



Heat-Health Alert summary action card for hospitals and healthcare settings in the community

This is a summary of the suggested actions for managers in this setting at each alert level. Check the [Heat-Health Alert action card for health and social care providers](#) for more detail including what to do before summer, and adapt actions for your service as appropriate.

Summary actions for a yellow alert

- Conduct a local risk assessment for hot weather in your area and your organisation's response, consulting the Heat-Health Alert [guidance](#) and [full action card](#)
- Confirm that staff are aware of business continuity and hot weather plans and received the [Heat-Health Alert](#). Share it with staff if they have not received it
- Share and explain the importance of [Beat the heat](#) messages to clients and staff, including raising awareness of heat-illness signs and prevention
- Ensure staff check thermometers are installed and working, and monitor temperatures inside buildings especially where people spend most time
- Ensure staff keep certain rooms or areas below 26°C, giving people a place to cool down, and keep the building as cool as possible (for example, by closing windows when it is hottest and opening windows when it is cooler outside, such as at night)
- Ensure staff monitor individuals most vulnerable to heat-related illnesses, by checking body temperature, heart and breathing rates, blood pressure, medication, hydration levels and fluid balance
- Assess staffing levels, recognising possible greater patient needs during hot weather
- Ensure medication is stored according to instructions
- Reschedule activities such as physiotherapy to cooler times of day
- Encourage and enable staff to carry water and stay hydrated, and report concerns about their own health promptly

Summary actions for an amber alert

- Continue yellow alert actions
- Follow local business continuity and/or hot weather plans
- Ensure that staff monitor the temperature of at-risk individuals and their environment
- Advise staff and patients to raise concerns quickly, as heat illnesses can worsen fast

Summary actions for a red alert

- Continue amber alert actions
- Follow all local emergency response plans and continue to monitor the current situation by checking the weather alerts or local news
- Actively monitor all patients during hot weather episodes and monitor compliance with actions to keep living areas as cool as possible and cool rooms or areas below 26°C