



# High Quality Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities

GPs contributing to improved  
health care and outcomes

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Divisions of General Practice Network Forum

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# The Ageing Challenge

“To provide appropriate care of the highest quality to older adults regardless of whether they are living at home or in a residential aged care facility. The General Practitioner is the key person in enabling this to happen.”

Fewer GPs are working in RACF

By 2050

- 25% population will be >65 years
- Almost 9% will be > 80 years



# The RACGP and Aged Care

- National leader in setting and maintaining the standards of quality practice, education, training and research in Australian general practice.
- Current policy on aged care . . . . .  
*Provision of continuing care . . Co-ordination . .  
.advocacy . . Referral . . Liaison*
- Active member of the NACA: National Aged Care Alliance
- Medical Care of Older Persons in Residential Aged Care Facilities



# The Silver Book

## What is the Silver Book?

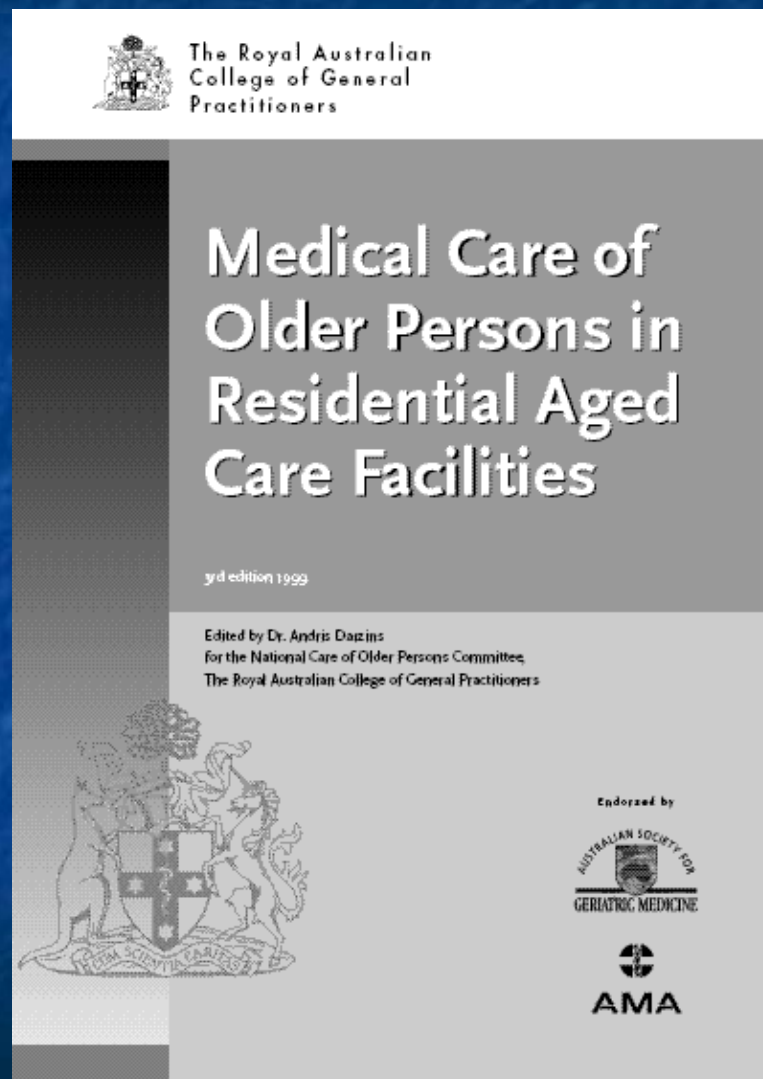
Aims: to improve residents health and quality of care

The general practitioner is the key primary health care provider for the aged.

Used as a guide and checklist by the profession to facilitate effective care.

Available at:

<http://www.racgp.org.au/folder.asp?id=1008>





# Why Update Now?

- Evolving clinical best practice and evidence based practice
- Increased focus on the interface between general practice and residential aged care
- Changing demographics i.e post war migrant population may present new challenges for management and service provision
- Changing aged care environment - new initiatives CMAs and GP Panels
- Analysis of mix of aged care activity undertaken by GPs residential aged care services through the work of Attendance Item Restructuring Group
- Ongoing workplace challenges



# The Updating Process

- Key stakeholder consultations
- National Silver Book Task Force
  - leading GPs and aged care experts
- Pilot group of interested GPs and aged care experts
- Literature review
- General consultation



# What Do We Think Needs Changing?

- Update palliative care, falls prevention, medication management
- Include new sections on teamwork, the aged care environment, new financial incentives, working systematically
- Include new tools that support GPs working effectively



# A Sneak Peak at the Literature

Clinical	Services	Management
Prevention of injury/factures, Falls prevention, Sleep disorders, Urinary incontinence Respiratory infections in institutions	Quality of clinical services Polypharmacy issues Under/over prescribing Multidisciplinary interventions Dementia ass. & management	Medication management Med'n review Systematic ways of working Resources – physical, human Medical records Useful reference material



# How Can You Be Involved

- Share your expertise, ideas and suggestions for this valuable resource initiative by completing the consultation questionnaire Encourage GPs from your Division to contribute.
- Contact Sheila Neve, Project Officer
  - Ph. (08) 8267 8342 or
    - email: [sheila.neve@racgp.or.au](mailto:sheila.neve@racgp.or.au)



## Your Help . . . Now

Following are three questions that we would like answered as part of our consultation process. We have an opportunity to spend the next 15 minutes discussing them. If you would like to make a comment please make your way down to the microphones.



When you think about residential aged care, what do you think are the issues for GP medical services?



What ideas, suggestions, thoughts do you have about what the Silver Book should include?



Do you have any examples of successful interface models/resources used by GPs and residential care organisations to share with us?



Want to participate in the consultation?

Take a questionnaire and contact:

Project Officer: Sheila Neve

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Email: [sheila.neve@racgp.org.au](mailto:sheila.neve@racgp.org.au)

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Thank you for your participation