

Grampian Health Protection Team Weekly Bulletin – Care Homes

Week beginning 26/04/21

Open with Care: The latest Scottish Government guidance can be found via this link <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-care-homes-visiting-guidance/>

Please note current advice from our team is:

- **Indoor visits** - Up to two designated indoors visitors a week per resident with one designated visitor at a time.
- We would not advocate **Overnight** stays at present in line with national household guidance.
- **Outdoor visits** – in line with National household guidance with the resident counting as one household. We are currently sitting at 6 people from 6 different households but most Care homes just allowing up to 4 people from two households – given the staffing capacity to support indoor and outdoor visits, time to pre arrange visits, allow for the allocation of visits to be fair for all families and the ability to do all this safely.
- **Trips out in designated visitor's car:** Some of those present shared happy experiences for residents going out in the car or socially distanced on the home bus.
- **Indoor Pets, such as therapets, are these allowed?**– No, not at the moment – we will review this in line with Tier Two guidance as illustrated in the Table in this letter [Open for Care - Visiting health, social care and other services in care homes and](#)

LFD testing – who, what, where, when for who??? See overview of approach dependant on who is being asymptotically tested [here](#)

Change of frequency of Care home meeting: Please note that there will be no Teams meetings next week and thereafter Managers will be invited to attend on their usual allocated day fortnightly instead of weekly. This means the next Teams meet won't be until week commencing **10th** of May. Look out for your invite.

We will continue to produce a weekly Bulletin and share this with you all.

We are still here to support you - please get in touch via the usual route below and we will try our best to guide you.

Questions from Managers Care homes.

- Is face to face training with teams of staff from different Organisations accessing practical sessions allowed to take place in one setting? We will need to seek further clarity on this however at present managers are encouraged to cohort staff within their own setting and it is too risky at the moment to meet indoors at other care settings.
- Manager asked if they could have multiple people coming to entertain outdoors for example to highland dance, and sing to celebrate VE day when all would be socially distanced and the residents would be inside? So long as the entertainers are following national guidance for staying safe and this is risk assessed then this should be safe (and fun).
- Manager asked can more than one visit take place in a visiting suite and visiting area indoors. TJ discussed that at present each visit should be in either a resident's room or a designated visiting area and at present only one visit should be taking place in either of these locations at the same time.
- Can a student who works in the home also work in a public house? Given we are working with vulnerable people and agency/bank staff are blocked booked to the same setting we can't advocate working between settings at the moment but we will continue to review this advice and escalate to the senior team for guidance around this.

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