Figure 1: Conceptual model of the factors influencing rural family carers’ experience of the nursing home placement of an older relative

Social capital

A sense of familiarity with nursing home history, staff, residents and the local community

- Validation of the decision by health and social care practitioners
- Continuity of care and low staff turnover
- Access to the grapevine facilitating the exchange of information
- Family owned homes meeting the needs of rural residents
- Existing links with local care homes as a result of respite and visits
- Nursing homes perceived as an extension of a close knit community

A sense of familiarity with nursing home history, staff, residents and the local community