

***We are the regulator:** Our job is to check whether hospitals, care homes and care services are meeting essential standards.*

West Farm Care Centre

West Farm Avenue, Longbenton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE12 8UT

Tel: 01912189626

Date of Inspection: 29 July 2014

Date of Publication: August 2014

We inspected the following standards to check that action had been taken to meet them. This is what we found:

Management of medicines

✓ Met this standard

Records

✓ Met this standard

Details about this location

Registered Provider	West Farm Care Centre Ltd
Registered Manager	Mrs Kay Hamblett
Overview of the service	West Farm Care Centre is a two storey residential care home situated in Longbenton, Newcastle Upon Tyne which provides accommodation and personal care to older persons, some of whom have dementia. The home can accommodate up to 50 people.
Type of service	Care home service without nursing
Regulated activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care

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Summary of this inspection

Why we carried out this inspection

We carried out this inspection to check whether West Farm Care Centre had taken action to meet the following essential standards:

- Management of medicines
- Records

This was an unannounced inspection.

How we carried out this inspection

We looked at the personal care or treatment records of people who use the service, carried out a visit on 29 July 2014, talked with staff and talked with commissioners of services.

What people told us and what we found

We spoke with the manager and deputy and examined the system for administering medications. We found there was an appropriate system in place for the administration of medications.

We found adequate records were in place to record food and fluid intake for people who were at risk of malnutrition and dehydration to help ensure appropriate action could be taken if people refused food and drinks.

You can see our judgements on the front page of this report.

More information about the provider

Please see our website www.cqc.org.uk for more information, including our most recent judgements against the essential standards. You can contact us using the telephone number on the back of the report if you have additional questions.

There is a glossary at the back of this report which has definitions for words and phrases we use in the report.

Our judgements for each standard inspected

Management of medicines

✓ Met this standard

People should be given the medicines they need when they need them, and in a safe way

Our judgement

The provider was meeting this standard.

People were protected against the risks associated with medicines because the provider had appropriate arrangements in place to manage medicines.

Reasons for our judgement

When we last inspected this service on 11 and 12 June 2014 we told the provider that they were not meeting this essential standard. We said, "People were not protected against the risks associated with medicines because the provider did not have appropriate arrangements in place to manage medicines." We judged that this had a minor impact on people who used the service, and told the provider to take action.

In response to our report, the provider wrote to us and told us what actions they were going to take in order to improve.

At our last inspection we looked at a sample of medication administration records (MAR) and saw that there were gaps in recording. For example, there were medications missing from some dosette boxes and there was signatures missing which meant the provider could not confirm these medications had actually been administered. We also saw that some medications were present in the dosette boxes when they should have been administered and there was no code recorded to confirm the reason why these had not been given.

At this inspection we found that MARs sheets were completed to confirm when medications had been administered and where medications had not been administered codes had been recorded on people's MAR sheets to confirm why these had not been given. We checked a random sample of people's medications. We found that the number of drugs remaining in the dosette boxes corresponded with the number medications recorded as having been administered on people's MAR sheets. This meant that it was easy to ascertain when drugs had been given to people or alternatively if they had refused them.

People's personal records, including medical records, should be accurate and kept safe and confidential

Our judgement

The provider was meeting this standard.

People were protected from the risks of unsafe or inappropriate care and treatment because accurate and appropriate records were maintained.

Reasons for our judgement

When we last inspected this service on 11 and 12 June 2014 we told the provider that they were not meeting this essential standard. We said, "People were not always protected from the risks of unsafe or inappropriate care and treatment because accurate and appropriate records were not maintained." We judged that this had a minor impact on people who used the service, and told the provider to take action.

In response to our report, the provider wrote to us and told us what actions they were going to take to improve.

At our last inspection we found that a health care professional had recommended wrist and arm exercises be carried out for two people who lived in the home and records kept in relation to this were not adequately maintained.

We also found that accurate records were not maintained where people were at risk of malnutrition and dehydration, to show that they were receiving adequate care and support.

At this inspection the manager told us that at the present time no one required support with wrist and arm exercises but all staff had been reminded of the importance of keeping up to date records should they be required in the future.

We looked at the charts in place to record food and fluid intake for people who were at risk of malnutrition and dehydration. The charts showed that staff had recorded the amount of food and drink people were receiving on a regular basis. This meant that senior staff could take appropriate action if people refused food and drinks to prevent malnutrition and dehydration.

About CQC inspections

We are the regulator of health and social care in England.

All providers of regulated health and social care services have a legal responsibility to make sure they are meeting essential standards of quality and safety. These are the standards everyone should be able to expect when they receive care.

The essential standards are described in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 and the Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009. We regulate against these standards, which we sometimes describe as "government standards".

We carry out unannounced inspections of all care homes, acute hospitals and domiciliary care services in England at least once a year to judge whether or not the essential standards are being met. We carry out inspections of other services less often. All of our inspections are unannounced unless there is a good reason to let the provider know we are coming.

There are 16 essential standards that relate most directly to the quality and safety of care and these are grouped into five key areas. When we inspect we could check all or part of any of the 16 standards at any time depending on the individual circumstances of the service. Because of this we often check different standards at different times.

When we inspect, we always visit and we do things like observe how people are cared for, and we talk to people who use the service, to their carers and to staff. We also review information we have gathered about the provider, check the service's records and check whether the right systems and processes are in place.

We focus on whether or not the provider is meeting the standards and we are guided by whether people are experiencing the outcomes they should be able to expect when the standards are being met. By outcomes we mean the impact care has on the health, safety and welfare of people who use the service, and the experience they have whilst receiving it.

Our inspectors judge if any action is required by the provider of the service to improve the standard of care being provided. Where providers are non-compliant with the regulations, we take enforcement action against them. If we require a service to take action, or if we take enforcement action, we re-inspect it before its next routine inspection was due. This could mean we re-inspect a service several times in one year. We also might decide to re-inspect a service if new concerns emerge about it before the next routine inspection.

In between inspections we continually monitor information we have about providers. The information comes from the public, the provider, other organisations, and from care workers.

You can tell us about your experience of this provider on our website.

How we define our judgements

The following pages show our findings and regulatory judgement for each essential standard or part of the standard that we inspected. Our judgements are based on the ongoing review and analysis of the information gathered by CQC about this provider and the evidence collected during this inspection.

We reach one of the following judgements for each essential standard inspected.

✓ Met this standard This means that the standard was being met in that the provider was compliant with the regulation. If we find that standards were met, we take no regulatory action but we may make comments that may be useful to the provider and to the public about minor improvements that could be made.

✗ Action needed This means that the standard was not being met in that the provider was non-compliant with the regulation. We may have set a compliance action requiring the provider to produce a report setting out how and by when changes will be made to make sure they comply with the standard. We monitor the implementation of action plans in these reports and, if necessary, take further action. We may have identified a breach of a regulation which is more serious, and we will make sure action is taken. We will report on this when it is complete.

✗ Enforcement action taken If the breach of the regulation was more serious, or there have been several or continual breaches, we have a range of actions we take using the criminal and/or civil procedures in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and relevant regulations. These enforcement powers include issuing a warning notice; restricting or suspending the services a provider can offer, or the number of people it can care for; issuing fines and formal cautions; in extreme cases, cancelling a provider or managers registration or prosecuting a manager or provider. These enforcement powers are set out in law and mean that we can take swift, targeted action where services are failing people.

How we define our judgements (continued)

Where we find non-compliance with a regulation (or part of a regulation), we state which part of the regulation has been breached. Only where there is non compliance with one or more of Regulations 9-24 of the Regulated Activity Regulations, will our report include a judgement about the level of impact on people who use the service (and others, if appropriate to the regulation). This could be a minor, moderate or major impact.

Minor impact - people who use the service experienced poor care that had an impact on their health, safety or welfare or there was a risk of this happening. The impact was not significant and the matter could be managed or resolved quickly.

Moderate impact - people who use the service experienced poor care that had a significant effect on their health, safety or welfare or there was a risk of this happening. The matter may need to be resolved quickly.

Major impact - people who use the service experienced poor care that had a serious current or long term impact on their health, safety and welfare, or there was a risk of this happening. The matter needs to be resolved quickly

We decide the most appropriate action to take to ensure that the necessary changes are made. We always follow up to check whether action has been taken to meet the standards.

Glossary of terms we use in this report

Essential standard

The essential standards of quality and safety are described in our *Guidance about compliance: Essential standards of quality and safety*. They consist of a significant number of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 and the Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009. These regulations describe the essential standards of quality and safety that people who use health and adult social care services have a right to expect. A full list of the standards can be found within the *Guidance about compliance*. The 16 essential standards are:

Respecting and involving people who use services - Outcome 1 (Regulation 17)

Consent to care and treatment - Outcome 2 (Regulation 18)

Care and welfare of people who use services - Outcome 4 (Regulation 9)

Meeting Nutritional Needs - Outcome 5 (Regulation 14)

Cooperating with other providers - Outcome 6 (Regulation 24)

Safeguarding people who use services from abuse - Outcome 7 (Regulation 11)

Cleanliness and infection control - Outcome 8 (Regulation 12)

Management of medicines - Outcome 9 (Regulation 13)

Safety and suitability of premises - Outcome 10 (Regulation 15)

Safety, availability and suitability of equipment - Outcome 11 (Regulation 16)

Requirements relating to workers - Outcome 12 (Regulation 21)

Staffing - Outcome 13 (Regulation 22)

Supporting Staff - Outcome 14 (Regulation 23)

Assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision - Outcome 16 (Regulation 10)

Complaints - Outcome 17 (Regulation 19)

Records - Outcome 21 (Regulation 20)

Regulated activity

These are prescribed activities related to care and treatment that require registration with CQC. These are set out in legislation, and reflect the services provided.

Glossary of terms we use in this report (continued)

(Registered) Provider

There are several legal terms relating to the providers of services. These include registered person, service provider and registered manager. The term 'provider' means anyone with a legal responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the law are carried out. On our website we often refer to providers as a 'service'.

Regulations

We regulate against the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 and the Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009.

Responsive inspection

This is carried out at any time in relation to identified concerns.

Routine inspection

This is planned and could occur at any time. We sometimes describe this as a scheduled inspection.

Themed inspection

This is targeted to look at specific standards, sectors or types of care.

Contact us

Phone: 03000 616161

Email: enquiries@ccq.org.uk

Write to us
at: Care Quality Commission
Citygate
Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4PA

Website: www.cqc.org.uk

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