

Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin's Care Cascade – Friday 25 February, 2022

Welcome to your latest care provider update.

These weekly updates continue to centre around giving you and your team the information and resources you need relating to winter planning, with a particular focus on Covid-19 - including vaccinations.

If you would like to include anything in the next edition, please email Naomi Penrose:

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Living with Covid-19: What that means for health and care staff

You will be aware that earlier this week the Prime Minister outlined the plan for Living with Covid-19 – and we know that as healthcare workers you will be wondering what that means for you, in particular relating to staff testing positive and also testing for patients and staff.

Due to the higher risk nature of health and social care settings, the advice for staff members working in these settings has not changed.

For healthcare staff who have tested positive for Covid-19 the previous rules still apply. Staff should not attend work until they have had two negative Lateral Flow Test results taken 24 hours apart. The first test should not be taken before day 5 after their initial positive test.

These tests need to be 24 hours apart, and providing staff are medically fit, they can return to work on the morning of day 6 providing they tested negative 24 hours earlier.

The UKHSA has this week updated the guidance for staff and patients exposed to Covid-19 and this has been posted on [the UKHSA guidance pages here](#).

How your workplace can access Lateral Flow Tests

Following the Government's plan for Living with Covid-19 as mentioned above, we can confirm that current testing protocols should continue in care homes and settings until further guidance is received.

Reporting test results remains a requirement and we should encourage Adult Social Care staff to report the results of their asymptomatic tests whether positive or negative at:

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. For Adult Social Care staff the requirement is that they take a daily Lateral Flow Test on the days they are working before their shift.

Below is the linked guidance which includes within a link for your workplace to sign up for your own supply of tests.

All that needs to be done is for your setting to register and receive a Unique Organisation Number (UON) at this stage. You will then be able to order every 21 days.

The guidance, which included the sign up link, can be found below:

- [Testing guidance for homecare workers in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/testing-guidance-for-homecare-workers-in-england)
 - [Testing in extra care and supported living settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/testing-in-extra-care-and-supported-living-settings)
 - [Testing for adult day care centre workers and service users](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/testing-for-adult-day-care-centre-workers-and-service-users)
 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing for anyone working in adult social care who is not part of regular testing at work - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-anyone-working-in-adult-social-care-who-is-not-part-of-regular-testing-at-work)
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REMINDER: West Midlands Care Home Safety Network Event

A reminder that care managers are being encouraged to attend the next West Midlands Care Home Safety Network Event, taking place on Monday 21 March, between 2pm and 4pm.

This series of network events, organised by the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (WMAHSN), invites care homes from all over the West Midlands to share developments and celebrate excellence in care homes across the region.

This upcoming event will be a chance to provide you with updates from the previous meeting such as the roll-out of ISTUMBLE, as well as an opportunity to share new learnings on exciting new roles and training resources.

The event will be an opportunity to collaborate, share and learn with other care home managers and staff.

- [To confirm your attendance at the event, register here.](#)
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How to access your Covid-19 vaccines in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin

The Covid-19 vaccines are the best way to protect yourself, your loved ones and vulnerable patients/residents from Covid.

There are a number of ways in which care staff can get a Covid vaccine in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

You can either [book online by clicking here](#) or you can attend a walk-in clinic.

Details of the walk-in clinics available in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin can be found by double-clicking here: <https://www.stwics.org.uk/our-priorities/covid-19-vaccination-programme/walk-in-clinic-times>

Please keep checking back as new sites, dates and times are being added all the time.
