

Aaroncare Limited

Aaron Court Care Home

Inspection report

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Good 

Is the service safe?

Good 

Is the service well-led?

Good 

Overall summary

We carried out an unannounced comprehensive inspection of this service on 16 February 2015. During this inspection a breach of legal requirements was found. This was because the medicine arrangements did not protect people from the risks associated with unsafe management of medicines.

After the comprehensive inspection, the provider wrote to us and told us what actions they were taking to ensure that they met the legal requirements in relation to the breach. We undertook a focused inspection on the 29 May 2015 to check that the improvements had been made and to confirm that they now met legal requirements.

We undertook this focused inspection to check that they had followed their plan and to confirm that they now met legal requirements. This report only covers our findings in

relation to this topic. You can read the report from our last comprehensive inspection, by selecting the 'all reports' link for 'Aaron Court Care Home' on our website at www.cqc.org.uk.

Aaron Court Care Home is registered to provide personal and nursing care for up to 73 older people and people with dementia. The home has single room en-suite accommodation over two floors. Each floor has lounges, dining areas and bathing and toilet facilities. There is also a garden, which had a seating area with chairs and tables.

The home has a registered manager who has been in post for ten years. A registered manager is a person who has registered with the Care Quality Commission to

Summary of findings

manage the service. Like registered providers, they are 'registered persons'. Registered persons have legal responsibility for meeting the requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated Regulations about how the service is run.

At our focused inspection on the 29 May 2015, we found that the registered provider had followed their plan and legal requirements had been met.

Many people living in the home were unaware of what medicines they took so were unable to discuss them with us.

Medicines were stored appropriately and were locked away securely to ensure that they were not misused.

There was an effective system of stock control in place and this helped both to reduce the risk of people running out of their medicines and also to minimise the amount of medication wasted.

Risk assessments and care plans were in place to support people who wished to look after some or all of their own medication.

Summary of findings

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Good



The service was safe

We found that action had been taken to improve the safety of how medicines were managed within the service.

We found that the service was safe because people were protected against the risks associated with use and management of medicines. People received their medicines at the times they needed them and in a safe way.

Is the service well-led?

Good



The service was well –led

We found that action had been taken by the provider to ensure that regular audits and checks were carried out in relation to medicine management.

We saw that audits (checks) of medicines were carried out regularly to assess the way medicines were managed and to ensure that people continued to receive the support they needed.

Aaron Court Care Home

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, to look at the overall quality of the service, and to provide a rating for the service under the Care Act 2014.

We undertook a focused inspection of Aaron Court Care Home on 29 May 2015. This inspection was completed to check that improvements to meet legal requirements planned by the provider after our comprehensive inspection on 16 February 2015 had been made. We

inspected the service against two of the five questions we ask about services; is the service safe and is the service well-led. This was because the service was not meeting legal requirements in relation to this question.

The inspection was undertaken by a pharmacist inspector.

Before our inspection we reviewed information we held about the service, this included the providers action plan, which set out the action they would take to meet the legal requirements. We spoke with the registered manager and three nurses.

During the visit we looked at how medicines were managed, how they were stored and the documents and records in relation to the management of people medicines.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

At our comprehensive inspection of Aaron Court Care Home on the 16 February 2015 we found that the medicine arrangements did not always protect people from the risks associated with unsafe management of medicines. We asked the provider to take action to improve that management of medicines within the service.

This was a breach of Regulation 13 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008

(Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 which now is Regulation 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014.

Following the inspection the provider wrote to us and told us what actions they were taking to ensure that medicines were managed appropriately.

At our focused inspection on 29 May 2015 we found that the provider had followed their action plan they had written to make improvements in relation to the requirements of Regulation 12 described above.

During this inspection we found that improvements had been made and people were now protected against the risks associated with the administration, handling and recording of medicines.

We looked at a sample of medicines; medication administration records (MARs) and other records for 18

people living across each of the different units making up the service. We spoke with three nurses about the safe management of medicines, including creams and nutritional supplements.

Medicines were stored appropriately and were locked away securely to ensure that they were not misused. The majority of medicines, including Controlled Drugs (strong medicines with extra storage and recording requirements), could be accounted for easily as records were clear and accurate. A check of records and stocks showed that people had been given their medicines correctly. In one case however, we were unable to reconcile the current stock with the records and the manager agreed to look into this. There was an effective system of stock control in place and this helped both to reduce the risk of people running out of their medicines and also to minimise the amount of medication wasted.

Medicines were only handled and administered by nurses; although care workers were responsible for applying and recording most emollient and barrier creams (for skin protection). These products were kept in locked cupboards within people's bedrooms. Care workers had clear instructions as to how, where and when creams should be applied and kept clear records about their use. Nurses reviewed records daily to make sure the care workers had applied these as prescribed.

Risk assessments and care plans were in place to support people who wished to look after some or all of their own medication.

Is the service well-led?

Our findings

At our comprehensive inspection of Aaron Court Care Home on the 16 February 2015 we found that the auditing system in relation to medicines required improvement. We found that the medicines audits had not identified discrepancies that had been found during the inspection on 16 February 2015. Following the inspection the provider wrote to us and told us what action they were going to take to improve the auditing of medicines within the service.

During this inspection we saw that improvements had been made as to how the medicines within the service were audited. We saw that regular audits (checks) were carried out to determine how well the service managed medicines. We saw evidence that where concerns had been identified, action had been taken to address the concerns and further improve medicines management within the service. This demonstrated that effective auditing systems were in place in relation to the management of people's medicines.