**Implementing Clinical Governance Frameworks for Diabetes Care in Residential Aged Care Homes**

**Background:**
Diabetes affects about one in four residents in Residential Aged Care Homes (RACHs), often alongside cognitive impairment, frailty, and multiple chronic conditions. These complexities challenge safe and effective diabetes management. A structured, multidisciplinary approach is essential to deliver high-quality, person-centred care. Clinical governance provides a framework to support ongoing improvement, accountability, and consistency across aged care homes.

**Aim:**
To advocate for awareness and adoption of the NDSS Diabetes Quality Assessment Audit Tool as part of clinical governance to standardise and improve diabetes care in aged care.

**Methods**

Aged care services must be made aware of and have access to the NDSS Diabetes Quality Assessment Audit Tool. This tool helps RACHs benchmark practices and identify care gaps. Key elements include individualised care plans and protocols for hypoglycaemia, hyperglycaemia, sick days, and considered use of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM). Implementation requires multidisciplinary collaboration among nurses, General Practitioners, Nurse Practitioners, Dietitians, and Allied Health Professionals. Staff capability is supported through education, clear communication, and routine audit-feedback cycles.

**Results**

Clinical governance frameworks will improve diabetes care consistency, strengthen coordination, and support safer clinical decisions. Education and audits will enhance staff confidence and accountability. Team-based planning will increase responsiveness to residents’ needs.

**Discussion/Conclusion**

Clinical governance enables RACHs to deliver high-quality diabetes care tailored to the complex needs of older adults. It helps prevent complications, reduces avoidable hospitalisations, and supports better health outcomes. The NDSS Diabetes Quality Improvement Tool promotes continuous monitoring, benchmarking, and accountability. This approach supports sustainable quality improvement across aged care and aligns with the new Aged Care Quality Standards, specifically Standard 5: Clinical Care.