

IPC Bulletin for Domiciliary Care

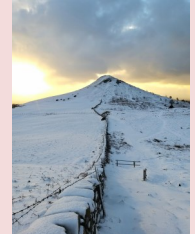
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Produced by an NHS Community Infection Prevention and Control Team based in North Yorkshire for distribution to subscribers.

Preparing for the winter season

The winter season results in an increased pressure across all health and social care settings with more respiratory illnesses, such as flu and COVID-19, and an increase in diarrhoea and vomiting, e.g. Norovirus. These can affect both service users and staff which result in staff shortages at a time when work load is high. The following steps can help you be more prepared to manage the increase of infection during the winter season.



- ✓ Encourage vaccination uptake by staff and service users.
- ✓ Check your infection prevention and control policies are up-to-date and followed by staff.
- ✓ Do refresher training on hand hygiene and putting on and removing personal protective equipment. Remember gloves are not a substitute for hand hygiene.
- ✓ Educate/encourage service users to perform good hand hygiene.
- ✓ Encourage/educate service users to practice respiratory and cough hygiene. The 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' and 'Respiratory and cough hygiene' posters are available to download at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk.

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW)

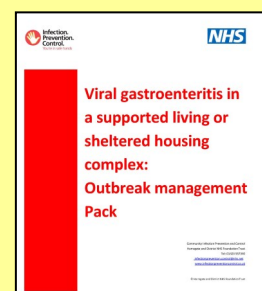
18-24th November 2024

- Help raise awareness of the precious resource of antimicrobials by 'going blue' on WAA Day 18th November.
- This year's campaign message is to raise everyone's awareness and to advocate for action so that we will have antimicrobials in the future. Further information is available at waaw-2024-campaign-guide.pdf (who.int)
- Domiciliary Care staff can support this campaign by encouraging service users to take and complete any prescribed antibiotic treatment.



What's new for Domiciliary Care staff

- **COMING VERY SOON: Viral gastroenteritis in a supported living or sheltered housing complex: Outbreak management Pack for Domiciliary Care**
- IPC training event for Care Homes and Domiciliary Care: 17th March, 2025. **BOOK NOW to reserve your place** at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/events/



Visit our website to find lots of IPC resources, many of which are free to download.

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

Call us on **01423 557340**

