



UK Health
Security
Agency

Winter information for non-residential Adult Social Care settings in London

During the winter season, it is important that setting managers are reminded and updated on important health considerations for their clients. Elderly people are particularly susceptible to infections which increase over the winter months, such as seasonal influenza (flu), COVID-19 and viral stomach infections (such as norovirus). Acute Respiratory infections (ARI) may also spread rapidly in settings, including to staff and carers. Elderly people or those with chronic illnesses are also at risk of developing complications from certain vaccine-preventable diseases such as pneumococcal disease, RSV, flu and shingles infections. It is important that they are immunised to prevent such complications or reduce the likelihood of outbreaks in a care home.

Key messages for settings and service providers on winter preparedness

1. Be prepared ✓
 - Ensure you have good supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE), and your staff are trained in how to use this appropriately.
 - Ensure your clients aged 65 years and over are immunised against pneumococcal disease.
 - Ensure your clients aged 75-80 have received their Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine.

- Ensure your staff and clients (especially those aged 65 years and over, or those in clinical risk groups) are immunised against seasonal influenza.
- Ensure all eligible clients and staff have had their initial doses of COVID-19 vaccine and promote uptake of any booster doses offered.
- Ensure that clients who are **eligible for COVID-19 treatments** are identified and assessed and there is a stock of LFD tests for them.
- Ensure your clients are immunised against shingles when they reach 65 years of age. The vaccine is also available for anyone in their 70s up to the age of 79 years who previously missed out on the vaccine.
NB: shingles vaccine is available throughout the year. Further information on shingles can be found on the **NHS choices website**.

2. Recognise outbreaks ✓

- You should consider the possibility of an outbreak where you have 2 or more cases of a particular illness which could be related. You do not have to wait for confirmation of the diagnosis before reporting a suspected outbreak.
- If you require any advice, you can speak to the Health Protection Team.

3. Contacting the HPT

North London and South London HPTs can both be contacted at:

Email: london.region@ukhsa.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 303 0450

Use the following weblink to find details of your local Health Protection Team:

www.gov.uk/health-protection-team

Information Resources

Flu / COVID- 19

For management of COVID-19 outbreaks in an adult and social care settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-acute-respiratory-infection>

Eligible for COVID-19 treatments

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/treatments-for-covid-19/>

Find a pharmacy that offers free COVID-19 rapid lateral flow tests for those eligible for treatments

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/pharmacies/find-a-pharmacy-that-offers-free-COVID-19-rapid-lateral-flow-tests/>

COVID-19 LFD Supply- FAQs

<https://cpe.org.uk/national-pharmacy-services/advanced-services/lfd-service/lfd-service-faqs/>

Further information and leaflets on flu can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme>

General infection control resources

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-settings/infection-prevention-and-control-resource-for-adult-social-care#general-information>

Infection prevention and control (IPC)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-settings>

PPE guide for non-aerosol generating procedures

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ppe-guide-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures>

Vaccination

Information on COVID-19 vaccination: easy-read guide

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources/information-on-covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-guide>

COVID-19 vaccination easy-read leaflets including different languages

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources>

COVID-19 vaccination: healthcare and community settings posters

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters>

Leaflet - Flu vaccination: who should have it this winter and why

www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-who-should-have-it-this-winter-and-why

Leaflet - Flu leaflet for people with learning disability

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-leaflet-for-people-with-learning-disability>

Leaflet – Flu immunisation for social care staff and hospice staff

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-immunisation-for-social-care-staff>

Leaflet- RSV vaccination

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-vaccination-for-older-adults/your-guide-to-the-rsv-vaccine-for-older-adults>

Pneumococcal vaccine information

<https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/pneumococcal-vaccine/>

Shingles vaccine information

<https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/shingles-vaccine/>

Shingles vaccine eligibility poster

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/shingles-vaccination-eligibility-poster>

Norovirus

Norovirus Leaflet and Poster

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stop-norovirus-spreading-this-winter-leaflet>

Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/norovirus-managing-outbreaks-in-acute-and-community-health-and-social-care-settings>

UKHSA Campaign Resource Centre – register free to download or order free resources for all public health campaigns

<https://www.healthpublications.gov.uk/Home.html>

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