



**Monday 28 September 2020**

## **What's in your Partners in Care bulletin?**

This weekly bulletin provides details of training, guidance, access to past editions and lots more. There's also helpful information on the web pages dedicated to our Care Home and Domiciliary Care colleagues.

[Please click here to bookmark these pages](#)



**Department  
of Health &  
Social Care**

### **Care Home Testing Webinars**

Care home managers who have requested test kits from the National Testing Programme are invited to join regular care home testing webinars being delivered nationally. The webinars will last 90mins and run once a week throughout the autumn.

The webinars will give detailed information about all aspects of care home testing, including:

- Key updates from the National Testing Programme

- How to register to receive tests
- Top tips to prepare for testing
- Test kit delivery
- Advice for conducting coronavirus testing in your care home
- Advice for testing certain care groups
- How to register each test kit to its subject
- How to book a courier collection for your used tests
- Results and what they mean for you home

The session will include a Q&A with representatives from the national care home testing team, who will be able to answer your questions and address any concerns in the session. To sign up to attend one of the weekly webinars please follow this [link](#): If you are not able to attend the webinars live, please sign up and a recording of the session will be made available to you after the session



## **Care Home Frequent Caller Support Project - Yorkshire Ambulance Service**

As updated at the last Partners in Care Virtual Forum, Yorkshire Ambulance Service is currently working on a project involving Care Homes. This includes Residential and Nursing Homes, Mental Health and learning disability homes/units. The frequent caller team are using the quantity of calls to 999 as an indication that the home may need further support with alternative local services and are focusing on homes which make either 8 or more calls in a calendar month or three or more calls in a day.

The project involves contacting the care homes, identifying trends, liaising with agencies within the different areas. They are collaboratively working with local provisions and support networks to assist the care home staff. Due to the pandemic and the additional support Care homes have required, they have adapted our project and our supporting role. We are temporarily increasing the projects scope to incorporate all CCG areas YAS cover. Discussions include; what support is available, EOL care plans, GP involvement, Covid-19 cases within the care home, use and availability of PPE, and falls information.

This work has enabled the team to get a greater understanding of what is currently available for the care homes to access other than 999 and 111. They continue to successfully share information with community care home teams, community matrons and social care, providing them up to date and relevant information for individual's ongoing care. Their ultimate aim is to improve working relationships between YAS and Care homes across Yorkshire.

For further information please contact

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## Need to know

### Additional Apps for Care Provider Tablets

Following recent requests, the below apps have been rolled out automatically to care provider tablets

- Skype
- Care Workforce App
- Facebook Messenger

If you have any requests for additional apps or have any queries regarding these devices please call [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)



**Partners in Care Virtual Forum**

The next Partners in Care Virtual Forum will take place on Thursday 01 October from 2:00-2:45. All care providers and partners agencies are welcome to join, please contact [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net) if you don't have the calendar invite. The forum takes place every two weeks through Zoom.

Topics planned for the session include updates and discussion around mental capacity act, visiting and dentistry access. However the forum is shaped by its members so if you any topics you would like to request or questions you would like answering, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

## **NHS Mail Deactivation and Format Changes**

The CCG has been notified that any care provider NHS Mail accounts that haven't been active within the last 6 months will be **deactivated on 31 October**. We are currently contacting any providers that we have been notified have an inactive account, however to prevent this deactivation then all you need to do is to log into your account.

We have also been made aware that from 25 September the format of care provider generic email address will change from [care.location.careproviderODscore@nhs.net](mailto:care.location.careproviderODscore@nhs.net) to [care.ODScore@nhs.net](mailto:care.ODScore@nhs.net). We have been reassured that following the change any emails sent to the previous email address will automatically be directed through to the new address. Please [find](#) an email that has been sent to providers by NHS Mail on this subject,

For any NHS Mail queries please contact: [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)

## Training and Development Opportunities



### Project ECHO COVID Q&A and Future Sessions

Please find through these links the [slides](#) and [answers to questions](#) raised by providers by Dr Andrew Lee at a recent Project ECHO session. These cover topics including understanding what Covid tests mean, how long residents can be infectious for, antibody test and what the R rate is.

Project ECHO have a series of similar reflective learning sessions for care providers planned over the coming months, including around looking after ourselves in the workplace, unconscious bias and advance care planning.

For more information on these and to book, please follow this [link](#).



### DSPT Registration Webinars for Care Providers

**When: Weekdays from 2:00-2:15**

All care providers who have not yet registered for the Data Security Protection Toolkit and invited to attend daily webinars run by the regional DSPT team from NHS England and Improvement. These will provide a chance to ask questions and be run through registration process. For more information and joining details please view this [flyer](#).

Alternatively if you have any further queries please contact: [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)

## Further Information



**Infection.  
Prevention.  
Control.**  
You're in safe hands

### Infection Prevention Control Bulletins

The latest bulletins from the IPC team are available here and contain guidance on how care homes and domiciliary providers can prepare themselves for winter. This includes guidance for identifying infections early and how to stop them spreading.

To view the care home bulletin please follow this [link](#)

To view the domiciliary care bulletin please follow this [link](#)

### Antibody Testing for Adult Social Care Staff

Information on how to access antibody tests is available through a [poster](#), alongside the [SOP/consent form](#) and [frequently asked questions](#).

#### What is the antibody test?

- Antibody tests are now being provided free of charge by the NHS to anyone in paid adult social care employment, whether they have had symptoms or not.
- The antibody test is a voluntary blood test which involves taking blood from the arm and determines whether you have had Coronavirus.
- Antibody test results will help to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country and may be helpful in the future if scientific research is released with conclusive findings about immunity.
- It is important to note there is currently no evidence to show that someone cannot be re-infected with the virus, or pass it on to others, or have protective immunity. This means anyone with a positive antibody test will need to continue following government guidelines, such as social distancing and using PPE.

This bulletin is produced by NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group.

Do you have.....

- thoughts or comments to share?
- news that you would like to feature in the bulletin?
- items to be discussed at the next Partners in Care Meeting?

If so please contact [sarah.fiori@nhs.net](mailto:sarah.fiori@nhs.net) or [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)

