

25 March 2024

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From: Adult Social Care Delivery Department of Health and Social Care 39 Victoria Street London SE1H 0EU

To: Adult social care service providers Directors of Adult Social Care Services Directors of Public Health, Health Protection Teams and wider stakeholders Health Protection Teams and other relevant local bodies

Dear colleagues,

Adult Social Care (ASC) Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) update

I am writing to set out details for the adult social care sector following changes to testing

hospital setting. Any testing will be undertaken by the hospital. The care provider should speak to the hospital to raise any concerns about a planned discharge. Where a care provider is providing services commissioned by a local authority or the NHS and has concerns about a planned discharge that cannot be resolved with the acute hospital provider, they may wish to contact the relevant commissioner.

 The cohort of people eligible for COVID-19 treatments has been expanded following updated NICE recommendations to include:

People in care homes or hospital who are aged 70 years and over, or who have a BMI of 35 or more, or who have diabetes or heart failure.

People aged 85 years and over outside of care homes or hospital.

People with end-stage heart failure who have a long-term ventricular assistance device.