



Monday 14 December 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 Independent Care Provider colleagues.

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



COVID Vaccinations Update

- Whilst the first vaccines are for people who are over 80, this is for people who live at home, are able to visit the vaccination site, and have received an invitation from the GP, **not** for those people over 80 who live in care homes. This is due to the stability of the vaccine and storage conditions needed.
- Staff and residents will be vaccinated at the same time.

- GP practices are working to national guidance on the roll out, so a request from colleagues is please don't ring the GP practice requesting information on roll out of the vaccines.
- Whilst the recording of consent or BI decisions needs to be timely in relation to receiving the vaccine, providers can view the consent forms [here](#) to aid early discussion with residents and their legal representatives.
- This is a rapidly developing situation and health and social care colleagues will keep you updated as things progress.

Community Equipment Update

You may be aware that as reported in the NYICES December newsletter and at the December prescriber forum the impact of EU Exit and COVID-19 is having a significant and sustained impact on the global supply chain of materials and products. This global supply challenge has caused supply issues with community equipment stocks for both health and social care throughout the UK and has had some impact on the NYICES service.

TDI, the raw chemical ingredient used in the manufacture of foam and also tubular steel are the two main supply issues but the supply chain is now being compounded by EU Exit uncertainty and the equipment being stuck in containers at key ports throughout the world.

What this means nationally is that there is a shortage of certain items used in community equipment services and locally we have already seen an impact on some key products. Whilst we have managed to obtain similar/alternative products and it hasn't been such an issue although we need to ensure we can keep supplying equipment to those in need York in North Yorkshire. We need your help, any community equipment items not in use that are labelled as Medequip we are requesting that you help the cause by picking up the phone or emailing Medequip on the contact details below to arrange for the collection of the items no longer in use, these can then be decontaminated and recycled within the community.

(It may be that patients have died and their prescribed equipment is still on the premises, these items should (routinely) be returned.)

- **To return these please Medequip – 01423 226240 north.yorks@medequip-uk.com**
- **Please note if you are based within the City of York, Social Care Equipment should be returned to Be Independent 01904 645000.**

Need to know



Humber Coast and Vale Resilience Hub

Health and care workers are experiencing unprecedented strain and research has shown that they are at higher risk of developing mental health conditions if not adequately supported. In recognition of this Humber, Coast and Vale Health Care Partnership are launching a new Resilience Hub that will be open to all health and care staff across the region.

This will support those who are struggling with the impact of COVID-19, will be completely confidential and will offer advice and support that can help people with a range of issues from emotional wellbeing to bereavement, debt, domestic violence and relationship issues. The service will launch in the New Year, however ahead of this they are offering Care Homes the opportunity to access a small psychology and counselling team who can support gaps in your existing health and wellbeing offering, if there is a need. They can provide psychology support and outreach into teams in accordance with and as part of your organisation's existing health and wellbeing offer.

If you feel your service could benefit from additional support please contact hcv-resiliencehub@nhs.net

In addition, individual health and care staff can also speak to their local Talking Therapies service (IAPT). All of these services across the Humber, Coast and Vale area are offering priority access to frontline staff working in the NHS and care homes who are experiencing a common mental health problem related to COVID-19.

The full briefing and contact details for IAPT services are available through this [link](#).

DHSC Wellbeing for Social Care staff

DHSC have updated the [wellbeing guidance](#) for those working in social care. This

includes tips, advice and toolkits that employers and managers can use to help build the resilience of their team and address any concerns their staff may have. There is also a section that provides guidance on how all those working in social care can manage their personal mental health in the current circumstances.

Capacity Tracker Changes (Care Home Only)

The following updates have been made to the capacity tracker. If you receive an error message saying that your capacities entered do not match, this is telling you that your figures entered do not match (for instance you have entered more residents as having had flu vaccines than you currently have at the home). However it is just an alert and your information is still saving.

- COVID vaccination questions have been added
- Workforce – now capturing headcount rather than FTE
- Costs and Vacancies – now capturing Resident numbers
- Flu Immunisations - The question relating to experiencing delays or issues with flu immunisations has been split out to identify if there are issues being experienced by residents or staff or both.

Care Home IT and Technology Questionnaire

We appreciate that you are extremely busy and we are all aware that soon the COVID-19 vaccination programme will begin. Before the vaccination programme is rolled out, we are extending the opportunity for you to complete this questionnaire.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to capture information about IT and technology in registered care homes so that the CCG is able to access funding and support to help with IT systems and training where it is most needed.

Questionnaire is accessed by clicking on this [link](#)

If you don't know the answer to a question, it's fine to provide a 'best guess'. If you have any queries regarding this questionnaire please contact:

victoria.hall19@nhs.net

Training and Development Opportunities



St Leonards Hospice
Caring for Local People

CHANGING LIVES

Homeless Palliative Care Service

We are thrilled to launch our new palliative care service for the homeless and vulnerably housed and would like to introduce you to the role of our Complex Care Coordinator, this is an opportunity to meet Charlotte, get an idea of the work that she has already been doing, discuss how this service can help your clients and strengthen our collaborative working to make a positive impact on the lives of the people we work with.

We would like to invite you to join a meeting hosted by Project ECHO

4pm on Wednesday 16 December

If you would like to join our meeting, please email ProjectECHOteam@stleonardshospice.nhs.uk and they will send you the joining instructions.

React to Falls Prevention- Training Resources

The resources for the CCG's React to Falls Prevention training are now available through our [website](#) to access at any point.

The programme aims to reduce falls risks by implementation of a person centered, peripatetic approach to prevent and manage falls which is applicable across all care settings including domiciliary care and can be used by health professionals and informal carers alike. React to Falls Prevention' identifies 3 key areas of risk: Physical, Behavioral and Environmental; and the subsequent use of a simple framework that prompts carers to consider these risks and ... 'REACT'... to reduce the risk of falls.

Guidance on how to work through the resources is on the website. If you have any feedback, queries or requests for formal training please contact h.degnan1@nhs.net

Further Information



Queens Nursing Institute Educational Grants for Nurses Working in Care Homes and Adult Social Care (Up to £1000)

The QNI supports Continuing Professional Development for care home nurses as a way of promoting high quality care. If you want to do a short course or module and need financial support then please apply!

They are particularly supporting programmes in wound management including leg ulcer management although all courses would be considered.

You can apply online through this [link](#) or alternatively download a [form](#)

If you would like to discuss further, please contact joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk

All Care Homes to Receive Free Winter Supply of Vitamin D

The Government recently announced that 2.7 million vulnerable individuals in England will be offered a free winter supply of vitamin D. All care homes will automatically receive a provision for their residents, while individuals on the clinically extremely vulnerable list will receive a letter inviting them to opt in for a supply to be delivered directly to their homes. Deliveries will be free of charge, starting in January, and will provide four months' worth of supplements to last people through the winter months. [Read more here](#)

The Government has also published guidance on who should take the supplements and how to take them safely. [Read the guidance here.](#)

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 or sam.varo@nhs.net