

# VIRAL GASTROENTERITIS OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PATHWAY

**Definition:** Two or more cases of vomiting and/or diarrhoea (Bristol stool chart 6 or 7 and different to the residents or staff member's normal bowel habit)

**Care Home/Unit:** ..... **Date & time outbreak started**.....

Initial Actions	Date	Comments	Signature
Complete Case Register Sheet in Detail, reviewing <b>all</b> residents.			
Isolate symptomatic residents in their rooms. Where residents are difficult to isolate, ensure staff are vigilant in maintaining their hand hygiene as well as environmental cleanliness. <b>Ensure staff are made aware of this.</b>			
Telephone the Public Health England duty professional to inform them of the outbreak ( <b>please refer to your outbreak poster for office hours</b> (Monday to Friday 0900 – 1700hrs) <b>and out of hours contact numbers</b> )  <b>Out of normal office hours, including Bank Holidays, contact Public Health England Specialist On Call and ask for the "South and West Public Health England out of Hours rota. DO NOT wait till the next working day.</b>  Make sure you have ready the completed Case Register sheet of residents and staff affected.		<b>If advised by PHE that there is no outbreak, document the call here and take no further action.</b>	
Read the yellow file, re-familiarise yourself with pages 2-6.		This should be done by the person in charge each day	
Inform care home staff, including laundry and catering staff of the suspected outbreak. Staff should be instructed on the completion of the Case Register and log sheet, use of stool charts and fluid balance charts and specimen collection. Staff must also read the outbreak pack pages 4-6		<b>Report cases of diarrhoea and vomiting to the person in charge</b> and enter the symptomatic cases details on the case register and their symptoms on the log sheet (residents, staff and visitors)	
Inform housekeepers of the outbreak and initiate the Enhanced Cleaning Schedule. Cleaning staff should also familiarise themselves with the outbreak pack pages 4-6			
Inform the residents and their regular visitors about the outbreak and ensure leaflets are available should they require them			

Initial Actions continued	Date	Comments	Signature
Inform the GP surgeries connected to your care home that you have a suspected outbreak of infection. Please list GP surgeries informed:			
Inform out-patient departments as applicable and negotiate rebooking if practicable. . If appointments are essential discuss with the Infection Prevention and Control Team.			
Inform clinical staff groups that regularly visit that you have a suspected outbreak of infection i.e. community nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, pharmacists. Please list groups informed:			
Defer all non-essential services – e.g. Chiropodist, hairdresser, buildings maintenance, until after the outbreak.			
Inform Calderdale Council Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team of the outbreak			
Inform the Care Quality Commission of the outbreak			
<b>Next Steps</b>			
Calderdale Council IPC team will visit and supply you with faecal sample pots and laboratory request forms. Ensure a stool specimen is obtained from every symptomatic resident where possible and staff where practicable. The IPC team will supply you with an 'I log' number to connect all the outbreak samples once they are submitted for testing. This number must be included on the lab request form. <b>All staff collecting samples need to be made aware. SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN TO GP SURGERY AND COLLECTED BY THE CHFT VAN (as with other samples)</b>	IPC visit on:  ILOG no:		
The IPC team will visit to discuss the control measures and answer any questions.	IPC visit on:		
Document any additional rooms/areas that have been contaminated with vomit and/or diarrhoea during the outbreak to aid planning of the deep clean at the end of the outbreak		Areas for deep clean:	
<b>End of the outbreak</b>			
Negotiate with the Calderdale MBC IPC team the plan to deep clean and reopen your home. (Note: usually 72 hours from the last new case)	Date opened:	Plan:	



