

A Guide to Health Checks & Coronavirus

For Commissioners, GPs and Specialist Health Professionals



What the guidance says

GP practices should continue to offer annual health checks to people with learning disabilities.



The health check should be offered on a face to face basis if safe to do so.



Where this is not possible, the health check could be conducted remotely, with as much of the physical review completed as is practicable in these circumstances.



For further information see the COVID-19 Primary Care Bulletin dated 18th May:
<http://createsend.com/t/d-7FAE6F80E5F34E6E2540EF23F30FEDED>



Practical things to consider

Who is a priority for a health check?

For example:

- people who missed their health check in 2019/20
- those that are currently overdue
- those with multiple comorbidities or who have had recent admissions

Preparing for the appointment

- Can parts of the health check be done prior to the appointment ?
- Will the appointment be face to face or done remotely?
- How best to prepare for the appointment

Ensuring you've been understood

- What information will people with learning disabilities and supporters need about the new way of doing things?
- Assessing mental capacity if using technology
- Agree the Health Check Action Plan and how to take this forward



Shared Resources & Learning



Hertfordshire have developed:

- A carers guide
- A GP pathway
- A Guide for how to establish someone's Capacity To Consent to Video
- Check it out easy read guide to health including health checks
- Easy read annual health check COVID invite

For further information see: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/adult-social-services/disability/learning-disabilities/my-health/information-for-professionals.aspx#resources>

The approach is being piloted with some of their Purple Starred GP practices. Information can be used by others as long as the source is acknowledged and notified where and how it has been used.



Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust have developed

- AHC guidelines during COVID 19
- A check list to fill out beforehand
- An easy read letter about a phone consultation

For further information see: <https://www.getcheckedoutleeds.nhs.uk/>



In the South West, NHS England and Improvement has worked with practitioners to develop:

- A support pack to help practices deliver annual health checks for people with learning disabilities during covid and beyond
- A checklist for patients and carers
- An easy read GP letter
- A copy of the DES directions 2020
- EMIS health check questions
- System One health check questions

For further information see: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/learning-disabilities/#annual-health-checks>



There are data sets and policy documents as well as resources aimed at primary care and GPs and some designed for use by Primary Care Liaison Nurses, Health Facilitators or similar. To help you choose which ones are best, there is a short description of each resource, where it is from and what it covers: <https://www.ndti.org.uk/resources/useful-tools/health-check-resources>



National Development Team for Inclusion