

WATCH OUT for EARLY SIGNS

KNOW { Your clinical baseline
Your ACP that will guide decision making
Any recent deterioration

COVID GUIDANCE

Care in Residential Setting

Person is presenting with;

Altered respiratory status

- New or worsened cough
- New or worsening shortness of breath
- New or increased sputum

Altered Mental Status

- New signs or symptoms of increased confusion/delirium
- Decreased level of consciousness
- Inability to perform usual activities (due to mental status change)
- New or worsening agitation
- New or worsening delusions or hallucinations

Altered body temperature

Review COVID guidelines

PPE as per current HPSC recommendations

COVID link

PPE link

Change in Resp Rate; Count for 60secs

Monitor O2 saturations and observe for any decrease

New confusion or increased confusion or mental status

- Isolate the person, use PPE as recommended
- Assign staff to isolation area
- Contact GP to order testing
- Contact Public Health / Medical Officer
- Monitor vital signs and record
- Use escalation protocol AND clinical judgement
- Monitor Intake & Output as appropriate/per local policy
- Review medication
- Consider antibiotic therapy
- Evaluate signs and symptoms as appropriate for improvement/deterioration
- Refer to Advance Care Plan and anticipatory guidance
- Ensure supportive Care for Hypoxia, Pain, Fever and / or other symptoms
- Stay in regular contact with the resident's family
- Set an observation protocol in place that can be managed relative to your available staff and skillset and needs of the deteriorating resident
- Be aware that deterioration can occur quite rapidly
- Consider need for additional senior nursing and / or medical review especially if considering transfer out of RCF
- Communicate using ISBAR
- Be prepared!

Advanced Care Planning

Consider; any progressive illness including dementia
Frailty
Nearness to death
Any recent deterioration
Document and communicate

Advanced Care Plan (ACP) Status

DNR

Palliative support and implementation
Manage symptoms
Support person and family

FOR RESUS

ACP status for resuscitation, and condition deteriorates.
Contact GP/nursing home liaison /NAS as appropriate Local Hospital Liaison Service if available or National Ambulance service

Discuss all ACP and COVID scenarios with families Be aware that survival and outcomes with COVID 19 are poor in this patient group

ISBAR LINK

I Identify yourself and location
S Situation
B Background - tell story
A Assessment - what is going on?
R Request - what you want