



UK Health  
Security  
Agency

# Reporting acute respiratory infections by Care Settings

## Care OBRA – outbreak risk assessment tool

East of England Webinar  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

# Welcome

Angela Murphy – Head of Engagement. UKHSA East of England HPT

- Welcome
- Meeting to be recorded
- Add name / job title / organisation into chat, please
- Questions at end . Please post questions in the chat.

# Agenda

Angela Murphy

1.	Welcome / outline of session Note: session will be recorded	Angela Murphy Head of Regional Engagement UKHSA Health Protection Team East of England
2.	Background to CareOBRA	<b>Mohammad</b> Mohammad Edoo – Principal Health Protection Practitioner in Public Health UKHSA Health Protection Team East of England
3.	Overview of the CareOBRA tool process	Wendy Leung - Senior Health Protection Practitioner UKHSA Health Protection Team East of England
4.	Benefits for partners	Wendy Leung
5.	Understanding possible challenges	To agree
6.	Next steps	<b>Mohammad</b> Mohammad Edoo
7.	Question and Answer session	<b>Mohammad</b> Mohammad Edoo, Wendy Leung , Angela Murphy

# Background to Care OBRA

Mohammad Edoo – Principal Health Protection Practitioner  
UKHSA East of England HPT

- **What is this?**
  - **online Outbreak Risk Assessment Tool for Care Settings (CareOBRA Tool)**
  - settings submit data online via a [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) link and receive advice automatically – no need to phone or email in
  - high risk outbreaks can be quickly prioritised
- **Why are we launching Care OBRA ?**
  - To identify and prioritise incidents requiring specialist HPT input.
  - Focus on interventions which will achieve the greatest public health impact.
  - For ASC settings to report outbreaks when it is suitable for them
  - Enables the care ASC setting to receive immediate email advice on to manage their situation.
- **Timeline**
  - Available in the East of England from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

# Overview of CareOBRA tool - 1

Wendy Leung – Senior Health Protection Practitioner  
UKHSA East of England HPT

## Who is it for?

- Adult Social Care (ASC) settings reporting:
  - new outbreaks of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs) including:
    - COVID-19, Influenza, unidentified ARI (e.g., chest infections), and
  - single confirmed cases of Influenza

## Settings covered by CareOBRA

- residential and nursing care homes
- supported living and extra care
- day centres
- domiciliary home care
- retirement home / village or sheltered housing

# Overview of CareOBRA tool - 2

Wendy Leung

- **Out of scope**

- single cases of COVID-19 / ARI (unknown micro-organism) (single cases influenza ARE included)
- children's care homes
- healthcare settings that are not ASC (incl. hospitals, hospices, dental surgeries, GP surgeries)
- updates on outbreaks already reported

# Overview of Care OBRA tool - 3

Wendy Leung

 GOV.UK

Report an outbreak

**BETA** This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

<https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak>

## Care Outbreak Risk Assessment (Care OBRA) Tool:

### Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) - COVID-19, Flu or unknown infection

This is an online Care Outbreak Risk Assessment (Care OBRA) Tool for all Adult Social Care providers reporting a single case of Influenza (Flu) or a suspected or confirmed outbreak of acute respiratory infections, defined as:

*Two or more cases of Acute Respiratory Infection (COVID-19, Flu or unknown infection) within 14 days and potentially linked to the same care setting i.e. cases are probably linked to each other and transmission in the care*

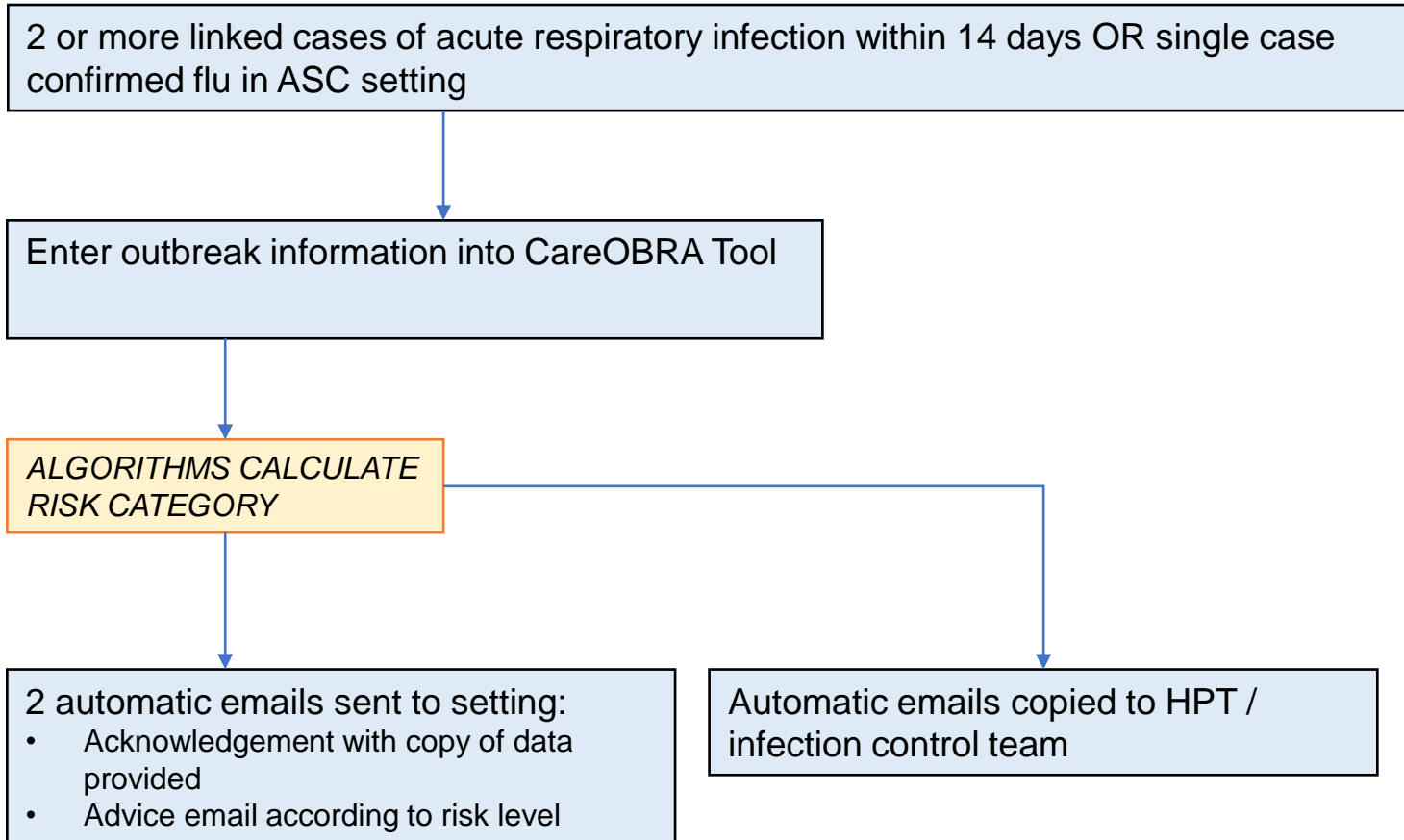
The purpose of the Care OBRA Tool is to gather information that the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Health Protection Team (HPT) or Community Infection Control (CIC) Team need to assess the situation within your setting in order to help you manage the outbreak.

As soon as you have "submitted" your data into the Care OBRA Tool, you will receive:

- 1) An automatic **acknowledgement email** providing you with a copy of the data that you have input into the tool
- 2) A further automatic **advice email** which gives you information and advice on how to manage the situation that you have reported

# Overview of Care OBRA tool - 4

Wendy Leung



## **Data to be input**

- Contact details of setting
- Type of setting, type of residents/clients
- Info about the cases, inc. symptom onset dates, numbers, severity
- Vaccination uptake
- IPC issues
- Staffing
- Specific areas of concern

## **Overall risk classification**

single case / low risk outbreak / medium risk outbreak / high priority outbreak

## **Based on**

- Total numbers unwell (incl. hospitalisation, deaths, % of residents/clients/staff affected)
- GP review
- Vaccination uptake



# Overview of Care OBRA tool - 5

Wendy Leung

Red highlights include:

- Risks in outbreak management
- number of residents, clients & staff with confirmed or suspected flu

OS-0022\_CareOBRA\_Happy Home\_BS1 6EG\_Bristol\_South West HPT

Postcode	Unique Organization Number	CQC Location ID	Health Protection Team	Local Authority	Region	
BS1 6EG	52392347		South West HPT	Bristol	South West	
Question			Answer			
ASC Setting Type			High Risk Supported Living or Extra Care			
ASC Setting Type, if other						
Name of Care Setting, if other			Happy Home			
Name of Key Contact			Nigel Stubbs			
Position of Key Contact			Manager			
Telephone number of Key Contact			132132132132121			
Email of Key Contact			<a href="mailto:swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk">swhpt@ukhsa.gov.uk</a>			
Outbreak of ARI, Flu or C-19			true			
Type of clients			People with learning difficulties/disabilities;People with			

Does setting do Aerosol Generating Procedures?	false
Use of agency/shared staff	false
Outbreak COVID-19 in last 12 months	true
Confident in outbreak management	Not at all confident
Need advice in outbreak management	true
Specific issues needing advice	
Anything else	
Total number of Residents-clients and staff with COVID-19 (tested or untested)	5
Number of residents-clients & staff with Confirmed or Suspected flu	
Total number of residents-clients and staff with Flu (Confirmed, Suspected or Chest Infections)	5
Total number of residents-clients and staff with ARI	0
Total number of ALL resident-client cases (Flu, COVID-19 or ARI)	5
Total number of ALL staff cases (Flu, COVID-19 or ARI)	2

# Overview of CareOBRA tool – 6

Philippa Griffith

Red highlights include:

- number of flu cases hospitalised
- number of flu cases who have died

Number of COVID-19 cases reviewed by GP	1
Number of COVID-19 cases hospitalised	1
Number of COVID-19 cases died	1
Media interest	false
1+ case confirmed Flu	true
Number of residents-clients with confirmed Flu	5
Number of staff with confirmed Flu	0
Number of Residents-clients with suspected (not tested) Flu	0
Number of staff with suspected (not tested) Flu	0
Number of residents-clients with chest infections	0
Number of staff with chest infections	0
Number of resident-client Flu cases tested for C-19	
Number of staff Flu cases tested for C-19	
Number of resident-client Flu cases positive for C-19	
Number of staff Flu cases positive for C-19	
Symptom onset date of 1st Flu case	2023-05-08
Symptom onset date of 2nd Flu case	1970-01-01
Symptom onset date of most recent Flu case	2023-05-10
Number of Flu cases reviewed by GP	4 to 5
Number of Flu cases hospitalised	4 to 5
Number of Flu cases who died	4 to 5
Are Flu cases only in one specific area of the setting	Cases are all within one specific area
Number of residents-clients up to date with C-19 vaccine	
Number of staff up to date with C-19 vaccine	
Number of residents-clients had flu vaccine this season (2022-23)	
Number of staff had flu vaccine this season (2022-23)	
How often are staff monitoring IPC	Within the last month
IPC issues requiring support	PPE supply; Staffing
Other issues requiring support	
Does setting do Aerosol Generating Procedures?	false

# Overview of Care OBRA tool - 7

Wendy Leung

## What happens next?

### IN HOURS – next working day

- HPT ~~/LA/ICB~~ reviews emailed data and follows own process based on risk priority e.g.
  - LOW RISK – may add to database, check recent history and close if no concerns
  - HIGH RISK – would prioritise calling the setting for more detailed risk assessment

### OUT OF HOURS – 24/7

- automatic emails provide management / IPC advice for immediate implementation
- escalation criteria in email alerts settings to call UKHSA OOH service for high priority outbreaks - more detailed risk assessment and advice will be provided.
- **Survey** Following your submission you will receive a short survey , please do complete , this helps us to hear your feedback and plan for any improvements.

# Expected benefits

Wendy Leung

- **Health Protection Team**

- data captured will ~~may~~ be more comprehensive (setting has more time to provide info) **for risk assessment and support**
- quickly highlights priority incidents requiring specialist support
- resources can be focussed for greatest public health impact
- information is provided 24/7, aiding quicker implementation of controls
- bigger picture – national benefits of consistency and timely advice during busy winter season

# Expected benefits for Care Settings

Wendy Leung

## Care settings

- the tool guides settings through the focussed online questionnaire
- setting can spend more time to find necessary information
- setting can provide data any time day / night (approx. 10mins completion)
- risk assessment algorithm assesses data and applies risk priority High, Medium, Low
- automatic email response 24/7 gives advice on how to manage the situation
  - email provides clear criteria for escalation of high priority / developing situations
  - contact details provided to direct settings to most appropriate partner for providing support according to local agreement (whether ICB, LA or UKHSA) if a **HIGH priority** situation
- high risk situations will get quicker response



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# Care OBRA - Demonstration

Mwihaki Micheni – Care OBRA Consultant



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# Care OBRA – Q & A

Mo Edoe

Wendy Leung

Angela Murphy