

Day 0 Actions Checklist - Influenza

Use this checklist as soon as an outbreak is suspected

Date the outbreak was identified:	Please tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Resident Placement	
Ask symptomatic residents to stay in their rooms; explain the need to keep the door closed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inform relatives and visitors of the isolation requirements and additional infection control measures.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a resident cannot stay in their room, carry out a risk assessment and consider other care options.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Admissions, Transfers, Discharges	
Following HPT and/or IPCT advice, delay any planned new admissions to the care home.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider temporary suspension of visiting with the HPT or IPCT if considered beneficial to gaining control.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Following HPT and/or IPCT advice, suspend inter-care transfers/medical appointments unless clinically essential.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Following HPT and/or IPCT advice, notify all receiving units of the outbreak if a resident has to be transferred.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff	
Ensure that all staff on duty are asymptomatic; send all symptomatic staff home and only permit to return to work when they have been symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If possible, allocate staff to care for either symptomatic or non-symptomatic residents but not both.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If possible, allocate staff who have had their influenza vaccine to care for symptomatic residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postpone visits from non-essential providers i.e. hairdressers, podiatrists etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clinical Management	
Ensure symptomatic residents are clinically assessed by a GP. Monitor continuously for any signs of respiratory distress (i.e. shortness of breath, more than usual), dehydration, or further deterioration of health status.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Following HPT and/or IPCT advice, consider offering residents and staff the influenza vaccine if not already vaccinated and/or antiviral medication.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Following HPT and/or IPCT advice, take samples from any resident with relevant symptoms.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hand Hygiene (HH) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	
Use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) if hands are clean, otherwise wash with liquid soap and water.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disposable aprons, gloves and fluid resistant surgical masks to be worn for every episode of care.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surgical masks should be removed and disposed of inside the resident room when at least 3 feet (1 metre) from the resident(s).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Care Environment	
Remove fans and any other equipment that could increase environmental contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>
De-clutter the environment to allow effective cleaning.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remove exposed food stuffs from resident rooms and communal areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide tissues and covered sputum pots for residents; dispose of tissues as healthcare waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide tissues and foot-operated bins for the disposal of used tissues in communal areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean all frequently touched surfaces (i.e. door handles, light switches) at least twice daily using a suitable detergent for cleaning then a disinfectant containing 1000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av cl).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Care Equipment	
Provide resident-dedicated care equipment if possible i.e. commodes, wash bowls, lifting equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean communal resident equipment between residents using a cleaning agent with 1000 ppm av cl.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communications and Knowledge	
Ensure all staff members (HCWs, cleaners, catering, bank staff) are aware of the situation, their responsibilities and what to do if they or a resident develop symptoms.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place visitor warning posters in highly visible places at the entry to the home and in affected areas (see Influenza_Posters.pdf).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inform all visitors/relatives of the situation, precautions and risks.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide relatives/visitors with the Washing Clothes at Home leaflet.	<input type="checkbox"/>

For all the React To Infection resources go to: www.reactto.co.uk