

Diarrhoea & Vomiting (Enteric) Outbreaks in Care Homes – Flow Chart For 2 or more cases within 48 hours

1

- **If there is 2 or more linked cases within 48 hours**, contact CIPCT immediately (01204) 390982 Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17:00 Out of hours contact UKHSA on 0344 225 0562
- **Complete enteric outbreak log sheet** - details of cases, onset, symptoms / stool type (Bristol stool chart)
- **Stool Testing** - obtain only if directed to via GP / CIPCT
- **Suspend transfers / admissions** - dependant on risk assessment with CIPCT

2

- **Isolate** symptomatic residents to their room (if safe to do so) otherwise consider cohorting with other symptomatic residents in a separate area, until 72 hours clear of symptoms (48 hours for staff)
- **Visiting** - can continue - however visitors must be informed of the outbreak and potential risk. Consider limiting visits for those who are symptomatic. Ensure visitors have access to hand washing facilities / PPE

3

- **Encourage frequent Hand Hygiene** - residents, staff & visitors - wash hands with liquid soap / running warm water (alcohol gel is ineffective for enteric viruses)
- **Enhanced cleaning** (minimum twice daily) with chlorine based solutions (dilution of 1,000 parts per million) to include all communal areas, especially high touch surfaces

4

- **PPE** - Disposable gloves and aprons when providing personal care / handling bodily fluids. Donning and doffing correctly and disposed appropriately in affected residents' rooms
- **Laundry** - Handle soiled linen with PPE. Water soluble or machine washable 'red' bags must be available in affected residents rooms

5

- **Lifting outbreak restrictions** should be agreed with CIPCT
- **Deep clean of the home** including all affected and communal areas is recommended prior to reopening