

Adult Social Care Provider Webinar

Friday 9th April 2021

Welcome and Introductions

Tony Pounder

Welcome and introductions

Purpose of webinar: key messages and updates, both national and local

Reminders:

- Fortnightly webinar for providers on Fridays, 1-2/2.30 p.m. Potentially schedule in weekly, dependent on developments and the need to quickly share key messages.
- Provider portal: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/health-and-social-care/care-service-provider-engagement/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-care-providers/>

Today's Agenda

1-2.30pm

- National updates (Tony Pounder)
- Local updates (Tony Pounder/Ellen Smith)
- Vaccination Update (Joanne Reed/ Nichola Morris)
- Finance Update (Tony Pounder)
- Testing Update (Tony Pounder)
- Day Service Update (Tony Pounder)
- IPC Update (Ellen Smith)
- PPE Update (Ellen Smith)
- Care Capacity Tracker Update (Nichola Morris)
- Regular updates; National and Local Guidance (Kieran Curran)

National and Local Updates

Tony Pounder and Ellen Smith

STEP 2

At least five weeks after Step 1, no earlier than 12 April.



Indoor leisure (including gyms) open for use individually or within household groups.



Rule of 6 or two households outdoors.
No household mixing indoors.



Outdoor attractions, such as zoos, theme parks and drive-in cinemas.



Libraries and community centres.



Personal care premises.



All retail.



Outdoor hospitality.



All children's activities, indoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents).



Domestic overnight stays (household only).



Self-contained accommodation (household only).



Funerals (30), wakes, weddings, receptions (15).



Minimise travel.
No international holidays.



Event pilots begin.

Rapid Testing for the whole population

- Announcement on 5th April that twice weekly rapid testing will be available for whole population wef 9th April:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/twice-weekly-rapid-testing-to-be-available-to-everyone-in-england>
- Our current understanding is that care homes still need to continue with their existing rapid testing arrangements for visitors, as per the care home visiting guidance, instead of relying on LFDs undertaken at home by residents' families; this is to ensure robust risk management and an audit trail around visiting. We will share any further updates re: this.

Rapid Testing for the whole population

- Individuals and workplaces can sign up to access the tests. Further details can be found here (link going link today): <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

Find where to get rapid lateral flow tests

Rapid lateral flow tests are for people who do not have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms. [More about rapid tests and other ways to get tests.](#)

If you do have coronavirus symptoms you need a PCR test. [Get a PCR test if you have coronavirus symptoms on GOV.UK.](#)

Enter a town city or postcode in England

Search

- There will be further comms published today on this initiative.

Updated Visiting in Care Home Guidance (Ellen)

- National guidance re: visiting in care homes was updated on 6th April - [link](#)
- The local LRF care home visiting has been updated to reflect the changes in the national guidance, which will come into effect from 12th April, when we enter stage 2 of the roadmap out of lockdown

Key changes wef 12th April are:

Nominated visitors:

- Every care home resident can nominate up to 2 named visitors who will be able to enter the care home for regular visits (and will be able to visit together or separately as preferred), in accordance with the care home's existing infection prevention control measures.
- As far as possible these 2 should remain the same people.

Visits involving children and young people aged under 18:

- From 12 April 2021, it is possible for someone aged under 18 to be one of the 2 nominated visitors, if the resident, family, and the care home all agree that is appropriate.
- It is also possible for a young person under the age of 18 to be an essential care giver; although clearly this would only be appropriate for older teenagers, and must be with the agreement of the care home manager who must satisfy themselves that the young person is confident, capable and willing to provide the care or support agreed.
- It is acknowledged that in some cases, it may be difficult for friends and family to make a visit if they are not able to bring children with them; any visits involving children should be carefully considered by the family. The arrangements for the visit – in particular the numbers involved and where the visit will take place – must be planned and agreed with the care home in advance of the visit.

Visits involving children and young people aged under 18:

- It is important that any children visiting are able to follow infection prevention control measures carefully, including social distancing, PPE use (where appropriate) and advice on minimising physical contact, as well as being able to follow any other instructions or advice the care home staff might provide.
- Any children visiting (apart from babies and very young children) should also be counted towards the maximum number allowed for the visit.
- Visits including babies and very young children may also take place with the agreement of the care home manager. These children do not need to be counted as an additional visitor. Care home managers and families can agree to exercise some discretion here – but in general a child under the age of 2 need not be counted.
- Children aged 11 and over should wear the same PPE as adult visitors. Children under the age of 3 should not wear masks, for [safety reasons](#).
- The current Government guidance does not recommend that children under the age of 11 participate in regular asymptomatic testing. If a test is to take place for a child, it should be done with their consent and that of their parent or guardian following the appropriate steps in [guidance on "how to test a child"](#).

Essential Care Givers:

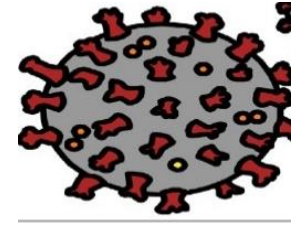
- It is recognised that some residents need more support for example residents with advanced dementia, learning difficulties or autism may need a particular trusted person to perform some personal care tasks.
- In addition to their 2 named visitors, residents with higher care needs can also therefore choose to nominate an essential care giver.

Professionals Visiting Care Settings - Local Position (Ellen)

- At a local level, LCC and NHS colleagues have produced a local statement on our position on testing professionals visiting care settings.
- We are aware this is a concern for settings, but we need to manage the testing position in a risked assessed way in terms of allowing access for vital care and support for residents and service users.
- The statement will be uploaded to the portal and will replace the January statement.

Professionals Visiting Care Settings - Local Position - Testing

- The default position that care homes have been asked to adopt is **that a visiting professional should not be allowed entry to a care setting without proof of a negative test within the last 72 hours – demonstrating they are following the local testing regime.**
- Proof may include:
 - an email or text from NHS Test and Trace
 - a screenshot of where you have upload your test result
 - a date-stamped photo of the test cartridge itself
 - signed confirmation from your line manager
 - signed confirmation from another care setting if you were tested at a location either earlier in the day or in the last 72 hours.
- If it has been more than 72 hours since you were tested, the care setting will request that you are tested via lateral flow before entry to the care setting.
- If you have not been tested (or are unable to provide proof) and it is not possible to test prior to entry, the care setting will need to make a risk-based decision regarding whether to permit entry, taking into account the reason and urgency of the visit. The default position is that without proof of a recent negative test or a negative rapid LFT on the door of the care setting, you should not be admitted.



Managing Restrictions under COVID -19 Task & Finish Group

Multiagency group informing local guidance

Visiting Guidance (family & friends)

Supported Living, Extra Care, & other settings

Key Messages from 12th April



Produced by Work stream 2 -Supported living, domiciliary care & PAs



Visiting Guidance (family & friends)

Supported Living, Extra Care, & other settings

Key Messages from 12th April

1. The principles of safe visiting, robust risk assessment and IPC apply to all decisions about visiting by family and friends.
2. Supported Living, Extra Care and other settings can apply the Government Guidance on care home visiting [Guidance on care home visiting - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/care-home-visiting) *if this is appropriate to their household.* This means –
 - a) **A tenant may nominate 2 regular indoor visitors** with the agreement of co-tenants, family, advocates (if needed) and providers, subject to a household risk assessment.
 - b) **Providers may need to facilitate Lateral Flow Testing for the 2 regular visitors if they have not completed this for themselves** , and ensure all other IPC measures are met for the visit, including PPE, social distancing, and hand hygiene



Key Messages from 12th April - contd

- c) **Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) for the workforce and visitors are available through national programme - see [Guidance - Testing service for extra care and supported living settings](#). LFTs are also available directly to the visitors via the provider, or they can access a local testing station – see [Find a rapid flow test centre](#)**
- d) **Providers will be at different stage of acquiring LFTs, but more importantly the arrangements to have staff trained and available to test visitors will need to be in place before visits are scheduled**
- e) **In addition to 2 nominated visitors, a tenant may have an Essential Care Giver. This is a family member or friend who has a specific caring role as part of the person's care plan.**
- f) **The provider will include the Essential Care Giver in staff testing arrangements etc**
- g) **Where the tenant lacks capacity to decide about visiting / who to nominate, MCA best interests decisions will be made**



Key Messages from 12th April - contd

3. All visiting arrangements for other informal visitors, e.g. screens and visiting pods etc, can continue until visiting is opened up under the Government's road map
4. Visiting will be suspended in the event of an outbreak (except for essential care givers and other exceptions)
5. The provider will update the household's visiting policy to reflect any new arrangements
6. Providers should refer to the Care Home Visiting Guidance updated 6th April [Guidance on care home visiting - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/care-home-visiting) for full details, as well as the Supported Living Guidance updated March 30th , [COVID-19: guidance for supported living - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-guidance-for-supported-living).



Key Messages from 12th April - contd

7. Visits to families are still subject to national restrictions. This means

- People should not mix indoors except with their household or support bubble. People can meet outdoors, including in gardens, in groups of 6 people or 2 households.
- People can stay overnight away from home but only from 1 household in self-contained accommodation or with their support bubble

See [COVID-19: Restrictions in England From 12 April](#)

8. Providers should refer to the separate guidance on professional visiting for Care Homes, which can be applied to supported living settings and other settings as best practice. In short all professional visitors should be able to provide proof of a negative test within the last 72 hours, or be tested on the door. See [Guidance on Testing for professionals visiting care homes](#)

Contradictory or complementary messages?



The Govt Care Home Guidance says

“Visiting is just as important for people living in supported living and extra care settings. This guidance does not directly apply to those settings – the diversity of the settings and the needs of those who live in them means it will not be suitable in all cases. However, **supported living and extra care managers may wish to use the guidance to help them support safe visiting in the services they manage.**”

The Govt Supported Living Guidance says

“The default position set out in this guidance is that **visits should be supported and enabled wherever it is safe to do so** “. However it also says .. “people living in supported living settings live in their own homes and should be treated as such. **This means they, and their visitors, need to follow the same national restrictions as other members of the public**, including following each step in the government’s roadmap around social contact.

Complementary messages!!



- **Supported Living and other settings can apply Care Home guidance on indoor visiting if feasible and all agree, but if not feasible they should follow national guidelines.**
- **There isn't one size fits all...**
- **The LRF Adult Social Care Cell** has confirmed that the same level of rigour and standards should be applied in relation to Supported Living as in care homes, and that LRF decisions apply to the vulnerable adult population that come under ambit of ASC

Provider Engagement (Ellen)

- Covid is not going away...looking at our engagement approach with providers, going forwards
- Been running the Covid provider webinars for 1 year now!
- **What would providers want from these webinars in the future?** We want to hear your views
- Looking at existing forums (e.g. care providers forum and LDA provider forum)
- New ways of working during the pandemic

April meetings

LDA provider meeting – Wed 14th April (10-12 noon)

- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84167037883?pwd=NFRxSEdOOOGdiNSgUTUY1NG11SVdFdzo9>
- Meeting ID: 841 6703 7883
- Passcode: 728872

Mental Health provider meeting – Monday 19th April (10.30-12 noon)

- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81199123703?pwd=NUdtUitpaWtnWGhmUUpJRoPlMigUQTog>
- Meeting ID: 811 9912 3703
- Passcode: 331582

Vaccination Updates

Joanne Reed/ Nichola Morris

Vaccination Updates

- Nationally over 32m people vaccinated in UK, over 900k in L&SC
- Locally - vaccine rate for residents in care homes 95% staff increased to 82% as of Wednesday 7th April
- Work on going through care home managers to encourage uptake and provide information and support
- Vaccines contributing to reductions in deaths/severe illness, outbreaks in care settings falling significantly
- However government is expecting another spike in infections at some point this year
- Carefully monitoring impacts of easing lockdown and in particular occurrence of variants
- Government undertaking a number of reviews including social distancing measures, vaccine certificates and vaccines for younger people
- The Oxford AZ vaccine will not be given to under 30s for the time being pending further research

Vaccination Updates

- Please continue to support your staff and residents to take up the 2nd dose appointments – important to achieve maximum efficacy and cancelled appointments may be difficult to rebook
- for 2nd dose appointments for people who went for 1st dose to: Blackburn Cathedral, Blackpool Winter Gardens and Lancaster Town Hall
- they should now be able to book online through NBS or through phoning 119.
- People who went to ELTH for 1st they will be called for 2nd dose (may be short notice)

Vaccination Updates

- Most of the vaccine supplies in April will be for 2nd jab appointments, but also still encouraging anyone in cohorts 1-9
- National booking system suspended for April
- GPs are able to offer appointments for any H&SC staff who want an appointment
- Also vaccination teams are being asked to take additional supplies when they visit care homes
- GPs also now able to offer appointments for any adult who lives with an immunosuppressed person

Covid Vaccine – LD Adjusted Clinics

- There are now two more dates booked and the reach is being extended for bookings into these clinics, they are now opening up to GP referral or other referrals.
- These appointments are for people with a learning disability who would not be able to access their GP or a standard vaccination centre.
- The hub and the immediate car park can be adjusted so the environment suits the needs of the person, and there is full use of a tent for those who won't enter the building.
- All the vaccinators are experienced learning disability nurses.
- There is paperwork to be completed before the sessions and information is needed about what reasonable adjustments are required. (In most circumstances they are able to vaccinate other members of the household too).
- There are still some appointments for this **Saturday 10 April** and there is a further planned session on **Saturday 24 April** – if there is demand, more sessions will be booked.
- To book these appointments, please contact Sarah.Oakley@lscft.nhs.uk

AstraZeneca Vaccine

- On 7th April the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) made an announcement about the AZ vaccine that can be found [here](#) which outlines the next steps
- It outlines the relative balance of benefits and risks and advises that the benefits of prompt vaccination with the AZ vaccine outweigh the risk of adverse effects for individuals 30 years of age and over and those who have underlying health conditions
- It currently advises that it is preferable for adults aged below 30 years of age without underlying health conditions to be offered an alternative COVID-19 vaccine, if available.
- People may make an informed choice to receive the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to receive earlier protection.

AstraZeneca Vaccine

- There are some adults who are below 30 without underlying health conditions who are in phase 1 of the vaccine rollout, including health and social care workers and unpaid carers.
- Acting on a precautionary basis - if these persons are still unvaccinated, it is preferable for them to be offered an alternative COVID-19 vaccine, if available.
- However, the JCVI state 'all those who have received a first dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine should continue to be offered a second dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, irrespective of age.'
- Therefore, for recipients in cohorts 1-9 who have received a first dose of AstraZeneca and are due to receive their second dose, **no further action is required and these appointments should continue.**

Vaccination Calls

- The Covid Outbreak Support Team are offering support to homes where there is a vaccination rate of under 75% in staff or residents.
- This is a supportive call to offer solutions and practical advice around increasing the vaccination rate amongst your staff or residents.
- The Customer Access Team are also available for 1:1 conversations with staff members to assist them in booking an appointment or to gather further information in relation to any concerns they might have in taking the offer of a vaccine.
- If you would like to make use of this offer, please can you respond to the following email address: vaccinebooking@lancashire.gov.uk with your staff member names and contact telephone numbers, and somebody from the CAS team will contact them directly.

PHE Vaccination Study

- Researchers from Public Health England would like to understand more about care home employee's decision-making and understanding of the COVID-19 vaccine and are setting up a study to look into this.
- They are currently looking for volunteers to take part in the study who:
 - have not had the COVID-19 vaccine
 - are a care home employee in the North West
- If you would like to take part, please contact Amelia Dennis, Research Fellow, amelia.dennis@phe.gov.uk (020 3682 059).
- PHE will then contact you to arrange a convenient time for you to take part in a telephone or skype interview, which will last between 30 – 60 minutes. The interview will be audio recorded.
- You will receive a reimbursement of a £20 voucher for your time, that will be given after the interview. Also, by taking part in this study you will help PHE to understand better the processes involved in deciding whether to get vaccinations.

Vaccinations – Consent & Capacity

Key learning identified during the vaccination roll out

- Care Homes should understand the difference between EPA, LPA (finance/health/both) and Court Appointed Deputy.
- Care Homes should seek evidence of the attorney being registered and record contact details/type
- Care Homes should ensure that DOLs applications are submitted and restrictions reviewed

The Attorney can only use their LPA powers in respect of the vaccine if all the following apply:

- The form is registered with the Office of the Public Guardian for health & welfare - it will be stamped
- (The GP practice can check whether a patient has a valid LPA if you haven't got a copy by contacting the Office of the Public Guardian)
- The patient does not have capacity for the particular decision to be made (remember capacity is time and decision specific)
- They are making the decision in the patient's best interests in line with what the Attorney believes the patient would have wanted

All professionals involved in decision making for people who lack capacity have a responsibility to ensure that decision making process is understood and the decision arrived at is in their best interest

Vaccination Resources

- **NHS England & NHS Improvement** – Videos and further vaccine resources on Google drive - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Xpy1G6ShntcsE3m7bzMa3Fj-38iloQrl>
- **GMCA Vaccine Comms Assets** - posters, suggested social media posts (within comms pack) and care home booking information (*this pack will be uploaded onto the portal*)
- **Department of Health & Social Care, Vaccination toolkit** - Please find a dedicated ASC update focussing on vaccination toolkit resources [by clicking here](#)
- **Medical director, talking about the vaccine and fertility**, which can be found here [Miss Toli Onon talks about the COVID-19 vaccine and fertility - YouTube](#)

Finance Updates

Tony Pounder

2021/22 ICF Returns Needed

- Part of grant conditions is that we receive returns from providers to evidence spending
- There are a high number outstanding from last year – this puts both you and us in jeopardy so we need you to return them as soon as possible
- The returns to date are outlined below:
 - 107 (out of 590) ICF returns = 18% response rate
 - 37 (out of 445) lateral flow returns = 8% response rate
 - 34 (out of 386) Workforce returns = 9% response rate
- Overall 178 out of 1,421 returns = 12.5% response rate.

2022 Adult Social Care Funding

- The Government has announced a further £341 million to support adult social care with the costs of infection prevention control and testing that will make sure visits are safe for everyone.
- This takes the total infection control fund and testing support to more than £1.6 billion, alongside the free PPE that care homes receive.

Infection Control and Testing Fund

- [Adult Social Care Infection Control and Testing Fund](#) - sets out the measures that the new Infection Control and Testing Fund will support, including distribution of funds, conditions on funds and reporting requirements. **Published on 29th March**
- This is a new grant, with some subtle differences in the conditions to the original Infection Control Fund, the extension to the Infection Control Fund and the original Rapid Testing Fund.
- This brings the total ring-fenced funding for infection prevention and control to almost £1.35 billion and support for lateral flow testing to £288 million in care settings.
- The purpose of this fund is to support adult social care providers, including those with whom the local authority does not have a contract, to:
 - reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission within and between care settings through effective infection prevention and control practices and increase uptake of staff vaccination
 - conduct additional rapid testing of staff and visitors in care homes, high-risk supported living and extra care settings, to enable close contact visiting

LCC Infection Control and Testing Fund

- There is £9 million being allocated in total for LCC.
- 60% (£5,449,607) is to be used on IPC and 40% (£3,667,526) is to be used on Testing.
- Of the IPC amount, it is split between discretionary and provider ringfenced. The discretionary amount is increased to 30% overall.
- Of the testing amount, 63% is ringfenced to care homes and 37% to the discretionary community.
- We are still working through what this means for allocations, so once this has been finalised the information will be shared and letters will be sent out.
- This grant will be paid in a single instalment in April 2021.

Testing Updates

Tony Pounder

Clinical Advisory Group Updated Position Statement on Testing - Reminder

- Reminder that the CAG Position Statement on Testing was updated on 16th March to reflect a change in position: [Link here](#)
- The CAG now feels that the benefit of aligning with national messages on testing now outweighs the benefits of keeping their original position on retesting within 90 days, therefore the current guidance to be followed is that:
"Those who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 should not test with either PCR or LFD for 90 days unless they become symptomatic. After 90 days, staff should continue testing with PCR or LFD tests."

New and Updated Guidance re: Testing

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing for adult social care settings](#) - outlines the COVID-19 testing available for staff, residents and visitors for all adult social care settings. Published on 24th March
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing in adult care homes](#) – details how to access test kits and step-by-step guides on how to use PCR and rapid lateral flow test kits for regular and outbreak testing of residents and staff. Published on 24th March
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): getting tested](#) – links have been added to new pages on testing in adult care homes and in all adult social care settings. Updated on 24th March

Domiciliary Service Testing-DHSC Update

- Over the past few weeks, DHSC has seen an 11% increase in the number homecare workers correctly registering tests using the Unique Organisation Number (UON).
- Whilst the number of test kits being registered accurately has increased, there are still a significant number of test kits which are not being registered correctly.
- DHSC estimates that a small amount of homecare workers are registering test kits via the light portal (registration portal which doesn't require a UON), meaning that they cannot trace this results to the homecare sector.
- To help clarify the registration journey, the interactive registration one-page document can be found at: [Registering test kits for homecare workers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Testing for Personal Assistants DHSC Update

- From Thursday 8th April, testing for PAs, will be moving to twice weekly Rapid Lateral Flow Testing.
- The PA will need to order a box of 7 LFTs every 21 days. If they test positive with an LFT, they will need to isolate immediately, order one confirmatory PCR test kit and isolate until they get their PCR result.
- PAs will be able to order rapid Lateral Flow Test kits at: Schools, nurseries and colleges testing: order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow home test kits - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Daytime Supports - testing updates (Tony)

- DHSC has made a slight amendment to their adult day care centre's eligibility criteria to clarify that testing is available to all adult day care centres that are currently operating in England.
- The DHCS has rolled out weekly routine staff testing to all open day care centres that are run by paid care staff.
- Services must be for adults over 18 and are provided within non-residential care settings that support the health and wellbeing of adults. This includes settings such as:
 - purpose-built day centres
 - day centres attached to or part of a care home or supported living
 - other buildings in communities specifically used for regular adult day care
- Full information on the end-to-end PCR testing process can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-adult-day-care-centre-workers>

Reminder - How can adult day care centres get access to testing?

- Eligible centres that are open and not already onboarded onto the DHSC system should sign up via the self-referral portal: <https://request-onboarding.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/>
- Managers will need to enter the referral UON of '99915258' and provide details of their adult day care centre. Please note, this is only a referral code and cannot be used to order test kits. Centres will receive a separate UON via email once they have been accepted for them to be able to order test kits.
- Organisations which run multiple day care centres at various locations will need to register each centre separately to receive multiple UONs, even if the contact details for each of these are the same.
- Once DHSC has received an acceptance from the Local Authority, NHS Test & Trace will email day care centre managers with their UON and instructions to place orders from the test kit ordering portal.

Reminder - DHSC regular adult day care centre testing webinars

- DHSC host regular interactive testing webinars every Monday, including a live Q&A, to go through test kit ordering, conducting testing, registering, returning test kits and results.
- The sign-up link is:
https://event.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1427241&tp_key=a845a50900
- If centres are not able to attend the webinar, they are able to sign up and a recording of the session will be made available after the session.

DHSC pilot

- DHSC has recently completed a 3-week rapid lateral flow testing pilot in 13 adult day care centres across England, for staff and service users.
- The purpose of this pilot was to understand the usability of lateral flow self-tests for day care centres and to identify any improvements that could support centres and staff to follow a testing regime to support safer services.
- DHSC is still in the process of evaluating the pilot findings including considering improvements to the current testing experience and will provide further updates over the next few weeks. During this time please continue to test all staff every week using PCR testing.

IPC updates

Ellen Smith

IPC Update

- World Hand Hygiene Day 2021 – 5th May.
- PPE Donning and Doffing Technique.

World Hand Hygiene Day 2021

We are approaching World Hand Hygiene day which is held every year on May 5th. We are holding a webinar on this date all to do with Hand Hygiene! Details to follow...



Hand Hygiene – Key to IPC

Washing our hands has always been important to prevent the spread of pathogens.

During the last year, the widespread news coverage of hand hygiene has been helpful in encouraging and reminding about hand hygiene.

But there's still more we can do...



Hand Hygiene Webinar

- Please dial in to the IPC Team webinar for a history of hand hygiene and who were the advocates many years ago, some useful tips and what you can do to improve hand hygiene within your care home.
- Look out for the link which will be emailed to your care home.

Reminders re PPE

- Please display laminated posters in prominent areas – particularly where new visitors to the care home will be donning and doffing PPE.

Donning PPE

- 1** Perform hand hygiene before putting on PPE.



- 2** Put on apron and tie at waist.



- 3** Put on facemask – position upper straps on the crown of your head, lower strap at nape of neck.



- 4** With both hands, mould the metal strap over the bridge of your nose.



- 5** Don eye protection if required.



- 6** Put on gloves.



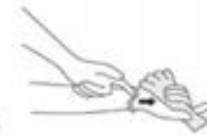
Doffing PPE

- 1** Remove gloves. Grasp the outside of glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off. Hold the removed glove in the remaining gloved hand.



Slide the fingers of the un-gloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist.

Peel the remaining glove off over the first glove and discard.



- 2** Clean hands.



- 3** Apron. Unfasten or break apron ties at the neck and let the apron fold down on itself.



Break ties at waist and fold apron in on itself – do not touch the outside – **this will be contaminated.** Discard.



- 4** Remove eye protection if worn. Use both hands to handle the straps by pulling away from face and discard.



- 5** Clean hands.



- 6** Remove facemask once your clinical work is completed. Untie or break bottom ties, followed by top ties or elastic, and remove by handling the ties only. Lean forward slightly. Discard. DO NOT reuse once removed.



- 7** Clean hands with soap and water.



Any queries?

Please email:

infectionprevention@lancashire.gov.uk

(Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm)

COVID-19: guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions within hospitals and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to home settings

– information has been added on isolation and IPC measures for asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infected individuals. Updated on 22nd March

Individuals with asymptomatic positive SARS-CoV-2 infection, detected through routine PCR testing on admission to hospital for non-COVID reasons can be advised on discharge to self-isolate for 10 days from their SARS-CoV-2 PCR test.

A 14-day isolation period remains recommended for asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infections in patients who remain in hospital or those who are being discharged to a care home due to the vulnerabilities in these settings.

Other info

- Useful PHE article re: the ongoing importance of confirmatory PCR testing:
<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2021/03/30/covid-19-reintroducing-confirmatory-pcr-testing/>
- Reminder for providers to record and upload all – and + LFD results for their setting; this will support understanding of the transmission of the virus locally.

PPE Updates

Ellen Smith

National PPE Portal

- The free national PPE portal for health and social care services which was due to end in June 2021 has now been extended until the end of March 2022 to better support this critical stage for vaccination, mass testing programmes and visiting arrangements.
- Ongoing discussions re: the online portal for unpaid carers; updates will be shared.

Updated PPE guidance for providers

- Guidance re: 'How to Work Safely in Care Homes in England' was updated on 6th April - [link](#)
- Guidance re: how to work safely in care home, using PPE, during sustained transmission
- IPC have raised a query with PHE NW re: contradictory information re: sessional use of masks
- We will share the response asap
- Guidance re: 'How to Work Safely in Domiciliary Care in England' guidance was updated on 6th April - [link](#)

Care Capacity Tracker Update (Nichola)

- The Capacity Tracker is a very important tool to help you update and reflect any changes within your care setting. The information collected is crucial and is reviewed on a daily basis by teams across the DHSC and NHSE to be able to target support where it is most needed.
- An important action that we are asking you to complete straight away is to make sure that your contact details are up to date, including an email address.
- The Capacity Tracker team are always on hand to help you with any issues or queries you may have (necsu.CapacityTracker@nhs.net), and with this in mind, some recurring online sessions have been arranged to give you the chance to log on, get updates on recent changes and ask any questions you may have.

Provider Q&A- every Tuesday at 1pm till 2pm

- You should have received a calendar invite, inviting you to take part in a Q&A session specifically designed for you as providers. This is a weekly session that will run via Microsoft Teams on Tuesdays at 1pm. If you have not received this invite, then please email rebecca.potter10@nhs.net or Karen.greenwood11@nhs.net.

Care Capacity Tracker Update

Con't

Workshop- every Wednesday at 3pm till 5pm

- The workshop will be geared to support and assist you with everyday interactions with the Capacity Tracker.
- These workshops are available for you if you need any help with using and completing the capacity tracker. If you would like to book onto a session, please email Rebecca or Karen (email addresses on previous slide) with the date of which session you would like to attend.
- Please provide details of any particular questions you have or anything in particular that you need help with so we can pre-warn the team and they can have the answers ready for you.
- The first hour will be an open dial-in going through Q&As, using the system and the benefits of the system. The second hour will be used as bookable slots, if you would like to go through any specific issues or questions you have on a one to one basis, please let us know.

Care Capacity Tracker Update Con't

Capacity Tracker Provider Drop in sessions- Walking through the benefits of new functionality to providers

- Up until now providers have not been able to see reports containing their own data, nor have they had the opportunity to see National data sets to compare their status against.
- You have asked, we have listened and this changes with the launch of the new Provider Access functionality.
- From the evening of Monday 12th April Capacity Tracker data will be made available to all provider groups giving reports at organisation level and National level. We are also introducing a new report; Comparative Analysis, which will allow users to view their location data against a local or regional geographical data set
- There are six scheduled sessions, for **ALL Provider types** during April. These will provide the opportunity of a walk-through of the new functionality and will aid understanding of the benefits that this new access will bring providers as well as the opportunity to ask questions about the changes.
- The invites have been circulated, if you have not received an invite, please email Rebecca or Karen.

Care Capacity Tracker Update

Con't

- As of 28th March, tracker calls have been stepped down on a Sunday
- This is due to reduced staffing levels on Sundays and often new data is not being recorded
- This is to be kept under review and if it becomes necessary to recommence Sunday phone calls, we will.

National and local policy guidance and updates

Kieran Curran

COVID-19 Online Resources

- [Care Quality Commission info for providers](#)
- [Social Care Institute for Excellence](#)
- [Health Education England's coronavirus programme](#)

All new and updated national adult social care guidance is available on the Portal under:
Government, NHS and NW ADASS advice and guidance

New National Guidance

Any new national guidance published since our last webinar has been covered today and no new national guidance has been published since 30 March. We expect any new care and support guidance related to the further lifting of restrictions on 12 April to be published next week and available on the portal as usual.

Updated National Guidance

- [\(COVID-19\) Coronavirus restrictions: what you can and cannot do](#) – updated to include how coronavirus restrictions will change from April 12. Updated on 5 April
- [Technical specifications for personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) – a new technical specification has been added on transparent face masks. Updated on 1 April

Updated National Guidance

- [NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted](#)
– a more detailed definition of the 10-day isolation period has been added with a link to stay at home guidance. The asymptomatic testing for contacts information has also been updated. Updated on 2 April
- [NHS Test and Trace in the workplace](#) and [Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](#) – the rules for businesses reopening and for entering a venue have been updated. Updated on 5 April

Updated National Guidance

- [COVID-19: guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable](#) – references to national lockdown have been removed and the guidance has been updated to reflect lifting of restrictions and the vaccine roll out. Updated on 1 April
- [COVID-19: letter to clinically extremely vulnerable people](#) – an easy read version of the letter has been added. Updated on 1 April

Updated National Guidance

The following have all been updated to reflect changes from 29 March:

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): admission and care of people in care homes](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for pregnant employees](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): providing unpaid care](#)
- [COVID-19: providing unpaid care to adults with learning disabilities and autistic adults](#)
- [COVID-19: supporting adults with learning disabilities and autistic adults](#)
- [Designated settings for people discharged to a care home](#)
- [Enabling safe and effective volunteering during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Face coverings: when to wear one, exemptions, and how to make one](#)
- [Getting help with daily activities outside your home during coronavirus](#)
- [How to stop the spread of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Making a support bubble with another household](#)
- [Making a childcare bubble with another household](#)

Preparing to visit a person with dementia in a care home during coronavirus

[New advice and guidance is available on the Alzheimer Society's website](#) to help providers and the public prepare for visiting someone with dementia. Access the link here or see the ["Get Support"](#) section of their website.





**Training available
to social care
providers**

Overview of training for all social care:
Latest version now available on the Portal

Next steps

- The next webinar will take place on Friday 23rd April at 1pm
We now have a permanent joining link for our webinars
- The recording from today will be shared on the portal – [link](#)
- Review and respond to any queries/questions, as appropriate

Thank you!