

Implementation of Safewards to manage the use of restrictive practices in residential aged care

ACTRN12624000044527

Status RECRUITING
Sponsor Uniting Communities Incorporated
Enrollment 200 participants

Plain Language Summary

Safewards is a model originally developed for mental health hospital wards in the UK that trains staff to use ten practical, evidence-based strategies for reducing conflict and distress among patients. By improving how staff and residents interact, these approaches aim to reduce the need for restrictive practices — such as physical restraint — that can be distressing and harmful. This study is testing whether the Safewards model can be successfully adapted and implemented in residential aged care facilities in Australia.

The trial involves training aged care staff at participating facilities and giving them the tools and resources to implement the ten Safewards interventions in their daily work. Researchers will measure whether staff feel more confident and equipped, and whether the use of restrictive practices decreases as a result. The study is primarily focused on staff outcomes and practice change, rather than enrolling residents directly.

This study is open to aged care staff, including carers, nurses, and organisational leaders, working at facilities participating in the trial. Participation is entirely voluntary and there are no formal exclusion criteria. If you work in an aged care facility taking part in this study, you may be invited to complete surveys or participate in training and interviews.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (1)

- Aged care staff (n= 200) who work in the homes participating in the study and the organisational leaders.

Locations (1 total)

SA, Australia