

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR RESIDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES & WHĀNAU

Date

Very soon will be introducing a new ARC Medication Chart that will be better for residents and staff than the chart currently in use.

Why this is important?

Most residents in our rest home need medicines to keep them well. Managing those medicines in the rest home is complex. The medication chart that records the medicines a resident is currently taking and the doctor's instructions for using them is a very important part of the process. It ensures residents' medicines are effective and residents are safe.

Because it is so important, we are always looking for ways to improve how we manage residents' medicines.

What we will be doing?

We will be introducing a new medication chart. This new chart has been developed by the Health Quality & Safety Commission for use in many rest homes across New Zealand.

The new medication chart is designed to be easier to fill in, and work from, than present charts in our day-to-day operations. It has the support of the nurses, caregivers, doctors and pharmacists who care for residents in our rest home.

Will residents notice anything different?

It is likely residents will notice very little difference when the new medication chart is introduced.

The most likely thing they will see is that the chart their medicines are recorded on will look slightly different from the chart they are used to. The new chart won't require doctors to change the medicines residents are taking. That said, as is usual, individual residents may find their medicines change from time to time as their health changes.

What do residents need to do?

Residents don't need to do anything different as the new chart is brought in. Caregivers will continue to ask residents to take their medicines as before.

If you have any concerns about the new medication chart, please let one of the nurses know.