

Appendix 5 Recommendations on discharge tool

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PATIENTS BEING DISCHARGED FROM A WARD/AREA CLOSED OR AFFECTED BY SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED VIRAL GASTROENTERITIS

No	Current Patient Assessment	Recommendation		
		Discharge to own home	Discharge to nursing or residential homes	Discharge or transfer to other hospitals or community-based institutions (e.g. prisons)
1	Patient has been asymptomatic of viral gastroenteritis in excess of 48-72 hours (symptom free)	This can take place at any time irrespective of the stage of the patient's viral gastroenteritis. It is not necessary to delay the discharge.	Discharge to a home known not to be affected by an outbreak of vomiting and/or diarrhoea should not occur until the patient has been asymptomatic for at least 48h. However, discharge to a home known to be affected by an outbreak at the time of discharge should not be delayed providing the home can safely meet the individual's care needs.	This should be delayed until the patient has been asymptomatic for at least 48h. Urgent transfers to other hospitals or within hospitals need an individual risk assessment
2	Patient remains symptomatic of viral gastroenteritis or is not yet 48-hours symptom free			
3	Patient has not had symptoms since ward/area closure (patient potentially incubating)		Patient may be discharged only on the advice of the local health protection organisation and infection prevention teams.	
*In all instances, ensure on discharge relevant information is included within the electronic discharge summary (EDS)				