

IPC Bulletin for Domiciliary Care staff

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To support care staff, here is some information on good infection prevention and control (IPC) practice.

Viral gastroenteritis/Norovirus is on the increase

Prevent and protect

Help prevent transmission:

- Wash your hands with liquid soap and warm running water:
 - ◇ After using the toilet
 - ◇ After assisting service users with personal care
 - ◇ Before preparing, handling, serving and eating food and beverages
 - ◇ On entering and before leaving the service user's home
- Wear a disposable apron and gloves when dealing with diarrhoea or vomit. Wash hands thoroughly with liquid soap and warm running water. Dry hands with paper towels, e.g. kitchen roll. Do not use alcohol handrub as it is not effective at killing the virus
- Following an episode of diarrhoea or vomiting advise to clean and disinfect the affected area with a chlorine-based disinfectant product, e.g. household bleach, Milton
- Advise service users to stay at home and not to visit hospitals (unless an emergency) or care homes until symptom free for 48 hours



Remember:

Alcohol handrub is **not** effective at killing the virus causing diarrhoea and vomiting, therefore, hands should be washed with liquid soap and warm running water, if not available use a moist non-alcohol hand wipe

Further advice:

If you require advice for any infection prevention and control issue, please contact your local Community Infection Prevention and Control or Public Health England Team

Visit our website to view the 'Viral gastroenteritis/Norovirus Policy'

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk 01423 557340

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