



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Diabetes - insulin administration in Care Homes 'A pilot'

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Background

- Significant increase in the older person population
- The likelihood of developing diabetes increases with age
- 1 in 4 people in care homes has Diabetes
- Increasing demands on Community services, Covid, more complex patients being discharged to Community services earlier than previously

What we have already done

Policy for Community Senior Health Care Support Workers

- Trained to take on the task of administering insulin in patients with Type 2 patients
 - Competency package, developed by Diabetes and Community services
 - Supported by District Nurse

Next Step

- Policy for Care Home workers to take on the task in patients with type 2 diabetes on daily / twice daily insulin
 - Patient would remain under care of District nursing team – at least weekly visits
 - Care Home workers – supported through competency training from both DN team and Diabetes team

Diabetes UK, Trend UK, Royal College of Nursing (RCN), NHS England and Improvement (NHSEI)

National competency framework

- **Personalised care and empowerment:** can improve continuity in the member of staff who provides this service, and as people will not need to wait until a registered nurse can get to where they live, they will receive injections at the time appropriate to their routine and care plan.
- **To support the development of care home workers:** We want to formalise policies for those who have already developed their skills in the care of people with diabetes.
- **To help prevent transmission of COVID-19:** By minimising the number of different health and care professionals who enter vulnerable people's homes or adult social care settings, we can minimise the risk of transmission in those settings.

Diabetes UK, Trend UK, Royal College of Nursing (RCN), NHS England and Improvement (NHSEI)

- **To support the resilience of our shared community workforce and reduce risk of harm:**
 - Absence rates among social care and NHS community staff during COVID-19 pandemic and beyond may be high - and at a time of unprecedented demand on community-based care as we support beds to be available in hospitals for the most ill. If community nurses cannot get to those who need insulin injections in a timely fashion, **there is a very real risk of harm.**
- **To provide a framework for safe delegation:**
 - Delegation of this responsibility is not new for many areas. The national guidance and support package seeks to ensure delegation of responsibilities around insulin injection is implemented safely and consistently around the country, with adequate structures and support for the staff involved

Next steps

- Contact either myself or discuss with the Community nurse visiting your home
- 1.5hrs training session - Diabetes Team
 - Improving Diabetes knowledge for all staff
 - Annual updates for staff
- District nursing team – support any care workers taking on the task

- Diabetes UK, Trend UK, Royal College of Nursing (RCN), NHS England and Improvement (NHSEI), Care Quality Commission (CQC), Local Government Authority (LGA), Skills for Care (SfC), Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), Health Education England (HEE), NHS Resolution, Queens Nursing Institute (QNI), UK Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA), Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), Foundation of Nursing Studies (FoNS), UK Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA), National Care Forum (NCF), and UK Homecare Association (UKHCA).