

Care Homes Diarrhoea and Vomiting Outbreak Action Card Definitions

Two or more cases of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, Bristol Stool Chart grading 6 or 7 (loose stools) unusual to the residents or staff members normal bowel action, within a 48-hour period.

Actions required

Is it a new suspected outbreak (first suspected case, or new case following more than 28 days since last outbreak)?

If so, suspect setting needs to:

- **Notify the residents GPs (and manager if out of hours)**

Gather the following information:

- Number of symptomatic cases in residents/staff as well as how many residents/staff are currently living/working in the care home.
 - Onset date of first, second, and most recent case
 - Symptoms that the cases have had
 - Contact details for the care setting including email address that can be accessed and care setting CQC identification code (if known)
 - Information on any common food links – party/shared food/or whether more likely to be person to person (viral) spread
- **Notify PHE SW Health Protection Team** (0300 303 8162) who will risk assess the situation and provide you with guidance on what to do next and notify the Environmental Health Team

Contact Details

- PHE SW Health Protection Team Email: swhpt@phe.gov.uk
- PHE SW Health Protection Team Number: 0300 303 8162
- PHE SW Centre Out of Hours (after 5pm weekdays, all day weekends and bank holidays): 0344257 8195