



# UK Health Security Agency

## Weekly Care Homes Evidence Digest

### Prevention and control of COVID-19 in home care/care homes settings

18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

#### Summary

This weekly digest contains a selection of evidence published in the last 7 days, in relation to the prevention and control of COVID-19 in home care/care home settings. We search a number of Covid-19 review repositories, an existing UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Covid-19 evidence digest (including Covid-19 evidence digests produced by Public Health England prior to October 2021), Ovid Medline and Embase, Social Care Online, medRxiv (pre-print server) and various websites. We select peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed publications (pre-prints), as well as systematic reviews, guidance and evidence summaries.

The digest is produced by UKHSA [Knowledge and Library Services](#) (KLS), in conjunction with a small editorial team.

We do not accept responsibility for the availability, reliability or content of the items included in this resource and do not necessarily endorse the views expressed within them. Our intent is to highlight early emerging research findings as well as research that has been subject to peer review and wider scrutiny.

The digest this week includes; from the USA, evidence of potential benefit of monoclonal antibody therapy in reducing mortality during an outbreak of COVID-19 in a skilled nursing facility; and an editorial overview of the complex impacts of COVID-19 on the mental health of older adults; from Canada, further evidence of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on staff and management working in long-term care; from Norway, adherence to hand hygiene and influencing factors in nursing homes during the COVID-19 pandemic; from Spain, a cohort study of long-term care residents and risk factors for infection and mortality from SARS-CoV-2.

From the UK further evidence of the adverse impacts of COVID-19 on the working practices of care home staff.

Finally, summaries of other recently published COVID-19 pandemic reports, guidance and statistics. An ongoing series of UKHSA rapid reviews on a range of COVID-19 related research questions can be also found at <https://ukhsalibrary.koha-ptfs.co.uk/covid19rapidreviews/>. A wider range of UKHSA information resources on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may be found at <https://ukhsalibrary.koha-ptfs.co.uk/coronavirusinformation/>.

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

Publication date	Title / URL	Journal / Article type	Digest
09.02.2022	<a href="#">Clinical Outcomes of Monoclonal Antibody Therapy During a COVID-19 Outbreak in a Skilled Nursing Facility- Arizona, 2021</a>	Journal of the American Geriatrics Society / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical records were reviewed to describe the effect of bamlanivimab therapy on COVID-19 mortality. Secondary outcomes included referral to an acute care setting and escalation of medical therapies at the SNF (e.g., new oxygen requirements).</li> <li>Seventy-five residents identified with COVID-19 during this outbreak met eligibility for mAb treatment, of whom 56 received bamlanivimab.</li> <li>Treatment with bamlanivimab was associated with reduced 21-day mortality (adjusted OR = 0.06; 95% CI: 0.01, 0.39) and lower odds of initiating oxygen therapy (adjusted OR = 0.07; 95% CI: 0.02, 0.34). Referrals to acute care were not significantly different between treated and untreated residents.</li> </ul>
09.02.2022	<a href="#">COVID-19 and the Experiences and Needs of Staff and Management Working at the Front Lines of Long-Term Care in Central Canada</a>	Canadian Journal on Aging / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Findings indicate moderate levels of stress and caregiver burden, and highlight the significant stressors associated with working in long-term care during the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., rapid changes in pandemic guidelines, increased workload, “meeting the needs of residents and families”, fear of contracting COVID-19 and COVID-19 coming into long-term care facilities, and concern over a negative public view of long-term care staff and facilities).</li> </ul>
14.02.2022	<a href="#">Students’ observations of hand hygiene adherence in 20 nursing home wards, during the COVID-19 pandemic</a>	BMC Infectious Diseases / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This observational study used the World Health Organization’s observation tool for studying hand hygiene indication and adherence: “My five moments for hand hygiene.” For 1 week each in February and March 2021, 105 first-year nursing students conducted 7316 hand hygiene observations at 20 nursing home wards in one large municipality in Norway.</li> <li>The overall adherence rate found in this study was 58.3%. Hand hygiene adherence decreased from 65.8% in February to 51.4% in March.</li> <li>Hand hygiene adherence is too low to protect all residents against healthcare-associated infections, and the findings from this study</li> </ul>

			indicate that there are many factors that influence hand hygiene adherence, eg., education, occupation status and glove use.
14.02.2022	<a href="#">The interplay between infection risk factors of SARS-CoV-2 and mortality: a cross-sectional study from a cohort of long-term care nursing home residents</a>	BMC Geriatrics / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We carried out a cross-sectional analysis within a cohort of Long-term care nursing home residents between March first and June thirty, 2020, who were ≥ 65 years old and on whom at least one PCR test was performed.</li> <li>The outcomes of interest were infection (PCR positive) and death.</li> <li>SARS-CoV-2 infection was detected in 27.7% of participants, and the overall case fatality rate was 11.3% (24.9% among those with a positive PCR test).</li> </ul>
15.02.2022	<a href="#">Working in a care home during the COVID-19 pandemic: How has the pandemic changed working practices? A qualitative study</a>	BMC Geriatrics / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The aim of this research was to explore the impact of COVID-19 on the working practices of care home staff, caring for people living with dementia.</li> <li>Three overarching themes were developed from the analysis that conveyed changes to the everyday working practices of the care home workforce and the impact such changes posed to staff wellbeing: (1) Practical implications of working in a care home during the COVID-19 pandemic; (2); Staff values and changes to the staff roles (3): Impact to the care home staff and concerns for the care sector.</li> </ul>

### Reports and other publications

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
14.02.2022	<a href="#">Coronavirus: Adult social care key issues and sources</a>	House of Commons Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This briefing provides an overview of key issues facing the adult social care sector during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, and provides links to some of the key official guidance for the sector.</li> </ul>

### Guidance

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
Updated <b>14.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19): admission and care of people in care homes</a>	DHSC, CQC, UKHSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to protect care home residents and staff during the coronavirus outbreak.</li> </ul>
Updated <b>14.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">COVID-19: management of staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings</a>	UKHSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on the management of staff, patients and residents who have been exposed to COVID-19.</li> </ul>
Updated <b>14.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">Designated settings for people discharged to a care home</a>	DHSC, CQC, UKHSA & NHS England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on the designated settings scheme for people discharged from hospital to a care home with a positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test.</li> </ul>

## Statistics

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
<b>15.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">Number of deaths in care homes notified to the Care Quality Commission, England</a>	ONS, CQC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional counts of deaths in care homes caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) by local authority. Published by the Office for National Statistics and Care Quality Commission.</li> </ul>
<b>15.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">Care home resident deaths registered in England and Wales, provisional</a>	ONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional counts of the number of care home resident deaths registered in England and Wales, by region, including deaths involving coronavirus (COVID-19), in the latest weeks for which data are available.</li> </ul>
<b>15.02.2022</b>	<a href="#">Notifications to Care Inspectorate Wales related to COVID-19 in adult care homes (headline data): 9 February 2022</a>	Welsh Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notifications related to COVID-19 in adult care homes during the coronavirus pandemic for 9 February 2022.</li> </ul>

16.02.2022	<a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19): adult care homes - additional data</a>	Scottish Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly data on COVID-19 in adult care homes in Scotland.</li> </ul>
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## Editorials and News

Publication date	Title / URL	Author(s)	Digest
14.02.2022	<a href="#">Two Years of COVID-19: Understanding Impact and Implications for the Mental Health of Older Adults</a>	American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry / Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple studies from around the world made it apparent that as a whole, older adults may have withstood the stress of the pandemic better than younger age groups, at least in its initial stages. However, as more longitudinal studies emerge, it is apparent that mental health impact may vary and evolve among older adults depending on their individual circumstances.</li> <li>While our understanding of PASC (also referred to as 'long COVID') is evolving, early studies indicate that its impact may be particularly significant among older adults.</li> <li>Caregivers of older adults, especially of PwD, faced a profound loss of resources and services and increased care responsibilities. They reported increased burden, often needing to set aside their own health needs in the face of increased caregiving demands.</li> <li>There is now a corpus of longitudinal data that paints a complex picture of the pandemic's impact. While older adults as a whole may have withstood the stresses better than other groups, care at the individual level requires nuance.</li> </ul>