ratings for all residential aged care services are published on the [My Aged Care website](https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/). This information helps older people to make more informed choices about their aged care.

## Where can I find more information?

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| For dedicated QI Program resources and guidance materials:   * Department of Health and Aged Care website: <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/qi-program/resources> | For additional QI Program assistance:   * My Aged Care provider and assessor helpline 1800 836 799 (and select option 5)   Monday - Friday (8am - 8pm) or Saturdays (10am - 2pm) |

**Let’s change aged care together**

We invite Australians to continue to have their say about the aged care reforms.

Visit **agedcareengagement.health.gov.au**

Phone **1800 318 209** (Aged care reform free-call phone line)

For translating and interpreting services, call 131 450 and ask for 1800 318 209.   
To use the National Relay Service, visit nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/n’s to choose your preferred access point on their website, or call the NRS Helpdesk on 1800 555 660.

