Participant information sheet

(Self-administered Rapid Test Quality Assurance)

Everything you need to know about completing your test and uploading your result.

This sheet contains information on:

- Quality Assurance (QA) background and context
- Benefits and Risks
- Completing your tests
- Uploading your results
- Returning your lab-based test (PCR kit)
- Frequently asked questions

Before you start

- Read these instructions before you open your test kit(s).
- Please complete your test(s) within the timeframe as described in section 3.

1 Quality Assurance

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the Lateral Flow Device Rapid Testing Quality Assurance (also referred to as service quality evaluation or 'evaluation' in this document).

Your assistance in this endeavour will help keep you and the people around you safe and help save lives.

We are asking you to complete two tests so we can compare results from these testing technologies or methods.

By taking part in this evaluation, you will be supporting the scale and speed at which national testing can safely be deployed. Increasing testing capacity will be key in unlocking the country and allowing life to return to normal in a swift and safe manner as possible.

The use of rapid tests using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) has a part to play in increasing the number of people we can test. This evaluation will allow us to gain a better understanding of how we can continue to use rapid tests safely in different settings.

How will this quality assurance work?

We are asking you to do one rapid test and one lab-based test and ask that you provide us with some information via the links in this sheet in addition to reporting your rapid test result. You will also need to post off your lab-based test so it can be analysed. As part of this quality assurance you do not need to officially register to receive your lab-based result, however, if you are told a confirmatory lab-based test is required, please see "If a confirmatory test is required" in section 3. **Important to note:** Your rapid test result is the official outcome which may be recorded in your healthcare records.

If your symptoms get worse: If your symptoms of COVID-19 and the condition gets worse, or does not get better after 7 days, visit NHS online at: www.111.nhs.uk or call 111.

In case of medical emergency: If you have a medical emergency, or you think there is something seriously wrong, call 999.

If you do not receive your diagnostic result or have any issues: Please call the customer contact centre on 119. Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Scotland: 0300 303 2713 (charged at your standard network rate).

(2) Official & Safety Notice

Voluntary Participation

Participation is voluntary. You have been given this leaflet and the PCR kit as you agreed to dual testing. If you are unable to do this dual testing for some reason, we will be grateful if you can inform the school. You must still however report your rapid test result to your school as per your standard school procedures.

Please complete all your tests as soon as you can

Complete your tests in the order specified in section 3 at your earliest convenience. The rapid and lab-based tests should be performed at the same time. Please upload the barcodes of your kits into the evaluation web form and post your lab-based (PCR) test off as soon as you are able.

All tests in this evaluation are for the same person

To ensure the data is reliable it is important that both the rapid and lab-based tests are completed by the same person or this will affect the accuracy of the evaluation data.

Identify which test kits are yours

If there are more than one of you participating in the evaluation (e.g. in the same car or part of the same household), you must ensure that everyone completes and uploads the results of their tests and not mix them with anyone else's. We advise that participants either perform both tests in separate locations or at different times.

Your rapid test result is your official result

Your rapid test result is your official result. Due to the nature of rapid and lab-based testing, lab-based tests may detect previous infections which rapid tests may not. Therefore, if you officially register your lab-based test after a negative rapid test result and this returns positive, you will legally be required to observe the national guidelines on isolation for you and your contacts.

③ How to complete your test

Testing kit

You only need to complete one rapid test with the lab-based test as part of this evaluation and you should complete other tests in line with the guidance provided.

Barcode

The rapid test QR code and the lab-based test barcode are a set of letters followed by numbers. The QR code for your rapid test will be printed on the rapid test device, while the lab-based test barcode will be on a sticker on your test postal box. You should use the relevant QR code/barcode when submitting your results online.

Accessing a video demonstration

For your rapid test, please follow the instructions available with your kit carefully, this will ensure the most accurate result. You can watch the video via the link below for demonstration of how to take the test – either scan this QR code to go straight to the video or enter this URL **gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help** into your browser.

QR code

For your lab-based test, please follow the instructions available with your kit carefully to, this will ensure the most accurate result. You can watch the video via the link below for demonstration of how to take the test – either scan this QR code to go straight to the video or enter this URL **gov.uk/government/publications/ covid-19-guidance-for-taking-swab-samples/how-to-use-the-self-swabbing-kit-for-a-combined-throat-and-nose-swab-video** into your browser.

QR code

Step by step guide to completing your tests:

1   **Complete your rapid test**

Please follow the instructions enclosed with your rapid test. There is no change to the current protocol you have been advised to follow when completing your rapid test. You can also watch the video above for high level guidance.

2   **Report your rapid test result**

You must report the result of your rapid test as you do currently. You will also need to record your rapid test barcode into the evaluation web page (link / QR code at the bottom of this page).

Reporting and registering your result helps the NHS monitor the spread of the virus,reduces transmission, supports communities and helps to save lives.

3   **Complete your lab-based test**

Please follow the instructions enclosed with your lab-based test. You can also watch the video above for guidance.

4   **Upload your rapid and lab-based tests into the web portal**

Unless you have been requested to take a confirmatory lab-based test, you do not need to register your lab-based test. Please see "Your rapid test result is your official result" section above for the implications of registering your lab-based test.

Once you have completed both tests, please scan this QR code with your phone or enter the URL belowinto your browser to be taken to the evaluation website:

bit.ly/LFTCollectResult

QR code

You will be asked to enter the barcode number of your rapid and lab-based tests, answer a few basic questions, enter the result that you have interpreted based on the instructions, and upload a picture of your completed test. This section should only take around 5 minutes to complete. Please check barcode locations above.

The web-form should allow you to upload an image of your completed test.

The picture allows us to do further analysis, however if you are struggling to submit this, attaching an image is optional and you should still upload your results.

To return your lab-based test, you should use a Royal Mail Priority Post Box.

- Each test kit contains a pre-paid return label and instructions for how to find and post the completed test kits to NHS Test and Trace.

- Each test kit also comes with an RF95 postal box to package the complete test kit, and instructions on how to package and post your test safely and correctly.

- You must only use a Royal Mail priority post box. It will be labelled with the below sign Priority Box sign and one of the regional NHS logos:

- You can find your nearest priority post box and its collection times at **www.royalmail.com/services-near-you** or via the Royal Mail app.

- You should not enter any Post Office with your test kit.

Guidance on leaving home following a positive rapid test

If your rapid test result is positive you are required to follow current guidelines on self-isolation. Under government guidelines you may leave your house to go directly to the nearest Royal Mail Priority Post Box. Please avoid crowded or busy areas while maintaining as much social distancing as possible.

If a confirmatory test is required / or you test positive for your rapid test result

If your rapid test is positive and you are requested to complete a confirmatory lab-based test, please register your lab-based test – to do this, either scan this QR code to go straight to the registration page or enter this URL https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/register-home-test

QR code

Please ensure you read the instructions on the webpage carefully.

4 Frequently asked questions

What are the advantages to taking part?

While youstill need to wait for your official lab-based test result, a rapid result positive allows you to self-isolate immediately to protect your family and friends.

You will also be helping NHS Test & Trace evaluate the best rapid tests and optimise how we use them, ensuring we continue to run a safe and effective response to COVID-19.

What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?

Taking part in the evaluation will require some of your time to complete and register multiple tests. Throat and nose swabs can be uncomfortable, but they only last a few seconds. There may also be an increased risk of nosebleeds. However, they are safe to use, and to complete, even if you have not done one before.

What will happen to the results of this evaluation?

While primarily used to direct testing policy within the NHS Test & Trace, we may publish the evaluation findings through journal articles, press reports, presentations and conference papers. You will not be identified as a participant in any published materials or in any evaluation records.

Will anyone know I have taken part in the evaluation?

No, your data is anonymised, and will not be personally identifiable to you. In addition, results will be aggregated for analysis and not identifiable to any one individual.

What will you do with my information?

This is a summary of the NHS Testing for Coronavirus Privacy Notice, which you can view in full on the gov.uk site titled "Guidance Testing for coronavirus: privacy information", or by scanning the QR code.

We will collect personal information, including your age, the date, time and location of your first test and the results of your COVID-19 tests. This information, together with your test results will be provided to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) so they can assess how effective the evaluation is. DHSC are the 'controller' for this use of personal data – they decide how it will be used and are responsible for it. Other organisations who use your data and information as part of the service evaluation are acting on behalf of DHSC, can only do so with clear instructions from DHSC and cannot use your data and information for any other purpose.

The use of personal data by DHSC and its data processors is made lawful as it is being used for the protection of public health. We will keep all the information securely in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UKGDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018.

QR Code

Thank you for agreeing to take part in our Quality Assurance