My expectations when I stay in a care home are that:

1. People responsible for my care actively involve me in decisions about my medicines unless I lack ability to make decisions myself.
2. People responsible for my care help me make shared decisions about my medicines.
3. People responsible for my care will regularly monitor and review my medications to ensure that they still improve my quality of life.
4. People responsible for my care respect any advance decision about my end of life care including my medication.
5. My medicines should be administered in a form and route appropriate for my needs/abilities and that this will be assessed regularly.
6. People responsible for my care to recognise when I am unable to swallow safely and refer me for an appropriate assessment and for my medicines to be reviewed.
7. My medicines should not be given to me hidden in my food or drink unless it is in my best interests and all appropriate legal requirements have been met.
8. People caring for me understand that it is against my human rights to give me medication against my wishes.
9. People responsible for my care examine my mouth to ensure that my oral health needs are being met.

As a professional working in a care home, I must have the requisite knowledge and skills to:

1. Understand and respect the resident’s wishes and beliefs about medication.
2. Involve the resident and or those important to them to make shared decisions about medication.
3. Ensure the resident I care for will have a regular medicines optimisation review.
4. Review medication delivery in line with my scope of practice/ level of responsibility to ensure that the resident receives medication in an appropriate form and route.
5. Promote the resident’s human rights I will only administer medicines in line with national and local covert medication policy and the guidance of the Court of Protection.
6. Ensure an advance care plan, which includes medication, is in place for the resident, with a regular review when their condition changes.
7. Ensure good oral and dental care is provided to residents.
8. Recognise and manage swallowing deficits and to ensure appropriate referrals are made including a full medication review.
9. Work together with other members of the multi disciplinary team to ensure that the resident’s medication needs and specific abilities are met.