

## SECOND BRIEFING FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE PROVIDERS

### NEW EAST OF ENGLAND UKHSA OUTBREAK REPORTING AND RESPONSE PROCESS FOR Acute Respiratory Infections (COVID-19, Flu or unidentified ARI) in ADULT SOCIAL CARE SETTINGS

#### Care OBRA

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### The New Web-based Care OBRA Tool is available in the East of England region from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024

The Tool allows **Adult Social Care (ASC) settings only to report new outbreaks of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI's)** including COVID-19, Influenza (flu), unidentified ARI (e.g., chest infections) and single cases of Influenza.

**This tool should be used only when reporting a new outbreak of acute respiratory illness.**

**Any updates to an ongoing outbreak should be emailed directly to [eastofenglandHPT@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:eastofenglandHPT@ukhsa.gov.uk)**

Once you have reported an outbreak on the Care OBRA tool, you will receive a survey for feedback.

#### Aim of the Care OBRA Tool

To allow the Health Protection team to:

- Identify and prioritise incidents requiring specialist HPT input
- Focus on interventions which will achieve the greatest public health impact
- Provide local system partners with timely and accurate information
- More efficiently use time and resource

To allow adult social care settings to:

- Report their outbreaks or single cases of flu to the HPT without the need to ring or email the HPT beforehand.
- Enable the care setting to collect all the relevant information and enter it into an electronic platform at a time that suits them.
- Enables the care setting to receive a summary of the information entered into the Care OBRA Tool.
- Enables the care setting to receive immediate email advice on how to manage their situation, to automatically identify the higher risk situations and therefore prioritise higher risk outbreaks for further HPT input as appropriate for the specific scenario.

**The Care OBRA tool can be accessed here <https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak> or through the QR code on attached poster.**

- If you would like to understand more, a webinar will be held for Adult social care providers on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 3.00 – 3.45pm - Please book a place on the link below.  
<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/a842488b-3844-4212-adaa-68a08c480352@ee4e1499-4a35-4b2e-ad47-5f3cf9de8666>

## Think **Flu** and **COVID-19**

Do 2 or more residents & staff have the following symptoms within 5 days?



Fever of  
**37.8°C**  
or above



New onset or acute worsening of one or more of these symptoms:

- cough
- hoarseness
- runny nose or congestion
- shortness of breath
- sore throat
- wheezing
- sneezing
- chest pain
- loss or change of taste/smell



Sudden  
decline in  
physical or  
mental ability

If so, you might have an **outbreak** of COVID-19, flu, or other acute respiratory infection.



Isolate residents with symptoms, send staff with symptoms home



Fill out the web -based Care OBRA Tool  
(copy the link or scan QR code below)

UON:



Test the first five symptomatic residents by COVID-19 LFD (care homes only)

Report your outbreak straight away:

Complete the web -based Care OBRA Tool via  
<https://forms.ukhsa.gov.uk/ReportAnOutbreak>

OR use the QR CODE



The team will advise you on testing for flu, COVID -19, and other viruses.  
They will advise you on flu antivirals.

**Antivirals are most effective when started early.**