



symptoms. Care homes should familiarise themselves with the updated outbreak definition,

outbreaks is no longer appropriate, in line with a recent [epidemiological evidence review](#). This is due to the shorter incubation and infectious periods of COVID-19 after the emergence of subsequent variants, and in which high levels of vaccination of care home residents is routine. The new definition provides a standard approach across ARI and should help to reduce the disruption of outbreak measures on staff and residents.