



ROSA Outcome Monitoring System Residential Aged Care Brief Report for South Australia 2026

Published September 2026

Reporting period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

Funding sources: Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council and Medical Research Future Fund.

ROSA OMS Residential Aged Care Report for South Australia 2026

On behalf of the Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA) Research Centre, we are delighted to release the 2026 ROSA Outcome Monitoring System (OMS) Residential Aged Care Brief Report for South Australia.

This report describes the quality and safety of care received by 16094 residents of 231 South Australian aged care facilities who were enrolled in ROSA from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. Since August 2018, the Prospective Cohort of ROSA has enrolled people in South Australia who had an aged care eligibility assessment. For 2023-24, ROSA captured 73% of people living in residential care in South Australia. With each passing year, the coverage of ROSA will increase.

The Prospective Cohort of ROSA is an Australian Clinical Quality Registry¹ established in 2017, designed to monitor outcomes of people receiving aged care services. ROSA is supported by a partnership of institutions committed to improving the quality of aged care services, including aged care industry partners (ECH Inc, Silverchain, Bolton Clarke), universities (Flinders University and Adelaide University), a consumer health advocacy group (COTA SA), South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute, SA-NT DataLink, and SA Health. Since its establishment, the ROSA team have delivered evidence to support and improve the aged care sector in areas that impact the wellbeing of older Australians. ROSA has made significant contributions to the investigations into quality and safety nationally and current aged care reforms, specifically within the area of measurement and monitoring of quality and safety, such as the expansion of the National Aged Care Mandatory Quality Indicator Program.²

The ROSA OMS is a pragmatic and low burden monitoring and benchmarking system to support evidence-based quality and safety improvements through the delivery of important information to aged care providers. The ROSA OMS was built from collaboration of the ROSA team with aged care providers (ECH Inc, Silverchain, Bolton Clarke), peak body (Ageing Australia), industry representatives (SA Innovation Hub), clinicians, professional associations (Australian Medical Association, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation SA Branch), and other academics and consumer representatives including COTA-SA. Importantly, the ROSA OMS uses several national and state-based data sources integrated in ROSA for its report. These are: 1) Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's National Aged Care Data Clearinghouse, 2) Medicare Benefits Schedule, 3) Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, 4) National Death Index, 5) State Admitted Hospitalisation Records, and 6) State Emergency Department Records.¹ The use of these data sources and risk adjustment distinguishes the ROSA OMS from other quality monitoring programs in Australia.

In 2026, we undertook an extensive review of the ROSA OMS indicators to ensure they remain responsive to issues in the sector. Several improvements have been made, including the retiring of three indicators (antibiotic use, fractures, and weight loss/malnutrition related hospitalisations) and the addition of two new indicators (continuity of primary care and decline changes in activities of daily living).

The 2026 ROSA OMS includes 11 quality and safety indicators for residential aged care providers², five covering similar domains as those included in the Australian Government National Aged Care Quality Indicator Program. The ROSA OMS indicators are: antipsychotic use, chronic opioid use, high sedative load, fall-related hospitalisation, premature mortality, medication-related hospitalisation, delirium or dementia-related hospitalisation, emergency department presentations, pressure injury-related hospitalisation, continuity of primary care, and decline in activities of daily living.

South Australian aged care facilities with more than 20 residents enrolled in ROSA can receive an individualised Provider and Facility Report, with benchmarks for comparison. Request your report via the: [ROSA OMS Reports Request Form](#) or email us: rosa.oms@flinders.edu.au.

To find out more about the ROSA OMS reports, see our webpage: <https://rosaresearch.org/oms>

¹ Inacio M, et al. ROSA: Integrating cross-sectoral information to evaluate quality and safety of care... BMJ Open. 2022;12(11): e066390

² Inacio M, et al. ROSA Outcome Monitoring System: quality and safety indicators for residential aged care. IJQHC. 2020;32(8):502-510.

ROSA OMS Residential Aged Care Report Summary for South Australia 2026

There were 16094 residents living in 231 facilities in South Australia enrolled in ROSA between 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. The median age of individuals in this cohort was 86 years old, 63% were women, and 44% had a diagnosis of dementia.

MEDICATION RELATED INDICATORS



19.2% used an **antipsychotic**



21.5% had **chronic opioid use**



42.4% had a **high sedative load**



2.6% were hospitalised for a **medication related event**

ADVERSE EVENT INDICATORS



12.8% had at least one **fall** requiring hospitalisation



1.8% had a hospitalisation involving a **pressure injury**



0.8% had **premature mortality**

COGNITIVE HEALTH INDICATOR



6.2% of the people living with dementia were **hospitalised for delirium or dementia**

HOSPITALISATION INDICATOR



38.4% had an **emergency department presentation**

FUNCTION INDICATOR



31.5% declined in **activities of daily living**

COMPREHENSIVE CARE INDICATOR



40.2% had **high continuity of primary care**ⁱ

ⁱHigh continuity of care defined as having a Usual Provider Index of ≥ 0.75 (the proportion of attendances with most frequently seen primary care practitioner)