



Monday 18 July 2022

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](#)

**Red
weather
warning.**



Red Warning of Extreme Heat Affecting Yorkshire & Humber

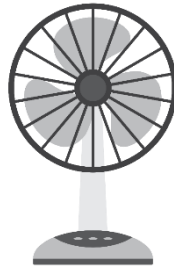
The Met Office is forecasting exceptionally high temperatures covering Monday and Tuesday and has issued both AMBER and RED warnings (see below). Here are some useful links to the Government's Heatwave Plan for England and some

relevant documents regarding the support of vulnerable people during a heatwave.

- [Heatwave Plan for England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heatwave-plan-for-england)
- [Staying safe in extreme heat - UK Health Security Agency \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2019/07/23/staying-safe-in-extreme-heat/)
- [Supporting vulnerable people before and during a heatwave: for care home managers and staff - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-vulnerable-people-before-and-during-a-heatwave-for-care-home-managers-and-staff)
- [Supporting vulnerable people before and during a heatwave: for health and social care professionals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-vulnerable-people-before-and-during-a-heatwave-for-health-and-social-care-professionals)

We would also suggest that you test your Business Continuity Plan to ensure it is robust and remains fit for purpose. Below are some further documents and guidance you may find useful.

- [Personal Protective Equipment and Heat: Risk of Heat Stress](#)
- [Driving in Extreme Temperatures Guidance](#)
- [Care Sector Heatwave Guidance](#)
- [Hydration, Heatwaves and UTI's](#)



Portable Fan Usage Guidance

The Community Infection and Prevention Team have produced a set of [guidance](#) for usage of portable fans, which have been linked to cross-infection in some health and social care settings. Dust and debris can naturally accumulate within the internal body of the blades of fans and this provides a reservoir for microorganisms. Each use and reuse should be risk assessed. Decontamination and maintenance schedules must be in place. Portable fans should not be used during airborne outbreaks of infection or when a person is known or suspected to have an infection, e.g. *Clostridioides difficile*, MRSA, COVID-19, Norovirus, Influenza.



Immedicare Telemedicine Service- System Pressures Message

We're encouraging providers to please use Immedicare service where appropriate as a first point of contact over the coming weekend, and especially into the next week rather than 111/GP Out of Hours. These services are under immense pressure as are the hospital and ambulance services which will be further exacerbated by the coming heatwave, so it will be faster to access support when required through Telemedicine.

A document is available giving examples of [when Immedicare can be used](#). In a medical emergency, call 999 and follow the instructions given by the ambulance service call handler. Please note you can also call Immedicare for additional support and advice ahead of the paramedics arriving. Under these circumstances as part of the Immedicare response they will also liaise with the attending crew and help with handover of clinical details and patient condition.



Contamination of Hygiene Products National Patient Safety Alert- Updated to Include Additional Products

An additional national alert has been released, following an initial alert for hygiene products produced by Vernacare. This has since been updated to include products manufactured by the company under the brand names Caremore, Countrywide, Fairfield, CHL, Fittleworth, CCN and Medirite. The products and reference numbers can be found through this [link](#), as well as what do should have any of these products.

Need to know

**Do not use urine
dipsticks in patients
> 65 years old or with
catheters**

Working Together to Reduce UTI Prescribing

At this weeks Partners in Care Virtual Forum, we had a present from Susan Broughton around work taking place to reduce antibiotic prescribing for UTI's and the "Do Not Dip" project. You may see changes in how your GP Practice responds to a UTI building on this work. Further information can be found through the [presentation slides](#), but key messages include:

- If antibiotics are used when they are not really required bacteria can develop resistance. There were an estimated 55,000 antibiotic resistant blood stream infections in the UK in 2020, which can easily spread in care settings. They can also cause harm where used inappropriately, with links to stomach/bowel upside and infections such as C. difficile or MRSA.
- Many older people have bacteria in their urine anyway (around 50% of over 65's and an almost 100% with catheters). A dipstick will detect this and test positive, even if it isn't causing an infection. Practices have been asked to diagnose UTIs based on clinical signs and symptoms in the over 65s and those with catheters rather than using a dipstick test.
- We can work together to reduce inappropriate UTI prescribing, including by giving any antibiotics exactly as prescribed, and not doing a dipstick test or dropping in a sample unless requested by a clinician.

For any questions on this project- Please contact: susanbroughton1@nhs.net



Care Home and Supported Living Olympics- Week 5 Update

We're into the last couple of weeks of our exciting summer campaign to support providers in getting in their care active and moving to fight de-conditioning. We've been really impressed by how creatively all the providers have been interpreting the challenge, and feedback has been that the competition has really caught the imagination and been enjoyed by staff and residents alike from our 29 competing providers.

We continue to share our [Olympic Update](#) to share how our providers are getting on, as well as ideas and tips to support physical activity. This week's bulletin includes:

- Updates from our brilliant teams at Kirkwood Hall in Leyburn, and Riccall House Care Home in Selby about how they took part in our Olympic challenge.
- More news from Silver Birches in Filey, who's day included staff versus resident rounders and the story of 104 year old resident Winnie who took part in all their activities.
- The links between physical activity and mental wellbeing.
- Introducing NHS How Fit Today- A physical wellbeing resource tailored to all ages and abilities.

Infection Prevention and Control in Adult Social Care: COVID-19 Supplement Updates

The above guidance from The Department for Health and Social Care, setting out how to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in adult social care settings in England has been updated. Updates include:

1. Correction to first paragraph, continuous positive airway pressure ventilation (CPAP) removed as an example of an AGP in the community, clarified suctioning and tracheostomy procedures in the first paragraph.

2. Updated 'IPC considerations for people receiving care' to reflect that people with cognitive conditions such as dementia may present with atypical symptoms. (feel different from usual which should also be considered as part of the assessment about whether someone may have COVID-19. Changes in wellbeing, behaviour and clinical signs with or without a high temperature should all be considered and clinical advice sought if necessary, for example from the GP if the person is unwell.)
3. Updated to clarify that all visitors are encouraged to wear face masks rather than face coverings. ASC staff are still required to wear face mask at all times
4. Outbreak management - proportionate changes to visiting: some forms of visiting should continue if individual risk assessments are carried out. One visitor at a time per resident should always be able to visit inside the care home

The [Summary of changes to COVID-19 guidance for adult social care providers](#) highlights where guidance about COVID-19 for adult social care providers has been changed.

Learning and Development Opportunities

Learning Environment, Assessment and Placements- Role Emerging Placements Webinar

When: Wednesday 20 July 14:00-16:00

Can you offer placements on site in your organisation, to health and care students e.g. trainee Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Nurses? Do you want to know more about the Role Emerging Placement (REP) Learning Model, where students are supervised by external Educators?

- There is no extra work or administration for your organisation to complete
- We do want them to be a part of your team, with access to a buddy or mentor
- Students will benefit from a diverse experience, outside of traditional learning environments

Project ECHO Palliative Care Clinics- Breathlessness

When: Tuesday 02 August 14.00-15.00

The Project ECHO team run through St Leonards Hospice and St Catherine's Hospice are hosting a series of clinics . These are designed and shaped by the community of Nursing staff working across the region in palliative care. On Zoom, these Hospice-led clinics will provide mutual learning, practical guidance, case studies and support.

To register please contact [The Project ECHO Team](#)

- Students can add value by supporting users e.g., individual and/or group activities, research, user surveys and service re-design etc.
- You will also benefit from a small, regular income for each placement you provide and sustain

For more information and to book, please follow this [link](#).

Further Information

Contacts for Incident Reporting-Updated Process

- To report any patient safety concerns regarding York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, please complete and submit this [form](#). For York Hospital please send to yhs-tr.s2s@nhs.net or for Scarborough Hospital to freya.oliver@york.nhs.uk. This will allow the Trust to continuously receipt, acknowledge and investigate these concerns.
- To make a complaint or to highlight any concerns regarding Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust, please email yas.patientrelations@nhs.net. Please find through this [link](#) a template which you are able to complete, which will ensure they have all the information required to investigate.

DHSC- Future Data Collection Survey

DHSC is working on a future data collection from care providers, which will eventually replace the Capacity Tracker dataset that becomes mandatory from 31 July 2022. As promised at the start of the pandemic, it's now time for the longer-term approach to be developed and co-produced with providers and other stakeholders.

Their aim is to engage closely with all stakeholders to identify and agree key data needs and look at opportunities to streamline current data collections from care providers, so that data can be captured once and shared with all those that need it. This includes providers, councils, CQC, and national government. This will add real value in gaining a full view of the challenges for the sector and reduce overall provider data burden.

You are invited to complete the following survey to share your views with us by **Friday 22 July**:

[Provider data survey for care providers – understanding your data needs \(~20 mins\) \(office.com\)](#)

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 sam.varo@nhs.net