

**Subject:** Feedback for new accreditation

**Date:** Wed 30/05/2018 9:30 AM

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Hi there

I would like to state my concerns with the new draft.

Lifestyle will no longer be specifically mentioned at all. This worries me greatly.

I have my certificate IV in Leisure and Health but only obtained this after my mother went into care with dementia. I was so shocked by the lack of specialised understanding and no knowledge of how to engage residents living with dementia to involve them in meaningful activities which will enhance their lives. Where my Mum is I have seen them try and "dumb down" the role by putting on staff who are arty for eg. They have no knowledge of how to engage the resident or modify activities so that each individual resident will have success. And the same happens also with those residents who don't have dementia.

Not everybody loves bingo. But yet this seems to be the thing management seems to think we should always have on. Already there are constant battles with management as to why we need to provide equipment for eg sandpaper so some of our men can do some woodworking, because in their care plan they have stated they would like to maintain their love of woodworking.

Where I currently work I am the only trained Lifestyle person and I am not even paid more for my qualifications. Yet when they show prospective new families to our facility it is "lifestyle choices" which they use to sell the place.

We as a profession need to be recognised for the important work we do and the difference we do make to our elderly.

I urge to reconsider the omission of lifestyle and make it mandatory that there be a lifestyle component with in the new proposed standards.

I am happy to discuss this with you in more detail if needed.

Regards