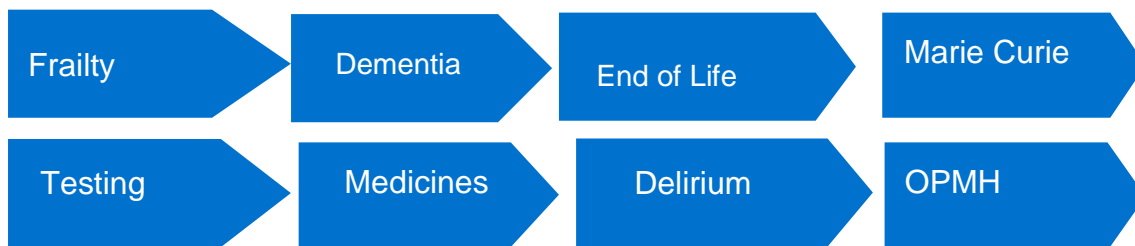


21 April 2021

Care Home Edition 13

Care@Home newsletter

Supporting people living with frailty and experiencing escalating needs during Covid-19



The Care@Home work stream is leading on the organisation of our COVID-19 response for care homes and the frail elderly at home in Bradford district and Craven.

We are working with key NHS, local authority, VCS and independent sector partners to keep as many people at home as possible and are working directly with care homes to support them in a different way for the next few months.

We are introducing practical pathways for managing people that get sick in care homes, and frail elderly who get sick in their own homes - with covid, or non-covid related illness.

In this newsletter:

1. Useful tool to assist in determining a patients Clinical Frailty Score
2. Dementia and OPMH: Guidance for Primary Care Networks and Care Homes
3. End of Life Care Training for Health and Social Care workers
4. Better End of Life Report by Marie Curie
5. Testing for professionals visiting care homes- New Guidance March 11th
6. Guide on safeguarding re medicines in care homes
7. Should everyone have an end of life plan?
8. Think Delirium – New Leaflet
9. Telemedicine portal for consultations with care homes

Attached is a zip file containing all the attachments associated with this newsletter.

1. Useful tool to assist in determining a patients Clinical Frailty Score

The Clinical Frailty Scale (CFS) was originally developed to summarise a Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment and yield a care plan. CFS scoring by inexperienced raters might not always reflect expert judgement.

For these raters, a new classification tree has been produced to assist with routine CFS scoring.

It is simple and easy to use and may be helpful in determining a level of frailty

Website

<https://academic.oup.com/ageing/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ageing/afab006/6144822>

(See WinZip Item 1a – CFS Classification tree and 1b- A Classification tree to assist with routine scoring of the CFS)

2. Dementia and OPMH: Guidance for Primary Care Networks and Care Homes

A [new guidance document](#) has been published on the South East Clinical Network website on the topic of *Dementia and OPMH: Guidance for Primary Care Networks and Care Homes*.

<https://www.southeastclinicalnetworks.nhs.uk/dementia-opmh-guidance/>

This document aims to equip members of staff working in care homes and primary care with understanding of dementia and mental health conditions due to the prevalence of both disorders in care home populations.

(See WinZip Item 2 – Dementia for Older People’s Mental Health – Guidance for PCNs and Care Homes)

3. End of Life Care Training for Health and Social Care workers

Please see attached flyer to circulate to interested parties within your locality. This is **free** virtual EoL training for Health and Social Workers (**bands 1-4**) who care for patients at the end of their life and their families/those important to them.

The sessions are available to Support workers from any setting (community, hospital, care home, domiciliary etc.).

Places are very limited as this is a pilot programme(s).

(See WinZip Item 3 – End of Life flyer)

4. Better End of Life Report by Marie Curie

The Better End of Life Report which Marie Curie published this month is a collaboration between Marie Curie, King's College London Cicely Saunders Institute, Hull York Medical School, the University of Hull, and the University of Cambridge.

Full report attached, and link to some nice visuals below. It will be an annual report from now on.

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/policy/better-end-life-report>

(See WinZip Item 4a – Better End of Life Briefing Report April 2021 and 4b – Better End of Life Long Report April 2021)

5. Testing for professionals visiting care homes- New Guidance March 11th

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-lateral-flow-testing-in-adult-social-care-settings/testing-for-professionals-visiting-care-homes>

Health, social care and other professionals may need to visit residents within care homes to provide services.

This guidance sets out the testing policy for these 'visiting professionals'.

This should be implemented as soon as possible but we also understand that professionals and their employers will need time to get to grips with practical issues, such as how they will provide evidence to care homes.

Therefore this guidance should be implemented by care homes and professionals by 22 March 2021 if not before.

This provides care homes and professionals with time to put the necessary measures in place following the publication of the guidance.

Many visiting professionals work in a variety of different settings per day, including care homes. Given the substantial risks to care home residents if COVID-19 is introduced to the home, it is essential that professionals and all staff are tested regularly before visiting care homes to reduce the risk of transmission across different settings and to help keep residents and staff safe. **Given the risks, the default position is that a visiting professional should not be allowed entry to a care home without proof of a negative test within the last 72 hours – demonstrating they are following the testing regime for NHS staff.**

In emergency visits such as a 999 response, it is not appropriate to ask for or provide proof before entry to a care home, given the potential delay this could cause and the implications for prompt management of the emergency situation. However, all NHS professionals visiting care homes must follow the NHS testing regime and be testing twice a week.

6. Guide on safeguarding re medicines in care homes

Following the release of the new NICE guideline (NG189) in February 2021 OPUS have put together a useful overview for Managers to help them address safeguarding issues with medicines in their care home.

The guidance covers:

- What constitutes a safeguarding issue with medicines?
- The difference between safeguarding issues and poor practice
- The importance of creating an open culture in your care home
- When to make safeguarding referrals to the Local Authority
- Learning from your experiences of managing safeguarding concerns

(See WinZip Item 6 – Safeguarding issues with medicines to Care Homes)

7. Should everyone have an end of life plan?

BBC Ideas and the Open University have produced this short video to look at people's experience and thought about end of life planning. The video recognises that not everyone wants to think about these decisions in advance.

However, by starting to make plans this and remove the pressure on others to make the decision. The video also highlights that planning does not have to be done all in one step and you can change your decisions over time if you want.

Link to the video can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/ideas/videos/should-everyone-have-an-end-of-life-plan/p099x2yh>

8. Think Delirium – New Leaflet

The new delirium leaflet designed for unpaid carers, families and friends has now been finalised and is available for use.

This leaflet, which has been co-produced with carers and carer support organisations, includes sections on how to identify delirium, causes and prevention of delirium and top tips on how to support someone affected by delirium.

As COVID infection increases risk of delirium, particularly in older people, raising awareness of delirium has become even more importance since the outbreak of the pandemic. Delirium is also more common in people with dementia.

The leaflet will be advertised in various WYH HCP communications during the next couple of weeks and will be added to the WYH delirium webpage in due course.

In the interim, it is available to access via our Network website link:

[http://www.yhscn.nhs.uk/media/PDFs/mhdn/Dementia/Delirium/NEW%20Delirium%20resources%20019/Delirium leaflet back to original design.pdf](http://www.yhscn.nhs.uk/media/PDFs/mhdn/Dementia/Delirium/NEW%20Delirium%20resources%20019/Delirium%20leaflet%20back%20to%20original%20design.pdf)

(See WinZip Item 8.0 – Carers Delirium Leaflet)

9. Telemedicine portal for consultations with care homes

- .High definition, secure video link for consultations with residents in any care home
- Direct access through care home's telemedicine laptop
- Reduces COVID-19 infection risk
- Designed for one-to-one patient consultations, ward rounds, virtual check-ins and MDT assessments
- Practice clinicians can advise and guide care home staff

Telemedicine portal access guide at [this link](#).

<https://bradford.connecttosupport.org/media/ippbpsdh/immedicare-careconnect-portal-care-home-user-guide.pdf>