



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Professor Chris Jones
Dirprwy Brif Swyddog Meddygol
Deputy Chief Medical Officer

Sue Tranka
Prif Swyddog Nyrsio – Cyfarwyddwr Nyrs GIG Cymru
Chief Nursing Officer – Nurse Director NHS Wales

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Dear colleague

Re: Operational guide for the transition of healthcare environments in preparation for Autumn/Winter 2021/22 incorporating COVID - 19 Measures.

As we move into the second autumn/winter period of the COVID-19 pandemic, Welsh healthcare providers face the continuing challenge of ensuring that best practice and effective measures for preventing the spread of SARS CoV-2 (COVID-19) infection.

We are grateful therefore to colleagues in NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) and Public Health Wales (PHW), who have worked at the request of the Nosocomial Transmission Group to produce this 'Operational guide for the transition of healthcare environments in preparation for Autumn/Winter 2021/22 incorporating COVID-19 Measures'. This guidance is clear and comprehensive and should be invaluable in guiding hospitals, healthcare facilities and general medical practices to overcome these challenges.

The document builds upon previous guidance that we have issued including the 'Operational guide for the safe return of healthcare environments to routine arrangements following the initial COVID-19 response' (June 2020) and 'Actions to protect NHS Wales hospitals during a third wave of COVID-19 infection' (June 2021) and, crucially, is structured around the 'Hierarchy of Controls' framework that is integral to the 'COVID-19: infection prevention and control (IPC)' [guidance](#).

We thank you for your support in ensuring that the principles detailed within this document are implemented consistently throughout all our healthcare environments.

Yours sincerely

PROFESSOR CHRIS JONES

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