

UNANNOUNCED C. DIFFICILE

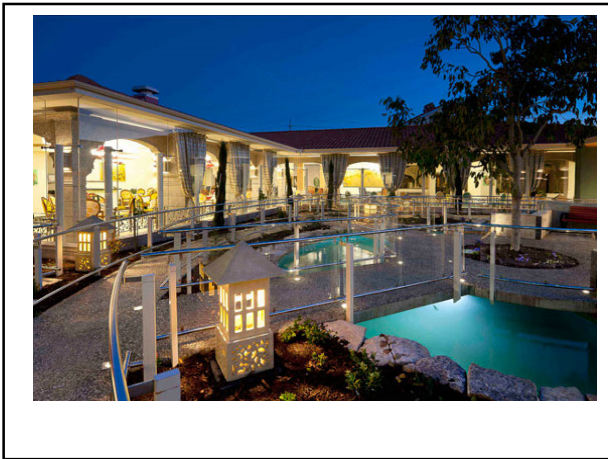
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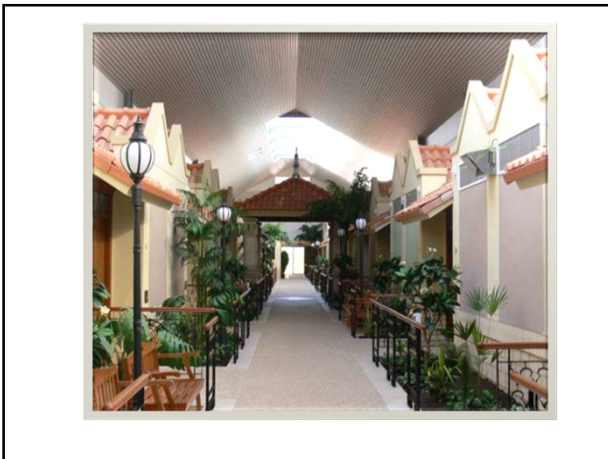
Introduction

- Residential facilities vary enormously, some being ***** others, of necessity not so.
- Whatever they are they are managed by multi skilled, professional nurses who deserve our respect and admiration. They love their residents.
- Aged Care facilities are unique and require unique policies and procedures.
- A quick look-----

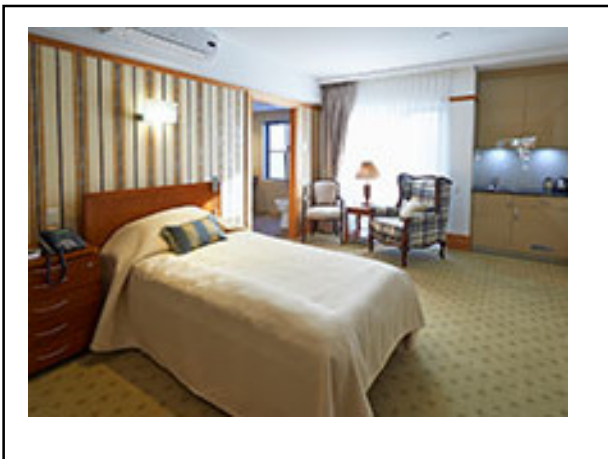














Case History

- Elderly gentleman returned from hospital via ambulance.
- Once settled the transfer documents were opened by the RN.
- It was noted that he had Clostridium difficile.
- This was not mentioned when transfer was arranged.

Clinical Microbiologist

- It was noted that following consult, the Clinical Microbiologist had agreed for his return with the following conditions.
 - His diarrhoea had resolved.
 - He had a single room with en-suite
 - He only mixed with healthy people.
- The Microbiologist agreed that he had never been into an aged care facility but saw the prospect looming!

Resident

- Unfortunately this was an old facility intended for people who could not afford luxury.
- His explosive diarrhoea was still present.
- He was in a shared 4 bed room with shared bathroom. This is what he paid for.
- There was not a healthy person in site (except staff)

PROBLEM

1. Ignorance = fear.
2. Compliance with hospitals recommendation not possible.
3. Information provided by the hospital inappropriate .

Management

- A series of “for Information” sheets existed, designed specifically for untrained staff. C. Difficile was one .
- Possibly due to good hand washing, good cleaning and the lack of possible susceptible people, there was no transmission.
- It could have been a disaster.
- Similar things happen every day with MRO’s

CONCLUSION

- Quality information on patient transfer data is very important and in line with the professional behavior we all expect as outlined in the National Standards
- Nurses working in these areas are our professional colleagues doing very difficult jobs looking after the frail elderly and providing quality existence.
- Be nice to stop the blame game.
- **WARNING** **One day it could be YOU.**

Thank you.
