



Australian Government



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## AN-ACC: Shadow Assessment Period

Starting in April 2021, everyone living in an Australian Government funded residential aged care facility (excluding Palliative Residents) will be assessed under a new classification model called the Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC). The assessments will run over a 12 month period, alongside the current Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI) funding arrangements. This period will be referred to as the 'shadow assessment period'.

During the shadow assessment period, independent and experienced aged care clinicians will visit residential care facilities across Australia to complete AN-ACC assessments with residents. These assessments will help to facilitate an easy transition to the AN-ACC funding model, if the Government decides to proceed with AN-ACC as a replacement for the ACFI.

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### *Did you know?*

There will be no change to the current ACFI funding arrangements during the shadow assessment period – ACFI assessments and reviews will continue as normal for new and existing residents.

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### **Who are AN-ACC assessors?**

In December 2020, the Department of Health contracted six independent Assessment Management Organisations located around Australia to conduct assessments during the shadow assessment period. These are:

- Access Care Network Australia Pty Ltd
- Australian Healthcare Associates Pty Ltd
- Care Tasmania Pty Ltd t/as Care Assess
- Health Administration Corporation, as represented by NSW Ministry of Health
- Healthcare Australia
- Serendipity (WA) Pty Ltd t/as Advanced Personnel Management.

All AN-ACC assessors employed by these organisations are experienced aged care clinicians, being registered nurses, occupational therapists and physiotherapists, who have undergone comprehensive training on how to use the purpose-built AN-ACC tool.

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### ***Did you know?***

AN-ACC assessments will not impact aged care services or fees charged by providers during the shadow assessment period.

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### **What does this mean for providers?**

During the shadow assessment period, residential aged care providers will be contacted by an Assessment Management Organisation to organise a time for AN-ACC assessments to be conducted at their facility. When this happens, providers should:

- continue to meet the care needs of their residents in line with the Aged Care Quality Standards
  - continue to follow the current funding process and submit ACFI assessments and reviews for new and existing residents
  - inform residents and their families/carers when AN-ACC assessors will be at the facility to conduct assessments.
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### ***Did you know?***

Providers should continue to follow the current ACFI funding arrangements and processes to receive Government payments and subsidies, as funding will continue to be determined under ACFI until such time as the Government determines it will proceed with the ANACC model.

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### **What does this mean for residents?**

During the shadow assessment period, residents (other than palliative) of all Government funded residential care facilities will have an AN-ACC assessment. This involves an assessor having a discussion with residents, observation of activities, and assessing their ability both physically and cognitively.

### **More information**

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