



Royal College of Nursing
Shaping nursing since 1916

Council

Date of meeting:	21 July 2016
Title of Paper:	Report of the Ethics Committee
Appendices:	Appendix A – Seminar programme
Presented by:	Sue Warner, Chair of the West Midlands Board, Joint Chair of NPPC and a Member of the Ethics Committee and Cecilia Anim, President
Is a decision required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. The Ethics Committee hosted its third seminar on 15 July in the new West Midlands Regional Office.
2. It was hosted by Sue Warner, Chair of the West Midlands Board, Joint Chair of NPPC and a Member of the Ethics Committee and Janet Holt, Chair of the Ethics Committee. The President also attended.
3. The Ethics Committee organised this seminar with the West Midlands branches of the Institute of Ageing and Health and the National Council of Women after being asked to take a lead on the 2015 Congress Item urging RCN Council to oppose the use of covert video and audio surveillance and recording in nursing and residential homes.
4. The debate at 2015 Congress was about whether to use surveillance for the purpose of ensuring the delivery of safe, effective, compassionate and high-quality care services.
5. The programme for the seminar is attached at Appendix A. As you will see the aim was to address this issue from the different perspectives of the nursing profession, of the nursing and care home and the residents of care homes and their families.

6. The outcomes of the seminar will be written up into a paper to inform the RCN's position on this important issue. This will be submitted to the next meeting of the Nursing Practice and Policy Committee.

Background

7. Whether to use surveillance is a decision for care providers to make in consultation with the people who use their services and with families, carers, trade unions and staff.
8. The Care Quality Commission guidance sets out some of the key issues care providers need to take into account to help ensure decisions about the potential use of surveillance are informed, appropriate and lawful. It also describes some of the alternative steps providers can consider before deciding to use surveillance cameras and signposts relevant legislation.
9. There is also the issue of "hidden" or "secret" cameras particularly when there are concerns about wrong doing. The Care Quality Commission has also provided guidance to individual families and workers about using secret cameras in both nursing and care home and domestic settings.
10. Both involve different ethical considerations for owners, managers, workers, the people they care for and their families.

The Seminar

11. The seminar was well-attended. A wide range of views were expressed and there were a lot of thoughtful contributions to the debate.
12. The seminar covered both the use of surveillance cameras and the issue of secret cameras.
13. What was clear was that all those who attended felt strongly that the RCN should take a position on the use of cameras.
14. It was felt that society did not yet understand the generic nature of institutional abuse and that it was for the nursing profession to make the case for change. The way society sees older people and the way carers see their patients needed to change on the longer term.
15. The issue was seen to be nursing leadership and that leadership and care staff understanding how they show they care was what was most important.
16. It was agreed that when there was good leadership and strong standards in place cameras worked and protected everyone. However recent history had shown that they did not make a difference if the culture and standards were not right.

17. The key was for wishes of the individual to be at the heart of all decision-making alongside the appropriate clinical assessment. It was accepted that cameras could protect individuals who could not give consent and who did not have family members to look after them.
18. The importance of not confusing secret filming with open surveillance was emphasised and that secret filming was not for indiscriminate use and should only be used when all other alternative solutions had been tried and failed.



Royal College of Nursing
Shaping nursing since 1916

Appendix A

Ethics Seminar

15 July 2016, 11.00 - 4.00pm

RCN West Midlands Office, Lyndon House

58-62 Hagley Road, Birmingham B16 8PE

The seminar is free to attend and open to members of the Ethics Network and other interested members and staff, members of the Institute of Ageing and Health (West Midlands Branch) and the National Council of Women.

The Use of Surveillance Cameras

At RCN Congress in 2015 there was a debate about whether to use surveillance for the purpose of ensuring the delivery of safe, effective, compassionate and high-quality care services.

The Care Quality Commission guidance sets out some of the key issues care providers need to take into account to help ensure decisions about the potential use of surveillance are informed, appropriate and lawful. It also describes some of the alternative steps providers can consider before deciding to use surveillance cameras and signposts relevant legislation.

There is also the issue of “hidden” or “secret” cameras particularly when there are concerns about wrong doing. The Care Quality Commission has also provided guidance to individual families and workers about using secret cameras in both nursing and care home and domestic settings.

Both involve different ethical considerations for owners, managers, workers, the people they care for and their families.

In response, the RCN Ethics Committee and the West Midlands Board have organised this seminar with the Institute of Ageing and Health – West Midlands and the National Council of Women to address all these issues from the different perspectives of the nursing profession, of the nursing and care home and the residents of care homes and their families.

The outcomes of this seminar will be written up into a paper to inform the RCN's position on this important issue.



Programme

- 11.00 **Welcome and Introductions**
- 11.05 **The Use of Covert Cameras**
Joe Plomin, BBC Producer, 'Behind Closed Doors' and Author of 'Hidden Cameras'
Gill Lee whose mother was the victim on the Panorama Programme
- 11.45 *Mervyn Eastman, Founder of Change AGENTS and President of UK PASA will then explore the tensions the use of covert cameras create within care settings and the questions that need to be answered*
- 12.10 **Does the Use of Cameras Help Ensure Safe Better Care?**
Lynne Phair, Independent Consultant Nurse and Expert Witness
- 12.30 **Consent, Confidentiality, Caldicott and Cameras – A Nursing Perspective**
Linda Playford, Nurse Consultant, Clinical Director for Dementia and Frailty Service, Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
- 13.00 **Lunch**
- 13.45 **The Use of Cameras from the Nursing and Care Home Perspective**
Ann Willey, Home Manager, Bramley Court Care Home and Paula Cashmore, Clinical Quality Monitoring Officer, Birmingham Cross City, Clinical Commissioning Group
- 14.10 **The Use of Cameras from the Perspective of Those Who Provide Care at Home**
Barbara Thompson and Shirlee Ann Oliver from Raven Healthcare Homecare Services Limited, Members of the National Council of Women
- 14.30 **A Literature Review of the Ethics of Surveillance Technologies**
Dr Ruth Pearce, Associate Professor, School of Health Science, University of Nottingham and Trustee of the Institute of Ageing and Health
- 14.50 **Informing the RCN Position**
Q&A with panel chaired by Janet Holt, Chair of the RCN Ethics Committee and Sue Warner, Chair of the West Midlands Board
- 15.45 **CLOSE**