22 April 2020

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ**

Dear Colleague

**Ref: Covid 19 Testing for primary care key worker staff and household members.**

I am writing to advise you of the availability of Covid-19 testing for primary care workers and/or members of their household that are displaying symptoms of Covid 19 infection.

**Who is eligible?:**

* key workers who is self-isolating because they are showing corona virus symptoms.
* Household members of key workers who are showing symptoms, resulting in a key worker self-isolating.

Testing facilities are currently available at Regional Testing Centres (RTCs) in Haydock Park, Manchester Airport and Preston College and Satellite Testing Centres (STCs) in Liverpool, Chester, Crewe and Kendal. Additional sites are planned, and we will update you as they come on line.

Sites are drive-thru and the ability to attend the test centre in a car, driven by the key worker or a member of the household is essential. Access to a mobile phone is required.

**Please note testing for anyone under between 5 and 18 years old is available at the satellite test centres only.**

Tests can be arranged by submitting the required information detailed in the Staff Testing Protocol (STCs) or the Key Employers User Guide (RTCs)

* Tests at the STCs england.covidtestingnw@nhs.net
* Tests at the RTC <https://coronavirus-invite-testing.service.gov.uk/DaraTestDemand/Login> -over 18s only by 3pm

Employers are free to determine which testing site key workers or members of their household attend but the RTCs can offer same day testing (subject to availability) and the STCs can test those from the age of 5 years. The cut off time for submissions to the RTCs is 3pm. Submissions to the STCs must be made by 11am for next day appointments.

Once details have been submitted, the employee/member of household will be contacted directly with details of the appointment and operational instructions.

Full details for each type of testing centre are enclosed.

If you have any queries in relation to this email or the protocol for testing, please email england.covidtestingnw@nhs.net

We trust that this clarifies arrangements in place within Lancashire, South Cumbria and Cheshire and Merseyside for the provision of wider staff testing.

NHS England and NHS Improvement