Infection Prevention & Control

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Illness Self Assessment

Protecting our vulnerable residents, patients, co-workers and visitors remains a top priority for our Intercare sites. With the continuing changes of Covid–19, combined with the gradual lifting of active screening and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements in the community, the requirement (taking effect February 1, 2023) that staff and visitors complete a 'self-screening' health assessment **PRIOR** to entering any Intercare site will continue to be of vital importance in helping us keep our residents, patients, co-workers and visitors safe.

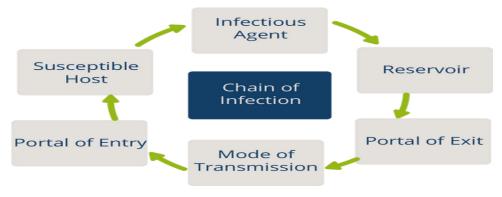
Important health safety reminders!

- 1. If you are experiencing any of the **illnesses** listed below, you should stay at home and NOT enter or visit at an Intercare site(s) while you are feeling unwell!
 - ♦ COVID-19
 - ♦ Influenza (flu)
 - ♦ Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
 - Rhinovirus and other viruses that cause the common cold
 - ♦ Gastro Intestinal (GI) Illnesses
- 2. If you are experiencing any of the new or worsening symptoms listed below, you should stay home and NOT enter or visit at an Intercare site(s) while you are feeling unwell!
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Runny nose / stuffy nose
 - Sore throat
 - ♦ Nausea / vomiting/ diarrhea
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - New rash

This past Fall and current Winter seasons have exhibited high rates RSV and Influenza, worldwide. With global travel happening everywhere once again (and with very few health restrictions still left in place), public complacency seems to have developed regarding anything 'infection prevention related'. This is likely because infection prevention restrictions remind us about our prior experiences with the worst of COVID-19 and accompanying health restrictions. While it is important to continue to move forward, following / maintaining basic infection precaution measures (i.e. proper respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene practices) - particularly when we are around individuals who are most vulnerable and at risk if exposed to infections and illnesses - will remain of paramount importance.

Completing a **self–screening health assessment** on ourselves to help identify illness or any new or worsening symptoms **PRIOR** to entering or visiting one of our Care Homes (each and every time) will be a very important step in helping to maintain everyone's health and well-being at our Intercare sites.

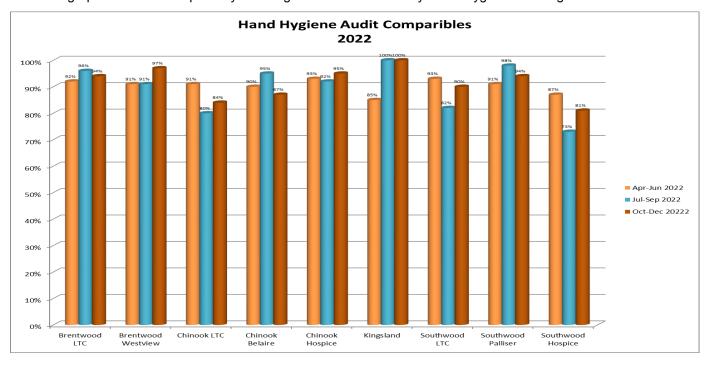
As always, attention to good **hand hygiene** remains the most effective way to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and infections!



Hand Hygiene Audit Results

Hand Hygiene Auditing continues to be completed on a monthly basis at all Intercare sites. During these audits, the "Four (4) Moments of Hand Hygiene" are observed, as well as proper glove use.

The graph below shows quarterly results generated from monthly Hand Hygiene Auditing at Intercare sites.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Audit Results

With the Covid-19 global pandemic slowly moving towards an "Endemic" stage, all Intercare sites continue to complete PPE Audits on a monthly basis.

The graph below shows quarterly results generated from monthly PPE Auditing at Intercare sites.

