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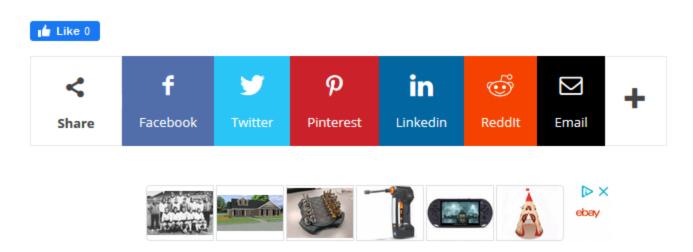
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COVID-19

Care home residents 'dying of loneliness' as testing delays expose 'huge staff shortages' - Sound Health and Lasting Wealth https://www.soundhealthandlastingwealth.com/covid-19/care-home-residents-d...

Care home residents 'dying of loneliness' as testing delays expose 'huge staff shortages'



Vulnerable people living in care homes are 'dying of loneliness,' as they're deprived from seeing families due to lockdown, while delays in testing have exposed 'huge staff shortages,' in the sector, it has been claimed.

Baroness Ros Altmann, a former Minister of State for pensions, welcomed Matt Hancock's announcement yesterday that care home residents would receive free PPE during the winter to curb the spread of Covid-19.

The Health Secretary announced a £500million 'infection control fund' will help pay workers full wages when they are self-isolating and ensure carers work in only one care home, thereby reducing the risk of spreading the virus.

Mr Hancock unveiled his winter action plan, which will also include guidance on whether care homes should restrict visits from family members.



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Baroness Altmann warned restrictions could put lives at risk.





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Baroness Ros Altmann has warned residents in care homes are 'dying of loneliness,' as they're kept apart from loved ones

Speaking on Good Morning Britain today, she said: 'Some people in care homes are more likely to die because of loneliness from lockdown and that is a real problem.

'Many of those people were unable to see their relatives and were desperately, desperately in need of their family visits and the family themselves needed to see the older people.

'One has to wonder whether it's right for the Government to say they can't go and see their loved ones.

'Some people died on their own, other people in care homes aren't necessarily vulnerable, so I just wonder if depriving people of their "visitation rights" as it were, is the best way to go.



'I hope it won't be too draconian that therefore people in care homes aren't just left totally isolated from their families and loved ones if they desperately need to see them.'