

Elder Law

1. IS THERE A TARGET GROUP?	1
Do other jurisdictions see that elder law is a viable area of law?	2
Categories of law that affect the target group	2
<i>Age discrimination</i>	2
<i>Rights of grandparents</i>	2
<i>Enduring powers of attorney/PPPR appointment of property managers and welfare guardians</i>	2
<i>Wills</i>	2
<i>Wills Part 2 – s 55 PPPR Act</i>	3
<i>Trusts</i>	3
<i>Rest homes</i>	3
<i>Caring arrangements</i>	3
<i>Guarantees</i>	4
<i>Living wills</i>	4
<i>Medical issues</i>	4
2. ISSUES ARISING OUT OF ENDURING POWERS OF ATTORNEY "WILL YOU STILL NEED ME? WILL YOU STILL FEED ME? WHEN I'M 64"	5
Introduction	5
The Law Commission's report	5
The problems arising out of enduring powers of attorney	7
The client's mental capacity	10
<i>PPPR Act</i>	10
What should the lawyer do?	10
<i>These are steps a prudent lawyer acting for an elderly person should take:</i>	10
Other precautions in preparing EPAS	14
Invocation of EPAS:	15
<i>This begins with the question "who is my client?"</i>	15
<i>Case study</i>	15
<i>Rule 6.05</i>	17
Conclusion	18
3. PITFALLS FOR THE ELDERLY	19
Abuse	19
Rights of grandparents to grandchildren	21
4. RETIREMENT HOUSING	23
Introduction	23
Where shall the client go?	24
Licence to occupy etc	25
<i>Background</i>	25
Issues of ownership	26

<i>Purchase</i>	26
<i>Quitting the interest</i>	26
5. ASSET TESTING FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE	29
Current situation	29
The future	29
The implications for the lawyer	29
6. WILLS AND NEW RELATIONSHIPS FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE – THE LIKELY IMPACT OF THE PROPERTY RELATIONSHIPS ACT	31
Background	31
How to counter claims	32
7. SECTION 55 OF THE PPPR ACT - "MAKING" A WILL	35
Procedural requirements of s 55 applications	36
8. LIVING WILLS	39
Enduring power of attorney	39
The living will	39
Validity of advance directives	40
Are advance directives binding on caregivers	41
Directives as to care and the withdrawal of medical treatment	41
<i>Ethical & moral dilemmas</i>	41
9. DWELLING OPTIONS AND FAMILY AGREEMENTS	45
<i>Family issues</i>	46
<i>Issues between Mary and her son</i>	46
<i>Possible solution</i>	46
<i>Private care agreements "What ifs and expectations you need to consider"</i>	48
10. GRANDPARENTS RIGHTS	49
Custody	49
Access	50
Guardianship	51
Adoption	52
11. GUARANTEES BY ELDERLY PEOPLE	55
12. AGE DISCRIMINATION	57
Definitions	58
<i>Discrimination in employment matters</i>	59
What an employee can do if they have been discriminated against at work	61
Flow Chart showing Human Rights Commission processes	62
As an employer	63
13. PATIENT'S RIGHTS	65
Legislation	65
Consent	67
Capacity and competence	68
<i>Right to refuse medical treatment</i>	69
<i>Lodging a complaint regarding a breach of the Code</i>	71

<i>From a provider's point of view</i>	72
APPENDIX 1. HEALTH AND DISABILITY COMMISSIONER (CODE OF HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES CONSUMERS' RIGHTS) REGULATIONS 1996	75
APPENDIX 2. THE FAMILY AGREEMENT	83
APPENDIX 3. PRACTICAL ISSUES TO CONSIDER WHEN YOUR CLIENT WISHES TO MOVE INTO A RETIREMENT VILLAGE	93
APPENDIX 4. NEW ZEALAND WEBSITE LINKS	97
APPENDIX 5. HON RUTH DYSON MEDIA STATEMENT	103
APPENDIX 6. REMOVAL OF ASSET TESTING: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS	105