

Message

From: Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=995D93356BF84B9990228F994C038FFA-ROBIN HOWE]
Sent: 11/12/2020 14:24:12
To: **Name Redacted** @gov.wales]
CC: Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) [andrew.jones10@wales.nhs.uk]; **NR** (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) **NR** @wales.nhs.uk]; marion.lyons [marion.lyons@gov.wales]; **NR** **NR** @gov.wales]
Subject: RE: 14010 day quarantine period clarification

Thanks. We will do so.

We are party to discussions in England/UK (eg UK IPC group) that are currently discussing, and have/will input our views.

BW

Robin

Robin Howe
Microbiogydd Ymgynghorol
Consultant Microbiologist
National Clinical Lead

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From: **NR** @gov.wales **NR** @gov.wales>
Sent: 11 December 2020 14:22
To: Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <Robin.Howe@wales.nhs.uk>
Cc: Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) <andrew.jones10@wales.nhs.uk>; **NR** (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <**NR** @wales.nhs.uk>; marion.lyons <marion.lyons@gov.wales>; **Name Redacted** <**NR** @gov.wales>
Subject: RE: 14010 day quarantine period clarification

Robin, CMO has responded to say that we need to be very careful not to divert from agreed 4 nations approach on this. If PHW have a different view they should discuss with PHE colleagues (and he has suggested Susan Hopkins in first instance). If it cannot be resolved between public health agencies then it can be escalated to CMO for a discussion at UK CMOs meeting.

If you have any updates from discussions with the other public health agencies please let me know.
Thanks

Name Redacted

Y Gangen Polisi a Deddfwriaeth Amddiffyn Iechyd / Health Protection Policy and Legislation Branch
Is-adran Iechyd y Cyhoedd / Public Health Division
Cyfarwyddiaeth Polisi Iechyd / Directorate of Health Policy
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Os hoffech dderbyn ohebiaeth yn yr iaith Gymraeg neu os hoffech dderbyn unrhyw ohebiaeth yn y dyfodol drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, gadewch i mi wybod.

If you wish to receive correspondence in the Welsh language, or you wish any further correspondence to be in the Welsh language, please let me know.

From: Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <Robin.Howe@wales.nhs.uk>
Sent: 10 December 2020 13:10
To: NR (HSS - DHP Public Health) <NR@gov.wales>
Cc: Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) <andrew.jones10@wales.nhs.uk> Name (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) NR @wales.nhs.uk; Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) <Marion.Lyons@gov.wales>
Subject: RE: 14010 day quarantine period clarification

Thanks.
BW
Robin

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From: NR @gov.wales NR @gov.wales>
Sent: 10 December 2020 13:09
To: Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <Robin.Howe@wales.nhs.uk>
Cc: Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) <andrew.jones10@wales.nhs.uk>; NR (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) NR @wales.nhs.uk; marion.lyons <marion.lyons@gov.wales>
Subject: RE: 14010 day quarantine period clarification

Robin, apologies for the delay in responding to your e-mail, I have not yet had an opportunity to speak with CMO directly about this issue and I suspect it is something that will require discussion at UK CMOs. I will attempt to speak with him asap this afternoon and will keep you informed.

Thanks
Name Redacted

From: Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <Robin.Howe@wales.nhs.uk>
Sent: 10 December 2020 10:29

To: [redacted] NR HSS - DHP Public Health) [redacted] NR @gov.wales>
Cc: Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) <andrew.jones10@wales.nhs.uk>; [redacted] NR (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) [redacted] NR @wales.nhs.uk>; Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) <Marion.Lyons@gov.wales>
Subject: 14010 day quarantine period clarification
Importance: High

Dear [redacted] NR

The Public Health Wales IMT has discussed the changes from 14 days quarantine of contacts to 10 days. There was concern whether this was appropriate for all settings, particularly for care home staff and Healthcare Workers.

The quarantine of contacts is in order to exclude them from potential mixing with others during the incubation period, when they may develop symptomatic or asymptomatic infection. The median incubation period is 5.1 days, and ~97% of people who will develop infection will have done so by ~11.5 days. The duration of the incubation period is reviewed in the draft TAC paper attached.

Reducing the quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days will mean that an increased number of contacts will be mixing when they are infectious (ie those who develop infection on days 11-14). The PHW IMT appreciates that the increased risk of COVID-19 transmission introduced by reducing the quarantine from 14 to 10 days in the community may be appropriate when balanced against the social and economic benefits. However we are concerned that the increased risk of COVID-19 transmission is a significantly greater risk for individuals who work with vulnerable people, specifically care home workers and health care workers.

This was discussed at the WG Social Care Testing and Infection Control Group yesterday and the prevailing view was that the quarantine period should remain at 14 days for Social Care staff.

This was also discussed at the UK IPC forum yesterday. It was clear that the 'English' position on this has not been established yet.

We suggest that the quarantine period for contacts should remain at 14 days for social care workers and this should also be considered for health care workers. Please can the WG policy position be clarified as a matter of urgency.

There is urgency around this position, as we are already receiving calls from Care Homes about this, and we would appreciate a response by midday.

BW
Robin

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Consultant Microbiologist
National Clinical Lead

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[preifatrwydd](#) yn esbonio sut rydym yn defnyddio eich gwybodaeth a sut rydym yn diogelu eich preifatrwydd. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn anfon ateb yn Gymraeg i ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. On leaving the Welsh Government this email was scanned for all known viruses. The Welsh Government takes the protection of your data seriously. If you contact the Welsh Government then our [Privacy Notice](#) explains how we use your information and the ways in which we protect your privacy. We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

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