

## **Introductory Note for Nurses**

These *Ethical Protocols for Nurses* are meant to assist nurses employed in a residential aged care setting and who have the overall responsibility for the day-by-day care of residents. Nurses have a unique contribution to make to the care of residents of aged care homes, both within their individual practice and as part of a multidisciplinary team.

The nursing profession's own Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics are in no way diminished by the *Ethical Protocols for Nurses*. The *Ethical Protocols for Nurses* have been developed to identify specific circumstances in aged care homes where ethical issues may arise for nurses, and to provide appropriate guidance for their resolution.

Nurses include registered nurses at all levels and enrolled nurses (or however named). Nurses at different levels have different responsibilities.

**These protocols in no way replace, or seek to amend, clinical procedures as they relate to good clinical practices or best practice. They are intended to be a guide to good ethical practice.**