



NHS
Vale of York
Clinical Commissioning Group



**Care Homes and
Domiciliary Care**

Monday 21 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](#)



Merry Christmas

As this is the last bulletin of 2020, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all care providers and their staff across the Vale of York for their tireless work in delivering care to our most vulnerable in the most difficult of circumstances this year. The way you have all pulled together to adapt to new ways of working and challenges to keep those in your care safe has been amazing. It has been an emotionally difficult year so hopefully you all get some well-deserved rest at some point over the festive period.

We wish all of you and your families and residents a safe and merry Christmas, and all the best for 2021.

From Sarah, Helen, Kay, Maureen, Sam and the Quality and Nursing Team

Lateral Flow Testing Update

[Guidance](#) has been updated 15 December with the link for the [online form](#) for visitors/yourself to register and record results. Also in the guidance is that LFT should only be used for care home visitors and visiting professionals, and are not part of the staff testing programme at this stage. DHSC have advised that homes should have received delivery of the LFT by Friday 18 December.

Need to know



Pulse Oximeters

For those care homes and providers who have been allocated pulse oximeters by the CCG in October, we are just checking if any issues have been experienced following reports of a small number of faulty devices in other areas. We have some spare devices in stock if you have had problems. If you have any feedback whether positive or negative or any queries about them please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Capacity Tracker Poster and Error Messages

We have created a poster designed for all homes which can be printed off and used as prompt on which sections need to be updated and when, and all so you have contact details available for any problems or queries. The poster can be accessed through this [link](#).

A lot of providers have reported getting error messages while trying to save their business continuity information. We and your local authorities have escalated this up nationally to try and get this resolved for you.



End of Life Nutrition Leaflet

The British Dietetic Association have produced an [accredited leaflet](#) which can be used to support you in providing nutrition to a resident or service user at the end of life. This includes guidance on the importance of nourishment over nutrition at this time and how to support this with food, drink and snacks.

Exposed Workers and Staff Guidance

[Guidance](#) on management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings has been updated on 17 December to confirm the revised 10 day isolation periods for contacts do not apply to residents in a care setting

- The guidance notes “In certain settings where people aged 70 or over are concentrated (for example, are permanently or temporarily resident in a care home or a hospital), a more precautionary approach is indicated because vulnerability to serious COVID-19 illness increases with age, and those aged 70 or over are considered at moderate risk. Therefore, guidance produced by the UK Infection Prevention and Control cell, PHE and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) recommends that the isolation period for resident and patient contacts in care homes and hospitals should remain at 14 days. For care home residents this 14-day contact-isolation period is the same as that for new residents admitted from elsewhere”.
- The precautionary 14-day contact-isolation period does **not** apply to care home or hospital staff contacts who should follow the legal requirement to isolate for 10 days.
- Please do have a look though as there is also additional information on 90 day retesting scenarios



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](#).

Training and Development Opportunities



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



Partners in Care Training Pages

Did you know there is more information on upcoming training sessions, eLearning and links to training providers on our website?

Through our training page there are also links to the programmes of training offered through the CCG: React to Falls Prevention, React to Red, IPC Training and Recognising and Responding to Deteriorating Residents. To access this page please follow this [link](#).

If you have any more training you would like to see added to this page please let us know

Further Information

East Read/Alternative Format updates

The following sets of guidance now have Easy Read versions

- [Guidance](#) on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable
- Guidance for people living in [Tier 2](#)

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.

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