



**Monday 25 January 2021**

## **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 Vaccine FAQ's for Care Homes and Care Setting Staff**

North Yorkshire County Council have produced a useful [set of answers to frequently asked questions](#) that you and your staff may have around the COVID vaccination.

These provide answers to a number of questions including:

- Why should I get the COVID-19 vaccine?
- I'm worried that the vaccines aren't safe
- What are the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine?
- If I've already had COVID-19, why do I still need to have the vaccine?
- Why haven't I been invited for a vaccination yet?



## Pulse Oximetry Update

Please find through this link a [poster](#) that has been created to help staff when using pulse oximeters, including how to use them, how to interpret the readings and what you should do based on these readings. There is also information regarding evidence that pulse oximeters may underestimate blood oxygen levels in individuals with darker skin. A baseline oxygen saturation should be taken when first assessing SpO2 rates and any changes in readings then compared to this baseline

We are working on creating a dedicated pulse oximetry page on the Partners in Care website so this information is easily accessible for staff. This will also link to further information and resources around Identifying and Responding to Deteriorating Residents, including the workbook version of the training which many providers have completed.

The CCG do have additional advice available should providers need them, please contact [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net) for more information. Also a reminder that there have been reports nationally of a small number of defective devices, however if you do discover one in your setting then please let us know and we will swap it for you.

## Need to know



### Partners in Care Virtual Forum

This week's Partners in Care Virtual Forum, will take place on **Thursday 28 January from 2.00-2.45**. These sessions are designed to provide support with the latest guidance, updates from across health and social care and a chance to ask questions of both health professionals and fellow care sector colleagues.

The sessions are shaped by our care providers so if you have anything you would like to raise for this meeting please get in touch.

All care providers and partners agencies are welcome at the forum, please contact [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net) if you don't have the calendar invite.

### Data Security Protection Toolkit (DSPT) Update

The DSPT is the online data security self-assessment tool which enables providers to demonstrate compliance with the information governance part of the Health and Social Care Act. This is mandatory for care providers with an NHS standard contract and recommended for other providers.

We have been informed that after 19 February 2021, the "Entry Level" stage of the DSPT will no longer exist and will be replaced by "Approaching Standards". Providers can still publish at Entry Level up until this date and this will count as their submission for 20/21.

There are only 11 questions to answer for Entry Level (those providers who have already started answering some of the Entry Level questions may still have 14 questions), so this may be a preferable option for some providers, rather than having to work towards Standards Met which has 45 questions. Approaching Standards will replace Entry Level and although not yet confirmed, we are expecting there will be approximately 26/27 questions to answer. In addition,

providers are required to submit a plan on how they seek to complete the rest of the evidence items to meet Standards Met.

The regional DSPT team from NHS England and Improvement are offering Entry Level support sessions based upon demand and will be able to offer each session to a maximum of 10 providers. If any providers would be interested in this then please contact [england.dsptnorth@nhs.net](mailto:england.dsptnorth@nhs.net) to express their interest

## Training and Development Opportunities

### Weekly LFD and COVID Vaccination Webinars

A reminder that there are regular LFD testing and COVID vaccination webinars taking place weekly **every Wednesday from 10.30-12.00**. The sessions are hosted by North Yorkshire County Council but are also available to and attended by providers from the City of York and East Riding areas. The sessions are an opportunity to receive updates around changes in guidance as well as a chance to ask the questions and for discussion. All care homes, domiciliary care providers and supported living providers are welcome.

The joining details are available below and are the same for each session

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/507622909>

**You can also dial in using your phone.**  
United Kingdom: [+44 20 3713 5011](tel:+442037135011)

**Access Code:** 507-622-909



### Partners in Care Training and Development Page

Did you know that more information on training and development including upcoming webinars and training workshops is available through our website?

Sessions coming up in the coming weeks including webinars from Skills for Care around supporting residents with learning difficulties and learning from local recruitment initiatives, and sessions from York Carers Centre around identifying and supporting carers.

It also has links to other training programmes available directly through the CCG, including IPC training, React to Falls, React to Red and Identifying and Responding to Deteriorating Residents.

To access that page please follow this [link](#)

## Further Information

### Capacity Tracker Vaccination Reminder

For care homes who access the Capacity Tracker, please can you ensure you update it with vaccinations information as soon as possible after COVID vaccinations have taken place, regardless of whether they were undertaken in a care setting, hospital or other setting.

CCGs need your help to be able to ensure we can access the next round of doses without having to request supplies. The Capacity Tracker is the data sourced being used to evidence the roll out of the vaccination programme and will be used to inform the roll out of the second doses on a national level. Therefore it is essential that the CCGs can access up to date information to inform these arrangements.

Many thanks for your continued support

If you have any Capacity Tracker related queries please contact:  
[sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)

### Helping to Prevent Winter Deaths and Illnesses Associated with Cold Homes- Guidance for domiciliary care providers

Any house can be hard to heat if the cost of heating it is more than the person living there can afford. By taking a few simple steps, home care managers can play an important role in supporting people to heat their homes to a comfortable and safe temperature.

NICE have produced quick guide offers guidance on helping to prevent the harm caused by a lack of heating. It looks at:

- What is a hard-to-heat home
- Identifying those most at risk
- Making every contact count
- Being part of a successful discharge home.

To access this guidance please follow this [link](#)

**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)

