There is inadequate provision in hospitals for older and dying patients. The food is inadequate and so is assistance with eating so that patients who cannot feed themselves often starve.

At least one suitable planned supervised activity should be available and accessible to all residents. Even totally bedridden and even unconscious residents should be exposed to some sort of activity. When my father was in a coma and not expected to live I used to sing to him. When he miraculously recovered he related the songs I had sung to him. I wonder whether these partly the reason for his miraculous recovery. He also left hostel care and led an independent life in his own home for several years after.

Julie West