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Subject: Welsh Government News: Welsh Government extends coronavirus testing in care homes | Llywodraeth Cymru yn ehangu profion coronafeirws mewn cartrefi gofal

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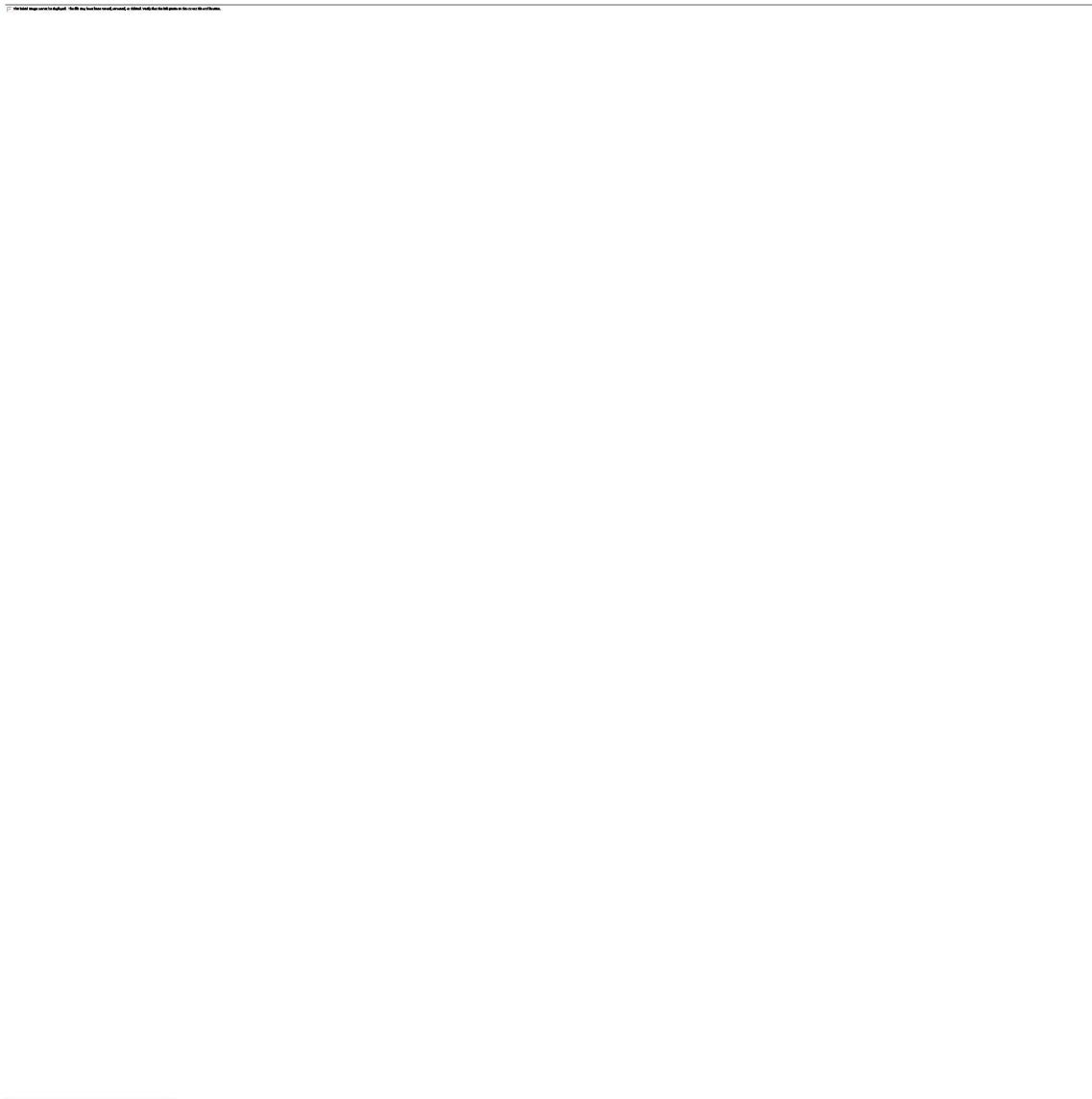
NR – for the web ASAP please. Thanks.



02 May 2020

INQ000412082_0002

Welsh Government extends coronavirus testing in care homes



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All residents and staff in care homes with outbreaks of coronavirus will be tested for the virus, the Welsh Government has announced today.

The move comes as the latest scientific evidence shows testing should be extended in care homes to manage outbreaks.

In the case of care homes, where a number of older people are living closely together, many of whom will have underlying health conditions, if the results of the tests are positive, we will assume – and take actions – as if everyone in the home has tested positive.

The Welsh Government is implementing a three-stage testing and rapid response plan to help care homes deal with coronavirus – this is a mixture of testing and environmental and hygiene support measures.

Health Minister Vaughan Gething said:

“Our national testing plan has two main aims – to reduce the harm caused by coronavirus and to help people and professionals get back to their normal daily lives.

“We are learning more about coronavirus every day – the evidence is constantly changing and emerging and we keep it under constant review.

“At the moment, the evidence does not support the blanket testing of everyone who does not have symptoms.

“But, in a care home setting, where there are some people who have symptoms of coronavirus and others who do not, testing everyone, including those who do not, does have a purpose – we will be doing this to help manage outbreaks.”

The three-stage testing and rapid response package is being introduced to help protect care home residents and staff.

- Making it easier to get a test done – Eight new mobile testing units, which will be available from the week beginning May 3, and home testing kits, when they become available, will be focused towards care homes to ensure testing is easily available.
- Targeted testing on outbreak hot spots – We will target testing and deploy the mobile units to test all residents in care homes, in cases where an outbreak occurs (and potentially in neighbouring care homes) and repeat testing the following week. Testing will also be available in the largest care homes (those with more than 50 beds) which are at greater risk of experiencing an outbreak because of their size.
- Environmental and hygiene support – We will combine testing with environmental support when hotspots are identified. Increased cleaning, providing hand sanitiser and increased infection

control measures will accompany the testing regime. Updated guidance to support these environmental measures will be provided to the sector.

Contact Information

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02 Mai 2020

Llywodraeth Cymru yn ehangu profion coronafeirws mewn cartrefi gofal

Lawrlwytho

Bydd yr holl drigolion a staff mewn cartrefi gofal ag achosion o'r coronafeirws yn cael eu profi am y feirws, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru heddiw.

Daw'r cam hwn wrth i'r dystiolaeth wyddonol ddiweddaraf ddangos y dylid ymestyn profion mewn cartrefi gofal i reoli achosion sy'n codi.

Yn achos cartrefi gofal, lle mae nifer o bobl hŷn yn cyd-fyw yn agos, a lle mae gan sawl un ohonynt gyflyrau iechyd sy'n bodoli eisoes, os bydd canlyniadau'r profion yn bositif, byddwn yn tybio – a chymryd camau gweithredu – fel petai pawb yn y cartref wedi cael canlyniad positif.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi cynllun tair rhan ar waith i brofi ac ymateb yn gyflym er mwyn helpu cartrefi gofal i fynd i'r afael â'r coronafeirws – mae hyn yn gymysgedd o brofion a mesurau hylendid ac amgylcheddol.

Dywedodd y Gweinidog Iechyd, Vaughan Gething:

“Mae dau brif nod gan ein cynllun profi cenedlaethol – lleihau'r niwed sy'n cael ei achosi gan y coronafeirws a helpu pobl a gweithwyr proffesiynol i ailgydio yn eu bywydau arferol o ddydd i ddydd.

“Rydym yn dysgu mwy am y coronafeirws bob dydd – mae'r dystiolaeth yn newid ac yn datblygu drwy'r adeg ac rydym yn ei hadolygu'n rheolaidd.

“Ar hyn o bryd, nid yw'r dystiolaeth yn awgrymu bod angen profi pobl yn gyffredinol os nad oes ganddynt symptomau.

“Ond mewn cartrefi gofal, lle bydd gan rai bobl symptomau'r coronafeirws, ond nid eraill, mae pwrpas profi pawb, gan gynnwys y rhai heb symptomau – byddwn yn gwneud hyn er mwyn helpu i reoli achosion sy'n codi.”

Mae'r system newydd tri cham o brofi ac ymateb yn gyflym yn cael ei chyflwyno er mwyn helpu i ddiogelu preswylwyr a staff cartrefi gofal.

- Ei gwneud hi'n haws i gynnal prawf – Bydd yr wyth uned profion symudol newydd, a fydd ar gael o'r wythnos yn dechrau ar 3 Mai, ynghyd â phecynnau i gynnal profion yn y cartref, pan fyddant ar gael, wedi'u hanelu at gartrefi gofal er mwyn sicrhau bod profion ar gael yn hawdd iddynt.
- Profion wedi'u targedu at ardaloedd lle ceir y nifer fwyaf o achosion – Byddwn yn targedu profion ac yn defnyddio unedau symudol i brofi holl breswylwyr cartrefi gofal pan fydd achos yn codi (a chartrefi gofal cyfagos o bosibl) ac yn cynnal mwy o brofion yr wythnos ganlynol. Bydd profion hefyd ar gael yn y cartrefi gofal mwyaf (lle ceir mwy na 50 o welyau) sy'n wynebu risg uwch o achosion oherwydd eu maint.
- Cymorth amgylcheddol a chymorth hylendid – byddwn yn cyfuno profion â chymorth amgylcheddol ar gyfer cartrefi gofal pan gaiff ardaloedd lle ceir nifer fawr o achosion eu nodi. Bydd y drefn newydd hefyd yn cynnwys mwy o lanhau a mwy o fesurau rheoli heintiau. Bydd canllawiau wedi'u diweddarau yn cael eu darparu i'r sector er mwyn cefnogi'r mesurau amgylcheddol hyn.

Manylion Cyswilt

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Lawrlwythiadau



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