



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru

Rhif 2 Capital Quarter, Stryd Tyndall,
Caerdydd CF10 4BZ

Public Health Wales

Number 2 Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street,
Cardiff CF10 4BZ

Tracey Cooper

☎ Llinell Uniongyrchol/ Direct Line: **I&S**

Ebost/ Email: tracey.cooper3@wales.nhs.uk

Our Ref: **I&S**

14 May 2020

Frank Atherton
Chief Medical Officer

Dear Frank,

Impact of Covid-19 on care homes

Thank you for your letter dated 12 May. We are keen to support your request for information, both historic and prospective. We are able to provide you with some of the information that you have requested. However, we are not currently in a position to completely fulfil your requirements. Further details are provided below.

Information on cases and the progress and outcomes of reported outbreaks in care homes is currently gathered using TARIAN. It can be used to assess the impact of infection and effectiveness of control measures to direct further interventions. Collection of these data relies heavily on information provided and the input from care home staff in an outbreak situation. More frequent gathering of data on new cases and outcomes in residents and staff would add to the burden of work during an outbreak.

1. For all outbreaks and incidents in residential and nursing homes in Wales could you please provide the following:

The attached spreadsheet contains the data requested, as far as we are currently able to provide it. However, I advise that some of the data fields do not contain complete data. Whilst much of this information is available on our case management database, Tarian, it has been entered to support outbreak management. As such, some of the data requested, has been entered as free text in notes and cannot easily be extracted.

Since the establishment of the enclosed settings cell on the 17 March, the cell has prioritised the management of Covid-19 outbreaks in care homes. Therefore, the collection of detailed data for surveillance rather than outbreak management has not always been possible. Until the week beginning the 4 May, we were reliant on care homes compiling and submitting daily reports on the number of suspected cases and deaths. This data may not be complete or reliable. Since the 4 May, we have implemented a standard operating procedure with Environmental Health Officers, which includes the collection of data on the number of cases and deaths in care homes with new outbreaks. Data completeness of the number of suspected and confirmed cases, is also likely to have increased since testing of all symptomatic staff and residents was implemented on 25 April.

This will change further with ongoing changes to testing policy e.g. the testing of all staff and residents (symptomatic and asymptomatic).

Data Field	Comment
Date of notification	Included in spreadsheet
Nursing/residential home	Included in spreadsheet
Number of residents	Currently entered as free text, could be obtained from CIW.
Number of staff	Currently entered as free text, could be obtained from CIW.
Total number of residents affected, confirmed and suspected	Included in spreadsheet together with numbers of staff affected. Otherwise entered as free text.
Total number hospitalised	Currently entered as free text, could be collected prospectively
Total number of deaths, Covid-19 suspected and confirmed	There is likely to be under recording as we are reliant on reporting from care homes
Total number of staff affected, suspected and confirmed	Included in spreadsheet together with numbers of residents affected. Otherwise entered as free text.
Total number of staff hospitalised	Not proactively collected, entered as free text if informed by care home
Total number of staff deaths	We are not able to report this retrospectively
Outbreak over or ongoing	We are currently in the process of completing case reviews to close down cases where the outbreak is over

We are currently in the process of making some improvements that will enhance our ability to capture the data required including some changes to Tarian and review of

existing cases. This should improve our ability to provide data prospectively. We would welcome a further discussion with you, regarding your prospective data requirements.

Kind regards,

Personal Data

Dr Tracey Cooper
Chief Executive Officer

Copy: Quentin Sandifer, Public Health Wales
Andrew Jones, Public Health Wales

NR Public Health Wales

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg
We welcome correspondence in Welsh