

Confirmed or Suspected Respiratory and Gastrointestinal Infection

Key Messages for Care Homes

	Confirmed/suspected <u>respiratory</u> infection	Confirmed/suspected <u>gastrointestinal</u> infection
Resident Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect throat swab (respiratory sample) and request routine Respiratory Screen (COVID-19, Flu A, B & RSV) from all symptomatic residents • Consider antiviral prophylaxis for residents • Staff must maintain current details of resident signs & symptoms • Support residents to maintain respiratory etiquette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect stool and/or vomit sample from all affected residents & request Norovirus test (also request C-Diff and MC&S on stool sample) • Ensure residents maintain fluid levels • Staff must maintain current details of resident signs & symptoms including fever, nausea & vomiting • Record all bowel movements on Bristol Stool Chart • Support residents to clean their hands regularly
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluid Resistant Surgical Mask (FRSM) Type IIR • Disposable apron (consider fluid-resistant disposable gown if apron provides inadequate cover for the procedure/task), • Disposable gloves if exposure to blood & body fluids • Full face visor • For Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGP) wear FFP3 mask • Apron/gown & gloves must be changed between residents & tasks on the same resident • Dispose of PPE as clinical waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable apron (consider fluid-resistant disposable gown if apron provides inadequate cover for the procedure/task) • Disposable gloves if exposure to blood & body fluids • Consider (if risk of spraying or splashing) eye & face protection (FRSM Type IIR and goggles or full face visor) • Apron/gown & gloves must be changed between residents & tasks on the same resident • Dispose of PPE as clinical waste
Hand Hygiene	<p>Adhere to strict hand hygiene. Alcohol-Based Hand Rub (ABHR) or soap & water may be used</p>	<p>Adhere to strict hand hygiene. Wash hands with soap & water (Alcohol-Based Hand Rub is not effective against gastrointestinal illness)</p>
Staff Exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay at home if you have symptoms of respiratory infection and have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities • In addition to above guidance, do not return until 24 hours clear of having high temperature • If you test positive for COVID-19 please refer to current isolation guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff must not return to work until 48 hours clear of all gastrointestinal symptoms, including abdominal pain or nausea
Signage	<p>Ensure appropriate notices are visible informing staff & visitors:</p> <p>Droplet/Airborne Precautions (Respiratory)</p>	<p>Ensure appropriate notices are visible informing staff & visitors:</p> <p>Contact Precautions (Gastrointestinal)</p>

Re-opening closed areas	<p>Closed areas can be re-opened when all symptomatic residents have been apyrexial for 24 hours & respiratory symptoms are back to baseline and/or improving (excluding COVID-19)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 reopening to be discussed with Health Protection Team • Residents with a confirmed/suspected respiratory viral infection should wear a fluid resistant surgical mask (FRSM) when moving around • Closed areas to be terminally cleaned prior to re-opening 	<p>Closed areas can be re-opened when all symptomatic residents have been asymptomatic for 48 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed areas to be terminally cleaned prior to re-opening
Resident Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptomatic residents – isolate in own room and defer non-urgent investigations/therapy • Asymptomatic residents – seek Health Protection advice 	
Cleaning	<p>Commodes, resident equipment & environment must all be cleaned with a combined detergent/disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm available chlorine (av.cl.));</p> <p>Or</p> <p>a general purpose neutral detergent in a solution of warm water followed by disinfection solution of 1,000ppm av.cl.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Cleaning agent compliant with relevant BS EN Standard as detailed in the Care Home Infection Prevention and Control Manual</p>	
Staff Movement & Dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce staff movement. Staff working on closed areas should not work on other areas. If unavoidable, visit affected areas last • Staff moving between areas do not need to change their uniforms as long as PPE has been worn and no contamination occurred • Staff should be bare below the elbow to support good hand hygiene • Avoid allocating areas to bank/agency staff 	
Laundry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All linen from closed bays/wards including staff uniforms should be managed as infected linen • Personal laundry- see Washing Clothes at Home Leaflet 	
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't share food (residents and staff) • Keep food trolleys outside affected rooms with trays passed to a colleague inside the room 	
Non – essential items	<p>Limit non – essential items to maintain a clean environment</p>	
Other Resident Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential services must continue to avoid compromising resident care. Non-essential activities should be paused. • Visit outbreak areas last 	