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CCC Calls for Continuing Care Transparency

Tomorrow, Panorama will once again focus on the injustice of people with intense care needs being denied fully-funded NHS continuing care.

In response, CCC¹ calls for Government policies for providing and funding care of older people to be based on a realistic understanding of the needs of people receiving care. CCC recommends a regular care census to ensure that policy planning reflects evolving needs.

CCC recently conducted the largest ever census of UK care home residents. It found that:

- 89% of residents had required care as a result of the disabilities arising from long-term medical conditions
- 54% required care related to dementia, stroke or Parkinsonism
- 72% of residents were immobile or reliant on assistance
- 24% were confused *and* immobile *and* incontinent

Dr Clive Bowman, CCC's Chairman, calls for the census approach to be repeated and extended in future years. He said:

“CCC has long advocated that a single assessment process could not only determine eligibility for care but also, through data collation, inform the Department of Health of changes in needs and variations in service as well as ensure that an individual's care is based on a common understanding. This approach could help overcome the many serious and continuing criticisms regarding care funding.”

“Meanwhile, we welcome the Department of Health's consultation on proposals for a national framework for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care in England. We strongly urge all those affected by care assessments to respond to the consultation, which ends on 22 September.”

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¹ CCC is a broad-based, independent coalition of commercial, charitable and public service organisations with a shared interest in providing better long-term care for older people.



Notes for Editors:

1. Contacts for further information:

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2. CCC is a broad-based, independent coalition of commercial, charitable and public service organisations with a shared interest in providing better long-term care for older people. CCC has been acting as an advocate for managed change since it was established in 1992 as the Continuing Care Conference with the objectives of:
 - o increasing awareness and developing understanding of long-term care of older people as a political issue
 - o raising the standards of care available to older people
 - o developing the standards of financial products used to fund long-term care
3. CCC's 2006 Care Home Census was carried out in spring 2006 by BUPA Care Homes, the National Care Forum (NCF), the Registered Nursing Home Association (RNHA) and the Cornwall Registered Homes Action Group (CRHAG). The census mapped the care needs of over 32,000 people resident in 751 care homes across the UK. Further information about the census, and a conference convened on 30 June, including the programme, speakers and presentations are available [here](#).
4. *The Best Care Possible?*, CCC's long-term care policy 'healthcheck', identifies a wide range of issues and outlines measures needed to enable people to get the best care possible to meet their needs.
5. CCC's Chairman is Dr Clive Bowman FRCP, Medical Director, BUPA Care Services. CCC's Steering Group members are listed at www.ccc-ltc.org.uk/about/steering-group
6. BBC's Panorama programme, The NHS National Homes Swindle - A Growing Scandal: Update, will be broadcast on BBC 1 at 10.30 pm on Sunday, 23 July. Webpage: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/panorama/5188580.stm>

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