



**Integrated
Care System**
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

NHS

**Shropshire, Telford
and Wrekin**

Mar 2024

Care Cascade

Welcome to your care provider update



Welcome Back

We are pleased to provide regular updates for colleagues working in the care sector.

These editions will centre around giving teams the information and resources they need relating to winter planning, with a particular focus on vaccinations including Covid-19 and flu vaccinations.

If you would like to include anything in the next edition, please email laura.case1@nhs.net



Contents

Covid 19 Guidance.....	2 - 3
Not to be missed	4 - 6





Covid 19 Guidance

This is a good time of year to remind and refresh your teams with guidance on Covid 19 and continue to report cases and seek support Shropshire Public Health Team if you need it, you can contact them at ShropshirePublicHealth@shropshire.gov.uk or tel: (01743)251234.



For COVID-19 guidance for adult social care, [click here](#).

Single cases Staff and Residents

1. Do an LFD test only if they are [eligible for antiviral treatments](#).
2. If Positive – Contact health protection team on shropshirepublichealth@shropshire.gov.uk, contact the GP to commence antiviral treatment as soon as possible. Staff eligible for Covid-19 treatments should contact their GP, NHS 111 or their specialist consultant
3. Isolate for 5 full days after the date of the test or first symptoms. If no further temperature and feel well enough to do so, then return to normal on day 6.
4. If they continue to be unwell after 10 days:
 - advice should be sought from GP and health protection team, and
 - consider maintaining the isolation as may still be infectious

If someone has [symptoms of a respiratory illness](#) but are not eligible for antivirals, do NOT do an LFD test, but still follow the [isolation guidance](#) as above in point 3.

If they are still unwell after 5 days then continue to isolate for no more than 10 days regardless of symptoms.

Outbreaks

If two or more cases are linked and develop symptoms (as above) within 14 days, suspect an outbreak – carry out a risk assessment to confirm if they are linked and if transmission occurred within the setting.

Additional measures taken to contain the outbreak have not changed:

- LFD test the first 5 symptomatic residents, regardless of their eligibility for antivirals
- After the first 5 residents only test any symptomatic residents that are eligible for antivirals. Staff can test if they are eligible for antiviral treatment.
- In Shropshire:
 - Report the outbreak to UKHSA via a simple questionnaire accessed through a web-link to the Care OBRA Online Reporting Tool <https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak>
 - Contact the health protection team on shropshirepublichealth@shropshire.gov.uk





- In Telford and Wrekin:
 - During normal office hours contact the hub – healthprotectionhub@telford.gov.uk
 - During out-of-hours report the outbreak to UKHSA via a simple questionnaire accessed through a web-link to the Care OBRA Online Reporting Tool <https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak>. This link should be used to report new outbreaks of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs) including COVID-19, and unidentified ARI (e.g. chest infections) or for reporting BOTH single cases AND outbreaks of Influenza. The link is not to be used to report single COVID-19 and single ARI (unknown micro-organism) cases, nor updates of existing outbreaks, nor reporting of non-ARI outbreaks e.g. norovirus.
 - For other queries out of hours where they need support call UKHSA on 01384 679031
- If positive then they should isolate for 5 full days. If no further temperature and feel well enough to do so then they can come out of isolation on day 6.
- Antiviral treatment should be sought via the GP as soon as possible for those eligible
- Staff eligible for Covid-19 treatments should contact their GP, NHS 111 or their specialist consultant
- The outbreak is over when the last symptomatic resident has completed day 5 full day of their isolation

Visitors

- Visiting guidance has not changed, anyone isolating may have a minimum of 1 visitor.
- There should be no restriction of visiting inside or outside of the home for any residents that are negative or asymptomatic. If the tests are negative, consider testing for other respiratory illness like flu seek support.

Admissions

- Admissions from a hospital should have an LFD test done up to 48 hours prior to discharge. A positive result should not delay discharge if the person can be managed safely within the home. The person should then follow the guidance above for residents who are positive.
- Admissions from the community do not need to be tested

If you would like more information about Shropshire Council services, please [visit our website](#) or [sign up for email updates](#).





Not to be missed

Updated ASC ARI Guidance Infection Prevention and Control in adult social care:

On 31st January 2024 UKHSA updated ASC ARI guidance [Infection prevention and control in adult social care: acute respiratory infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-acute-respiratory-infection)

The guidance provides information on infection prevention and control measures (IPC) to reduce the spread of viral acute respiratory infections (ARIs), including COVID-19, in adult social care settings. This includes information on identifying symptoms and if someone tests positive, vaccinations, eligibility for treatments and PPE requirements for staff.

Updated Enhanced Health in Care Homes Framework

NHS England has published a revised version of the [Enhanced Health in Care Homes framework](#) which sets out the principles for delivering proactive, personalised care for people living in care homes including those with learning disabilities or autism, mental ill-health or rehabilitation needs.

This update reflects best practice and new ways of working developed since the COVID-19 pandemic including the use of digital technology to improve integrated working and information sharing across health and social care teams. It expands on priority clinical areas such as structured medicine reviews, nutrition and hydration, falls prevention, skin and wound care, leg and foot ulcers, mental health, dementia and palliative and end of life care.

The health and safety law poster – what you need to know

The HSE have included an update about the Health and Safety Law Poster in their news bulletin. If you manage a building or manage staff that manage/have a responsibility for a building, please can you ensure the poster is in place as per the information below.

[The health and safety law poster – what you need to know](#)

The poster explains British health and safety laws and lists what workers and their employers should do. If you employ anyone, you must either:

- display the health and safety law poster where your workers can easily read it
- provide each worker with the equivalent health and safety law leaflet

You must display the poster where your workers can easily read it and you can't print a copy yourself. You can:

- [order HSE approved versions of the poster](#)
- [download the equivalent leaflet](#)



Webinar - Introducing BS ISO 7101:2023 - Healthcare quality management

Join the free webinar to learn about the new international healthcare quality standard. Please join us on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 12 noon for an extraordinary event to launch BS ISO 7101:2023 Management systems for quality in healthcare organizations – Requirements.

This new international document exists to help organisations take big strides towards improving the quality of healthcare and outcomes. Based on recognized international best practice, it can help users to:

- embed a quality culture for timely, safe, effective and people-centred care,
- treat increasing demand with increased efficiency,
- cope with soaring costs by reducing waste,
- reduce service users safety incidents and optimizing resource allocation,
- meet service users' growing expectations by improving the patient experience and building trust,
- improve resilience, agility and the capacity to innovate through better systems,
- boost reputation and competitiveness because certification to BS ISO 7101 will demonstrate a clear commitment to quality and differentiator in the marketplace.

[Book your place here.](#)

CareFind - What is it?

Capacity Tracker are developing a new tool to help members of the public to search for Care Home vacancies via a new public facing website, CareFind. Capacity Tracker will provide this as a free service for Providers, on an opt-out basis, with some conditions in place.

The concept of CareFind has been developed with the support of the DHSC & NHS England. It aims to give benefits to both Care Home providers & people looking for care services, building on the information and resource of CT.

- CareFind - Provider FAQs: [Click here](#)
- CareFind - Overview Video: [Click here](#)
- CareFind – Provider Training: [Click here](#)
- Help Centre – T: 0191 691 3729, E: necsu.capacitytracker@nhs.net





Providing care and support for people living at home with moderate or severe frailty guidance

NHS England has published [‘Proactive care: Providing care and support for people living at home with moderate or severe frailty’](#) guidance which supports a more consistent approach to proactive care across England for people living at home with moderate or severe frailty.

A proactive care approach aims to improve people’s health outcomes and their experiences of healthcare by slowing the onset or progression of frailty and enabling people to live independently for longer.

Medicine Matters for Care Settings Newsletter - January 2024

To view the newsletter, [click here](#).

[To view previous editions of the Care Cascade newsletter, click here.](#)

