

The IDC-IMPROVE Project

Improving indwelling urinary catheter care in residential aged care



Context

The most recent data from the Australian National Aged Care Classification shows that 8% of people in aged care homes in Australia needed support for a catheter of some type, most likely a long-term indwelling urinary catheter. This represents 20,021 aged care residents.

Although urinary catheters are potentially beneficial, many people experience complications such as infection, particularly if the catheter is used long-term.

Researchers at NARI have designed a set of resources to help providers meet their responsibilities under the Aged Care Act to minimise and manage the clinical risks associated with catheters AND to uphold and protect the emotional wellbeing, independence, dignity and quality of life of a person with a catheter.

The resources, titled the **IDC-IMPROVE Catheter Care Bundle** are based on the best available evidence and promote person-centred catheter care.

Aim

To support Australia’s aged care workforce to care for people with urinary catheters in aged care homes.

Objective

To establish the feasibility of conducting a definitive randomised control trial to evaluate the effects of the IDC-IMPROVE Catheter Care Bundle in aged care homes.

NARI Staff

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Study Design

A multi-centre, facility-level cluster randomised control feasibility trial to evaluate the feasibility of implementing the IDC-IMPROVE Catheter Care Bundle in Australian aged care homes. 24 aged care homes in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland are being sought to participate.

The IDC-IMPROVE Catheter Care Bundle consists of:

ONLINE CATHETER CARE COURSES

Customised for nurses & personal care workers on indwelling urinary catheter care in residential aged care

CATHETERISATION SKILLS WORKSHOP FOR NURSES

The Continence Foundation’s face-to-face on-site skills-based workshop to develop & practice catheterisation skills

EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE SUPPORT

A coaching program to support nurses & managers/seniors to apply the Bundle to practice.

TOOLKIT FOR MANAGERS/SENIOR LEADERS

Project information, organisational audit tool & staff capabilities

Timeframe

3-year project (2023 – 2026)

Collaborators



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