

Winter planning - Be ready, stay resilient

AS WINTER approaches, primary care plays a crucial role in keeping people well and easing pressure on hospitals.

Here are some key focus areas for this season:

Isolation & Infection Control

Ensure space is available to isolate patients with respiratory symptoms. Maintain clear signage, triage, and IPC protocols to minimise transmission of flu, COVID-19, and other infections.

Staffing & Capacity

Review rotas, plan ahead for absences, and build flexibility into schedules. Support staff wellbeing and consider shared cover across practices or PCNs.

Vaccinations & Health Promotion

Encourage uptake of flu and COVID-19 vaccines.



Let's plan early, act together and stay ready!

Promote self-care, staying warm, hydration, and managing long-term conditions. Use messaging and text systems to share advice and signpost appropriate services.

Supporting the Wider System

Consider offering end-of-day respiratory appointments and prioritise urgent access for high-risk patients. Early intervention helps prevent hospital admissions.

Good Messaging Matters

Help patients understand how and when to seek care and not just during times of pressure —use social media and texts to promote pharmacy services, NHS 111, and appropriate use of A&E

With strong planning and working together, primary care can make a big impact this winter to help keep our patients safe.

Useful stuff

Pop in for a chat about IPC

OUR IPC nurses will be available online for you to ask any IPC-related questions on Wednesday 13 August, between 2pm-4pm. [Click here to access via MSTeams.](#)

How did we do?

LET us have your feedback if you have recently received a support visit from one of the IPC team. Please provide any comments/feedback using this [link](#). Responses are anonymous.

Glow box for training

THE IPC team hold a hand hygiene glow box which providers can borrow for in-house hand hygiene training sessions.

[Email the team in-box](#) to request it.

The glow box can be collected directly from Wynford House, Yeovil (we appreciate this being returned after your training session).

Free resource pack available for World Sepsis Day

SEPSIS is caused by the body's extreme reaction to an infection.

Early identification is crucial to save lives.

September marks Sep-

sis Awareness Month and September 13th is World Sepsis Day where we come together to spread the word about this often fatal condi-

tion.

To help raise awareness of sepsis, please sign up to receive your [free resource pack from the UK Sepsis Trust](#)