

Alzheimer's Australia – Answers to Questions on Notice – 24 April 2009

Increase in care packages needed

The Alzheimer's Australia National Consumer Committee has advocated for an “increase in the ratio of Australian Government funded community care places from 25 places per 1000 people aged 70 plus years to 35 per 1000 people aged 70 plus years including expansion of packages specifically for people with dementia”. This position is contained in the National Dementia Manifesto 2007-2010 prepared by the Committee and published in October 2007. It is available at <http://www.alzheimers.org.au/upload/Manifesto0710.pdf>

The number of people with dementia who receive no formal care

In the forthcoming report Making Choices: Future Dementia Care commissioned from Access Economics by Alzheimer's Australia the conclusion is reached on page 60

In 2008, 60.3% of people with dementia (137,182) were living in the community. Around 85,100 received no formal care (37% of all people with dementia).

On page 148 the following table gives the details of the formal care provided to people with dementia

TABLE 5–1: PROVISION OF FORMAL (PAID) CARE TO PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA (A)(B)(C), 2008

Residential location	People with dementia (%)	Hours of formal (paid) care	Formal (paid) FTEs	Hours of formal care per pwd	Formal FTEs per pwd
Living in the community with no assistance	85,125(37)	0	0	0	0.0
Living in the community with HACC	41,399(18)	1,615,567	941	39	0.0
Living in the community with CACP	7,291(3)	4,996,045	2,909	685	0.4
Living in the community with EACH, EACH-D	3,368(2)	3,444,237	2,005	1,023	0.6
Living in RAC (RCS 5-8)	15,061(7)	20,408,293	11,882	1,355	0.8
Living in RAC (RCS1-4)	75,107(33)	113,531,075	66,099	1,512	0.9
Total	227,350(100)	143,995,217	83,835	1,012(d)	0.6(d)

(a) FTE based on 38 hours per week, adjusted for recreation leave, sick leave and long service leave. (b) Based on an average of ANHECA and Bentley's MRI estimates for high care RAC. (c) Excludes a large number of HACC, CACP, EACH and EACH-D services provided to people with dementia living in the community such as meals, linen deliveries and transport trips, as these are not measured in hours. (d) Averages calculated only for people receiving formal care.

Source: Access Economics calculations.

The report will be published on 5 May 2009

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