



**Monday 01 February 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](#)



## **Vitamin D Supplements Guidance for Care Providers**

As updated at Partners in Care last week, The vitamin D supplements being provided free by the Government should be arriving at all care homes shortly (and some have already received) . The DHSC has published [guidance](#) to advise care homes on how to offer the supplements safely including what records must

be kept. The full guidance must be read carefully and can be found here. The guidance gives a clear direction for residents who should be offered the supplements and for when advice should be sought from a healthcare professional (see section 2 of the DHSC guidance). **Where advice is required this should be done as a routine (not urgent) query.** Starting the supplements can be delayed until the advice can be obtained. Record the action you have taken in the person's care plan. Further information on how to put the guidance into practice, including contact details for further advice is available in this [document](#).

Information is also available [on supporting people to take vitamin D](#) from CQC which is relevant to all adult social care providers including domiciliary and supported living.

**Karen Lepper who gave the update at Partners in Care is also happy to take queries and can be contacted at: [karenlepper@nhs.net](mailto:karenlepper@nhs.net)**



- S Seems different to usual
- T Talks or communicates less
- O Overall needs more help
- P Pain – new or worsening; Participating less in activities
- A Ate less
- N No bowel movement in 3 days; or diarrhoea
- D Drank less
- W Weight change
- A Agitated or more nervous than usual
- T Tired, weak, confused, drowsy
- C Change in skin colour or condition
- H Help with walking, transferring or toileting more than usual

## **Recognising and Responding To Deteriorating Residents-Workbook Training Now Available Online**

Not recognising quickly that someone is becoming unwell can lead to delay in getting help and possible admission to hospital and longer stays in hospital. The STOP and WATCH training supports staff to understand why and how to recognise deterioration if someone becomes unwell, regardless of setting. The training also covers how to use easy prompt tools to support that recognition and how to respond and escalate and communicate with colleagues and other health and care professionals. Clinical observations give important information about individuals, they give baseline information and can help in making clinical and care decisions regardless of setting. The workbook has also been updated with pulse oximetry guidance.

The training is available virtually, face to face and via a workbook which can be now be accessed directly through our website as needed. For more information on this training and to access the workbook please follow this [link](#).

## Need to know



### COVID Vaccination FAQ's, Fraud Alert and Contacts For Queries

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?

You may be aware from national news of fraudulent communications relating to vaccines. Please can you ensure staff are aware of the information in this [link](#) on how to spot the fake texts/ emails etc. so they can be vigilant for themselves and in their conversations with others.

**If you have any questions regarding vaccination then please contact a member of the Partners in Care Team who will be able to offer support:**  
[Sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:Sam.varo@nhs.net); [Sarah.fiori@nhs.net](mailto:Sarah.fiori@nhs.net); [h.degnan1@nhs.net](mailto:h.degnan1@nhs.net)

## and Practice for Nurses New to Care Home Nursing

have published the first ever standards for nurses working in residential homes. by a Practice Portfolio developed with Skills for Care. The QNI was commissioned to develop the new standards to support the transition of a Registered Nurse who is new to 1000 registered nurses employed by adult social care (2020) and the care required by highly sophisticated. The QNI worked with a representative group of Care Home providers to develop education and practice standards. The resulting standards are comprised of a set of knowledge that the Registered Nurse will need to demonstrate in the Care Home setting. [View this link.](#)



### NHS Mail- Deadline for Inactive Users

We have been informed as any NHS Mail accounts which have been inactive for over 180 days will be automatically deleted on 01 March 2021. For any users who currently fall into this group you will receive contact from the CCG to help support you in getting up and running with your account. If you are aware you fall into this group then if you log into your account this will mark you as active and will stop it being deleted.

It's important that providers have enough staff registered to allow them to communicate securely with health services whenever needed, for instance during an overnight hospital admission or on a weekend. So if you would like to set up additional staff then please get in touch and we can show you how. Some homes have been setting up senior nurses and carers as well as admin staff, and any staff who regularly send and receive resident specific information with health services would likely benefit from an account to help them do this more efficiently.

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

## Training and Development Opportunities

## **North Regional Webinar – “Coping with Covid: IPC – Back to Basics”,**

**When- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> of Feb,  
3:00-4:00pm**

DHSC, Yorkshire and the Humber ADASS and the Better Care Fund will be hosting a series of webinars throughout February and March to support staff working in the care sector to deliver safe care to people in the community. This first webinar will focus on the continued importance of infection prevention and control during the pandemic, despite the vaccination role out and continued transmission of the new variant. Speakers will include Professor Deborah Sturdy OBE, the first Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care at DHSC, a Consultant in Communicable Disease Control who will cover the new Covid variant and IPC practice to follow whilst delivering care, along with presentations from care home managers to share learning, including how they dealt with individual outbreaks. The webinar is aimed at staff working in the community, as well as local authority and health colleagues to support sector-led improvement and ensure that best practice and innovative ideas are disseminated across the sector.

There will also be a Q&A Panel at the end of the webinar to provide an opportunity for questions to be raised and discussions. If you have any questions you would like to raise, please email them to [ascregionalassurance@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:ascregionalassurance@dhsc.gov.uk)

**To book your place on the webinar, please use follow this [link](#).**

## **University of Hull- 'Coping with Behaviours that Challenge in Dementia' e-Learning**

This online evidence - based course was developed in 2009 to support practitioners in treating some of the most costly aspects of dementia care. It is aimed at staff / practitioners supporting people with dementia and families. It is not intended for use by people with dementia or families. The term 'challenging behaviour' does not imply 'misbehaviour' that can undermine dignity in people living with a dementia. It has been used to reflect the health and psychosocial need(s) of people with dementia that 'hands-on-staff' and family carers can have significant difficulty in responding to. Module 3 in particular has been found useful by the using it, as it assists staff to make rational decisions on unmet health and psychosocial needs in people with dementia who challenge caregivers. It also helps signpost professionals to what care homes and family carers may need to deliver these 'biopsychosocial' support plans.

**To access this training you will need to create an account. For more information please follow this [link](#)**

## Further Information



# Department of Health & Social Care

### Letter from Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care

Please find through this [link](#), a letter from Professor Deborah Sturdy OBE who is the first ever national Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care. In the letter, Professor Sturdy discusses the timescales for the COVID vaccination programme as well as the new COVID variant, PPE and self-isolation.



## Capacity Tracker

### Capacity Tracker- Proxy Medicine Ordering Survey

A short survey relating to proxy medication ordering has been added to the Capacity Tracker for care homes. If homes would be able to complete this survey at some point over the month of February that would be greatly appreciated.

To access the survey if you click "Care Home" (or the heart symbol with a line through it) then the survey will be among the options you can select.

For any capacity tracker related queries please contact: [sam.varo@nhs.net](mailto:sam.varo@nhs.net)

**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)