



## Issue 57 – 18 July 2024

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## **Guidance and good practice**

### **Diabetes care planning**

A Diabetes Care Plan template is being developed with care home providers, local health and social care teams, and supporting professionals, for use in all residential and nursing care homes across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland (LLR).

A questionnaire will help gather vital information about the current practices related to diabetes care, and to help better understand what support is required for care homes and their residents in LLR.

The aims of creating an LLR-wide Diabetes Care Plan Template are to:

- Help improve the quality of diabetes care for care home residents in LLR and align it better to local and national guidance.
- Provide better advice to carers and residents about how to manage diabetes, particularly in care homes.
- Reduce hospital admissions and care events resulting from diabetes-related incidents/problems in LLR.

Please respond to [the questionnaire](#) by 31 August 2024. Please only participate once to ensure the survey's accuracy.

If you require any support in filling in this questionnaire please contact: [Kishan.Karia@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:Kishan.Karia@uhl-tr.nhs.uk) or [carehomespharmacy@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:carehomespharmacy@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

### **Nursing home equipment requests for bladder screening and syringe drivers**

Due to inconsistencies across the service, it has been recommended that LPT Community Nursing services will no longer loan bladder scanners and syringe drivers to nursing homes. Community nursing services are not commissioned to provide care for patients in nursing homes. As of 1 August 2024, LPT Community

Nursing Services will no longer accept any referrals from nursing homes to provide syringe drivers, bladder scanner equipment or bladder scanning services.

## **Section 117 – LLR Joint Policy and Practice Guidance**

At time of hospital admission some providers may approach ward staff to ask if support needs to be continued whilst in the hospital. Ward staff must get agreement from the ICB (via Midlands and Lancs CSU) and local authority through the allocated Social Worker or the Mental Health Hospital Team (whoever is funding the package of care) before confirming with the provider that support continues whilst the individual is in hospital. Invoices will not be paid if approval has not been agreed before providers start support in hospital.

## **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccinations**

### **Background**

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common virus that can cause coughs and colds in winter. It's an infectious disease of the airways and lungs and causes symptoms like a cold, including:

- cough
- sore throat
- sneezing
- a runny or blocked nose

It can also make you become wheezy or short of breath and lead to pneumonia and other life-threatening conditions. RSV infects up to 90% of children in their first 2 years of life, and frequently reinfects older children and adults. It's an infection that is common in young children but is most serious for small babies and for older people.

There is no specific treatment, and most infections will get better by themselves. Every year thousands of older adults need hospital care for RSV, and some of them will die. RSV can be more severe in people with medical conditions such as heart or lung disease or a weakened immune system.

It's transmitted by large droplets, and by secretions from contact with an infected person. Details on IPC measures can be found at [NHS England » National infection prevention and control](#)

### **Vaccination**

Everyone turning 75 years old on or after the 1 September 2024 will be offered a single dose of RSV vaccine. Those aged 75 to 79 will be eligible. This is because older adults are more at risk of serious complications from RSV. A single dose of vaccine will help to boost protection as individuals reach an age group at highest risk of serious RSV infection. Unlike the flu vaccine, the RSV vaccine is not repeated every year.

The RSV vaccine may be offered at the same time as the shingles or pneumococcal vaccine, which is safe to do and can reduce the number of appointments needed.

RSV vaccine isn't normally arranged to be given at the same appointment as your COVID-19 or flu vaccines. However, in certain clinical circumstances, your doctor or nurse can safely offer them at the same time.

A separate programme is being rolled out for pregnant women.

See [further details](#).

## **Leicestershire County Council updates**

### **Care home contract**

Thank you to all who provided feedback on the draft contract. We are going through each query and will be providing feedback to you on what has been changed as soon as possible. We will be providing timelines for next steps in the next few weeks.

### **Visiting Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre**

Our Library, Collections and Learning, Heritage and Cultural Participation services come together as Culture Leicestershire. Our shared vision is to create space to spark imagination, celebrate communities and enhance wellbeing. We empower communities to influence our services by supporting them to shape how culture is interpreted, experienced, and enjoyed. This [film](#) is an excellent example of Go Learn volunteers from Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre developing an online social story so people can better understand what to expect when visiting the site.

Why not join us for our hugely popular [Medieval Festival](#) which will take place on 17 and 18 August 2024!

Find out about more [community led projects across the county](#).

### **Trading Standards Scams News**

The summer edition of [Trading Standards Scams News](#) is now available, featuring advice on lifeline scams, phishing, cold callers at the door, and holiday scams.

## **Learning and development**

### **Leicestershire Social Care Development Group**

The Leicestershire Social Care Development Group (LSCDG) has released its training plan for 2024/25. Access to courses is free for County and City providers. To see the full program of training available, see the [LSCDG Training Plan](#) which also gives details how to book.

## Reminder of IPC webinars

The County and Rutland IPC team are continuing with their series of short webinars called 'IPC Basics'. These are short IPC refreshers aimed at staff working in adult social care who have an interest in Infection Prevention & Control such as IPC champions, care staff etc. All are welcome and you can attend as many sessions as you wish. The following webinars have been arranged:

- Wednesday 18 September - 2:15-3pm - All about Audit - Why audits are important in maintaining safety and improving the quality of care. How to undertake an IPC audit in adult social care settings.
- Wednesday 16 October 2:15pm - 3pm - Tuberculosis - What is Tuberculosis and how it is managed in community settings.
- Wednesday 20 November - 2:15- 3pm - The importance of Oral Hygiene in reducing infections. The link between poor oral hygiene and infections and how you can support your service users to maintain good oral hygiene.
- Wednesday 18 December - 2:15-3pm – Scabies - What is Scabies, how does it spread and its management in adult social care settings.

To book on a webinar email [infection@leics.gov.uk](mailto:infection@leics.gov.uk) or contact 0116 305 5121. You will need to provide an email address in order that the link to the webinar can be sent to you 2 days prior to the event.

Previous webinars can be accessed via the following YouTube links:

- [Management of Clostridioides Difficile in Adult Social Care Settings](#) September 2023
- [The importance of oral hygiene](#) October 2023
- [Frailty and Infection](#) November 2023
- [Managing Respiratory Illness in Adult Social Care Settings](#) December 2023
- [Management of Scabies in Adult Social Care Settings](#) January 2024

## Safeguarding Matters Live materials

[Materials are available](#) from the 'Safeguarding Matters Virtually Live Briefing on 9 July 2024, and previous events. The Safeguarding Matters Briefing full length recording is currently being edited and this is scheduled to be available sometime during August.

## Consultations and research

### UK Covid-19 Inquiry: pandemic stories sought

The Care Associations in the East Midlands are joining with the Care Association Alliance to encourage everyone in the care sector to share their pandemic stories, via the UK Covid-19 Inquiry's [Every Story Matters](#) campaign.

The Covid-19 pandemic had an unprecedented impact on those working in and drawing on adult social care services. Every story does matter. Sharing our

experiences – be that from staff or recipients of care - will help shape the understanding of what happened and help to bring about some positive change.

The Inquiry's public hearings for their investigation into the care sector, will begin in summer 2025. Those with involvement in the care sector can share their story any time, but sharing stories before the 19 July will ensure they formally feed into investigations ahead of the care sector module in early 2025.

Anyone can share their story at the UK Covid-19 Inquiry's dedicated platform at [Every Story Matters](#).

### **More information about the UK Covid-19 Inquiry**

The UK Covid-19 Inquiry is the public inquiry set up to examine the UK's response to the pandemic and its impact. The Inquiry is independent from the government and completely impartial. Their Every Story Matters platform is available to everyone to share their experiences, anonymously if they wish, to shape the investigation and help make a difference.

The Inquiry would like to hear from recipients of care and all carers, whether those operating in the sector or providing unpaid care within the community. Together, we can ensure that pandemic experiences are recognised, valued, and used to inform policies that better support carers and those they care for.

### **Why should I share my story?**

The Inquiry wants to hear from as many people as possible, from different communities throughout the UK.

They know that some experiences are painful to talk about, and sometimes it's difficult thinking back, but the Inquiry needs to hear from you. Your individual story is valuable, it does matter. And sharing it will help the Inquiry better understand how Covid-19 affected us all – and what could be done if it happens again.

### **Help is available if you need it**

Sharing your story may trigger some difficult feelings and emotions. If you need help, please visit: [Every Story Matters](#) for a list of support services.

### **Reminders**

#### **Next edition**

The next edition of Provider News will be published during week commencing 29 July 2024. If you are interested in contributing by writing about a topic of your choice, perhaps something that is particularly important to you, please contact us at [enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk](mailto:enquirylinequality&contracts@leics.gov.uk).

## Useful links

- [Current and past editions of Provider News](#)
- [Provider conference calls](#)