

Title Meal choice for residential aged care is not yet defined: A scoping review of policies, standards, reports, and guidelines



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Study

Making choices around food and mealtimes is important to maintain a sense of self and autonomy for residents living in residential aged care. However, is residents right to choose adequately protected? To answer this question, a scoping review of policies, standards, reports, and guidelines was conducted to identify if residents right to make choices about the meals they eat, was discussed in these important documents. The review included 29 texts from multiple jurisdictions and countries.

What was found

The concept of choice, in regards to the number of meal options offered to residents, was discussed ambiguously. Broad, general statements stated residents should have choice, but lacked definitive definitions and requirements for choice.

Practical Applications

- Homes are provided with insufficient menu planning guidelines to ensure choice is appropriately provided to all residents.
- More definitive requirements and recommendations are need to protect residents right to makes choices about their meals In residential aged care.

How to reference journal article

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