Yellow Envelope Fact Sheet



An Australian Government Initiative

What is the Yellow Envelope?



The Yellow Envelope is a communication tool used by aged care homes to assist in the safe transfer of residents. It accompanies the resident to hospital and returns with them.

The Yellow Envelope uses a checklist. It prompts health professionals to confidentially enclose current and complete information about the resident's unique care needs and preferences.

The Yellow Envelope supports a person centred approach to decision making when transferring residents across health sectors.

The Yellow Envelope has two sides

Side 1



The aged care home completes this side of the envelope. The envelope goes with the resident when they are transported to hospital. Side 1 checklists prompt the home to communicate with the GP, hospital and family.

Side 2



The hospital completes this side of the envelope. The envelope leaves hospital with the resident. Side 2 checklists prompt the hospital to communicate information about the resident's treatment and ongoing care needs with the GP, aged care home and family.

What goes in the envelope?



The items enclosed are unique to the resident. They can include care plans, Advance Care Directives, referral letters, discharge summaries, medication summaries, test results and medications.

