

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TOOL - HIGHER CARE

Date: Time: Facility:

Unit: Observer:

1	UNOBTRUSIVELY REDUCE RISKS	N/A	NO	YES	ADD 1 IF UNOBTRUSIVE	SCORE
1	Can people who live in the unit be prevented from leaving the garden/outside area by getting over or under the perimeter? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	1	
2	Can people who live in the unit be prevented from leaving the garden/outside area through the gate? (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1	1	
3	Can the front door leading out of the unit be secured?	N/A	0	1	1	
4	Outside, is there step free access to all areas? (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
5	Outside, are all floor surface materials safe from being slippery when wet? (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
6	Outside, is the path surface even? (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
7	Outside, are the paths clear of obstacles (e.g. trees, thorny plants) along and over the path? (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
8	Outside, are the paths wide enough to allow two wheelchairs to pass? (Minimum width is 1.8 metres). (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
9	Outside, are all ramps of a gradient suitable for wheelchair use? (Gradient 1 in 14 or less). (N/A = No outside area)	N/A	0	1		
10	Is there a way to keep residents out of the kitchen if required? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	1	
11	Can appliances be locked away in the kitchen the residents use? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	1	
12	Is there a switch to turn off electricity to power points in the kitchen the residents use? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	1	
13	Inside, are all floor surfaces safe from being slippery when wet?		0	1		
14	Inside, is contrast between floor surfaces avoided (e.g. sharp distinction between bedroom floor and corridor)?		0	1		
15	Inside, are all ramps of a gradient suitable for wheelchair use? (Gradient 1 in 14 or less) (No ramps = 1)		0	1		
16	Is it easy to transfer a non-ambulant person from their bed to the ensuite/WC (using appropriate equipment)?		0	1		

2 PROVIDE A HUMAN SCALE						
Number of people		1-10	11-16	17-29	30+	SCORE
1	How many people live in the unit?	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1	Score 0	
Scale of building		NO	YES			
2	Does the scale (height and width) of the common areas allow a person to feel comfortable (and not uneasy because they are too big or too small)?	0	1			
3 ALLOW PEOPLE TO SEE AND BE SEEN						SCORE
1	What proportion of residents can see the inside of a lounge room as soon as they leave their bedroom?	0-25% Score 0	26-50% Score 1	51% - 75% Score 2	76% - 100% Score 3	
2	What proportion of residents can see their bedroom entry as soon as they leave a lounge room? (Bedroom entry includes bedroom door, architrave or other feature specific to a particular bedroom)	0-25% Score 0	26-50% Score 1	51% - 75% Score 2	76% - 100% Score 3	
3	What proportion of residents can see the inside of a dining room as soon as they leave their bedroom?	0-25% Score 0	26-50% Score 1	51% - 75% Score 2	76% - 100% Score 3	
4	Can the exit to a garden or outside area be seen from the lounge or dining room that is used by most residents? (N/A = no lounge, dining room or outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
5	Can the dining room be seen into from the lounge room? (Answer with reference to lounge and dining room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge or dining room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
6	Can a toilet be seen from the lounge room that is used by most residents? (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
7	Can a toilet be seen from the dining room that is used by most residents? (N/A = no dining room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
8	Can the lounge room that is used by most residents be seen into from where staff spend most of their time? (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
9	Can the dining room that is used by most residents be seen into from where staff spend most of their time? (N/A = no dining room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
10	Can a garden or outside area for the residents be seen from where staff spend most of their time? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		

Total score

4 MANAGE LEVELS OF STIMULATION - REDUCE UNHELPFUL STIMULATION		NO	YES	SCORE
1	Are doors to cleaners' cupboards, storerooms and other areas where residents may find danger easily seen?	1	0	
2	Is the wardrobe (or cupboard) that the resident uses full of a confusing number of clothes and/or irrelevant objects?	1	0	
3	Is there a public address, staff paging or call system with bells, loudspeakers or flashing lights in use?	1	0	
4	Does the noise from closing doors disturb residents, (e.g. flapping kitchen doors, noisy automatic doors)?	1	0	
5	Is there a lot of visual clutter in the unit (i.e. notices, objects, furniture that are either irrelevant to residents or make it hard for them to interpret their environment)?	1	0	
6	Inside, can glare be avoided by using curtains and blinds?	0	1	

5 MANAGE LEVELS OF STIMULATION - OPTIMISE HELPFUL STIMULATION		SCORE				
1	Does each room have a distinctive character and feel (i.e. is it easy to identify a room as a dining room or a lounge room)?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
2	Is the dining room clearly recognisable from outside the room? (Answer with reference to dining room used by most residents) (N/A = no dining room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
3	What percentage of residents have a clearly defined path from their room to the dining room (e.g. by using colour objects and signage, or can see the dining room from their room)?		0- 25% Score 0	26- 50% Score 1	51- 75% Score 2	76- 100% Score 3
4	Is the lounge room clearly recognisable from outside the room? (Answer with reference to lounge room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
5	Are different corridors clearly recognisable so residents can identify where they are? (N/A = no corridors)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
6	Are personalised signs, symbols or displays prominently displayed to identify bedrooms?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
7	Are shared ensuites/bathrooms/toilets clearly marked with a sign (text and symbol) or colour coded door? (N/A = no shared ensuite, bathroom or toilet)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
8	Is, or can, the bed be placed so that it is possible to see the toilet pan from the bed when lying down?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		

5 MANAGE LEVELS OF STIMULATION - OPTIMISE HELPFUL STIMULATION

SCORE

		0-25% Score 0	26-74% Score 1	75-100% Score 2		
9	Do the toilet seats contrast with the background?					
10	What percentage of residents have a window that provides an attractive view to the outside from their bed?	0-25% Score 0	26-50% Score 1	51-75% Score 2	76-100% Score 3	
11	Inside, are contrasting materials used so that edges of surfaces and objects can be easily seen (e.g. coloured borders, different floor, wall and ceiling colour)?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
12	Inside, are olfactory cues (such as perfumed flowers or kitchen smells) used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
13	Inside, are tactile cues used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are (e.g. different floor finishes, fittings such as door handles)?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
14	Inside, are auditory cues used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are (e.g. music, sound of a water feature)?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
15	Outside, are contrasting materials used so that edges of surfaces and objects can be easily seen (e.g. coloured borders on paths, different colours and materials for seats and ground surfaces)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
16	Outside, are a variety of materials and finishes used to create an interesting and varied environment for a person with dementia and help them know where they are (e.g. brick, timber stone, grass)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
17	Outside, are olfactory cues (such as perfumed plants) used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
18	Outside, are auditory cues used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are (e.g. wind chimes)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	NO Score 0	YES Score 1		
19	Inside, is there an attractive view to outside from the lounge and/or dining room for a person seated or lying down?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1		

6	SUPPORT MOVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE
1	Is there a clearly defined accessible path that avoids dead ends and locked exits and guides the resident from inside to outside and back to their starting point? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
2	Outside, is there a path that guides residents past areas that might invite participation in an appropriate activity? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
3	Outside, is there a choice of activities for residents to participate in (such as sorting tools, seeing birds, checking the clothesline)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
4	Outside, are there chairs or benches at frequent intervals so people can sit and enjoy the fresh air? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
5	Outside, are there both shady and sunny areas along the path? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
6	Outside, does the path allow residents to be taken past a range of activities that they can passively participate in (such as looking at plants, watching birds)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
7	Are there verandahs or shaded seating areas in close proximity to the building?		0	1	
8	Inside, is there a path that guides residents past areas that might invite participation in an appropriate activity (such as folding clothes, listening to music)?		0	1	
9	Inside, does the path take residents past chairs that provide opportunities for rest and/or conversation?		0	1	

7	CREATE A FAMILIAR PLACE	N/A	NONE	A FEW	MANY	SCORE
1	Are there any pieces of furniture in the lounge room that are of a design that are not familiar to the majority of residents? (Answer with reference to lounge room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	2	1	0	
2	Are there any pieces of furniture in bedrooms that are of a design that are not familiar to the majority of residents?		2	1	0	
3	Have most of the residents decorated their bedrooms (e.g. with photos, pictures, objects)?		0	1	2	
4	Do residents have their own furniture in their own bedrooms?		0	1	2	

8 PROVIDE A VARIETY OF PLACES TO BE ALONE OR WITH OTHERS - IN THE UNIT					SCORE
1	Within the unit, are there places where a small group of people can gather?	NO Score 0	1 Score 1	2 or more Score 2	
2	Within the unit, are there places where a person can be on their own/or in private conversation (e.g. nooks, sitting areas)?	NO Score 0	1 Score 1	2 Score 2	3 or more Score 3
3	How many different characters are there within the unit (e.g. cosy lounge, TV room, sunroom)?	1 Score 0	2 or 3 Score 1	4 or more Score 2	
4	Does the dining room allow for a choice to eat alone?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	
5	Does the lounge room provide opportunities for people to be in private conversation?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	
6	Outside, are there places in the garden or outdoor area where a person can be on their own and/or in private conversation?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	

9 PROVIDE A VARIETY OF PLACES TO BE ALONE OR WITH OTHERS - IN THE COMMUNITY					SCORE
1	Is there easy access to places which encourage interaction and engagement with the wider community (e.g. children, knitting groups, church groups)?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	
2	Is there a room where families can share meals and/or celebrations with their relatives?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	
3	Is there an easily accessible place where families and friends can feel comfortable while taking a break from visiting (e.g. when visiting a very sick person)?	NO Score 0		YES Score 1	

10 DESIGN IN RESPONSE TO VISION FOR WAY OF LIFE

SCORE

1	<p>What is the vision/purpose of the unit for people with dementia? To provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A homelike environment b) A hotel like environment with hotel like services c) A medical care facility d) A lifestyle environment focusing on recreation, exercise or another aspect of lifestyle e) A centre of excellence for people with dementia f) Other . . . 	<p>Circle one option a b c d e f</p>	
2	<p>How well does the built environment enable this to happen? (Ask the manager or their representative for their view)</p> <p>1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well</p>	<p>Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5</p>	

EAT-HC ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Here are some additional questions you may wish to consider.

These are questions that did not meet measurement requirements for inclusion in the EAT-HC, but may nonetheless be useful for consultation purposes.

1	UNOBTRUSIVELY REDUCE RISKS	N/A	NO	YES	ADD 1 IF UNOBTRUSIVE	SCORE
a	Can people who don't live in the unit be prevented from getting in through the gate to the garden/outside area? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	1	
b	Can all side doors leading out of the unit be secured? (This does not refer to side doors leading to a secure garden/outdoor area.)		0	1	1	
c	Can bedroom windows (and/or doors) be restricted in the extent to which they open so that people cannot climb in or out?	N/A	0	1	1	
d	Is there a lockable knife drawer in the kitchen the residents use (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	1	
e	Is the cook top in the kitchen the residents use a gas cooktop? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen or no cooktop)	N/A	0	1		
f	Are rooms large enough to allow for the use of mobility aids (e.g. wheelchairs, frames)?		0	1		
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Unobtrusively reduce risk'?				Circle one option		
1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well				1 2 3 4 5		

2	PROVIDE A HUMAN SCALE	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE	
a	Does the detailing of the unit inside (e.g. use of different finishes and materials) focus on the human scale?		0	1		
b	Does the detailing of the unit outside (e.g. window finishes, variety of materials) focus on the human scale? (Is a person not dwarfed or intimidated by the facility when outside?) (N/A = No outside area)		0	1		
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Provide a human scale'?				Circle one option		
1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well				1 2 3 4 5		

3	ALLOW PEOPLE TO SEE AND BE SEEN	SCORE
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a	What proportion of residents can see their bedroom entry as soon as they leave a dining room? (Bedroom entry includes bedroom door, architrave or other feature specific to a particular bedroom)	0-25% Score 0	26-50% Score 1	51-75% Score 2	76-100% Score 3	
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Allow people to see and be seen'? 1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well				Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5		

4	MANAGE LEVELS OF STIMULATION - REDUCE UNHELPFUL STIMULATION	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE
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a	Is the noise from any kitchen disturbing for residents?		1	0	
b	Are deliveries of food, linen etc taken through resident areas such as lounge or dining rooms?		1	0	
c	Is there any constant source of noise that could be confusing or disturbing for residents (e.g. loud TV/radio left on regardless of people watching/listening)?		1	0	
d	Is the front door to the unit easily visible to residents?		1	0	
e	Is the service entry (where food linen etc is delivered) easily visible to residents?		1	0	
f	Are there mirrors that could be confusing or disturbing for residents?		1	0	
g	Are there unpleasant smells or odours?		1	0	
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Manage levels of stimulation - Reduce unhelpful stimulation'? 1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well			Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5		

5	MANAGE LEVELS OF STIMULATION - OPTIMISE HELPFUL STIMULATION	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE
a	Are different parts of a long corridor clearly recognisable so residents can identify where they are? (N/A = no long corridor)	N/A	0	1	
b	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the lounge room, can you (the observer) read this question using only daylight? (Answer with reference to lounge room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	0	1	
c	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the dining room, can you (the observer) read this question using only daylight? (Answer with reference to dining room used by most residents) (N/A = no dining room)	N/A	0	1	
d	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of a (typical) corridor, can you (the observer) read this question using only daylight? (N/A = no corridor)	N/A	0	1	
e	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the resident accessible kitchen, can you (the observer) read this question using only daylight? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	
f	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the lounge room, can you (the observer) read this question using artificial light? (Answer with reference to lounge room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	0	1	
g	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the dining room, can you (the observer) read this question using artificial light? (Answer with reference to dining room used by most residents) (N/A = no dining room)	N/A	0	1	
h	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of a (typical) corridor, can you (the observer) read this question using artificial light? (N/A = no corridor)	N/A	0	1	
i	In the daytime, when standing in the middle of the resident accessible kitchen, can you (the observer) read this question using artificial light? (N/A = no resident accessible kitchen)	N/A	0	1	
j	Inside, are a variety of materials and finishes used to create an interesting and varied environment for a person with dementia and help them know where they are? (e.g. timber flooring, vinyl, carpet, exposed roof beams, wall paneling)		0	1	
k	Outside, are tactile cues used to provide a variety of experiences for a person with dementia and help them know where they are (e.g. timber deck and concrete paths)? (N/A = no outside area)	N/A	0	1	
	On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Manage levels of stimulation - Optimise helpful stimulation'? 1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well		Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5		

6	SUPPORT MOVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT	NO	YES	SCORE
a	Inside, is there a choice of activities for residents to participate in?	0	1	
b	Inside, does the route allow residents to be taken past a range of activities that they can passively participate in (such as enjoying a view, listening to music)?	0	1	
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Support movement and engagement'? 1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well		Circle one option		
		1	2 3 4 5	

7	CREATE A FAMILIAR PLACE	N/A	NONE	A FEW	MANY	SCORE
a	Are there colours in the furnishings or the decoration of the lounge room that are not familiar to the majority of residents? (Answer with reference to lounge room used by most residents) (N/A = no lounge room)	N/A	2	1	0	
b	Are there fittings and fixtures (e.g. taps, light switches) in the unit that are of a design that are not familiar to the majority of residents?		2	1	0	
On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Create a familiar place'? 1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well		Circle one option				
			1 2 3 4 5			

8	PROVIDE A VARIETY OF PLACES TO BE ALONE OR WITH OTHERS - IN THE UNIT	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE
a	Near or within the unit, are there easily accessible places, other than the main lounge, where a group of more than 8 people can gather?		NO Score 0	1 Score 1	2 or more Score 2
b	Outside, are there places in the garden or outdoor area where a small group of people can gather?		NO Score 0	YES Score 1	
<p>On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Provide a variety of places to be alone or with others in the unit'?</p> <p>1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well</p>				<p>Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5</p>	

9	PROVIDE A VARIETY OF PLACES TO BE ALONE OR WITH OTHERS - IN THE COMMUNITY	N/A	NO	YES	SCORE
a	Is there easy access to places which encourage interaction and engagement with residents who live elsewhere on the site? (N/A = no other residents living on site)	N/A	0	1	
b	Does the building blend into the streetscape?		0	1	
c	Is there a place for residents to go to if they do not wish to take part in an activity involving visitors from the community?		0	1	
<p>On the whole, how well do you think this facility responds to the principle of 'Provide a variety of places to be alone or with others in the community'?</p> <p>1 = not at all well 5 = extremely well</p>				<p>Circle one option 1 2 3 4 5</p>	