

Community pharmacists – COVID-19 Outbreak

Pharmacy Planning

Consider [working safely during coronavirus](#). This guidance is for people who work in or run shops, branches, stores or similar environments and covers community pharmacies.

Planning should cover:

- Managing increasing patient visits to the premises e.g. distancing between patients in waiting areas,
- Ensuring social distancing, necessary precautions at work between staff in work or social areas
- Thinking about a new way of working: common rooms, patient accessible areas, medicines preparation areas and other high use areas
- IPC and environmental cleaning measures
- Identifying patients attending and rapidly gathering information for risk assessments
- Staff working across different settings
- Having a staff notification process if staff are going for testing
- Be prepared and review business continuity plans

Pharmacy action

- If staff develop symptoms of COVID-19 they should follow the [Stay at home Guidance](#).
 - If at home, they should not attend work and notify their line manager immediately
 - While at work, they should stop work immediately, self isolate and arrange testing
- Staff should be advised that if the test is positive they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and they should follow the [Stay at home Guidance](#).
- If a member of staff has to self isolate and this has implications for the provision of services, the contractor needs to follow the [management of exposed healthcare worker guidance](#) (section 6).
- Remind staff to inform their line manager of a positive result as soon as they receive it so that relevant actions can be completed immediately.
- Cleaning and decontamination after a know or suspected case of COVID 19 should be carried out in line with [PHE guidance](#).

Outbreak Notification Process

- The pharmacy needs to complete the North East & Yorkshire IIMARCH form and send it to;



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- **Local Public Health England Health Protection Team**
 - North East Email: ICC.NorthEast@phe.gov.uk Phone: 0300 303 8596
 - Yorkshire and Humber: ICC.YorkshireHumber@phe.gov.uk Phone: 0114 3049843
- **North East and Yorkshire Regional Incident Coordination Room**
 - england.eprney@nhs.net
- **Pharmacy Commissioning Team;**
 - England.pharmacyreturns@nhs.net

Primary Care reporting flow chart for community pharmacy

