## COVID-19 testing for care homes Updated February 2022

	Residents	Staff /Care Partners	Visitors
Without symptoms (asymptomatic)	Regular monthly PCR test - Pillar 2 LFD tests on return to the home in line with COVID-19 isolation guidance for care home residents www.pha.site/CareHomeGuidance	Regular weekly PCR test for staff and care partners (CP) – Pillar 2 AND an LFD test (done at the individual's home before shift/visit starts)	LFD test minimum twice weekly and before each visit (done in visitors' own home).
With symptoms (symptomatic)	Immediate PCR test Pillar 1 (do not use an LFD test)	Immediate PCR test Trust / local testing facility	Immediate PCR test local testing facility

\*all LFD tests results (negative and positive) must be registered via https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Scenario	COVID-19 Testing
Single COVID-19 positive case <b>staff or care</b> <b>partner</b> regardless of symptoms AND no positive cases in the 14 days before test date	<ul> <li>Risk assessment by Health Protection Duty Room (HPDR)</li> <li>Unless advised by HPDR, whole home testing (WHT) is NOT required – monitor closely</li> <li>Continue with regular asymptomatic testing as above</li> </ul>
One or more positive COVID-19 <b>resident</b> regardless of symptoms, without evidence of transmission in care home AND no positive cases in the last 14 days before test date <b>Situation of interest</b>	<ul> <li>Whole home testing (WHT) required immediately on day 0 and again between days 4-7 in Pillar 1</li> <li>Recommence regular testing for residents in Pillar 2 after day 4-7 tests</li> </ul>
Two or more positive cases in <b>staff or CPs</b> without obvious transmission links to the care home <b>Situation of interest</b>	<ul> <li>Whole home testing (WHT) required immediately on day 0 and again between days 4-7 in Pillar 1</li> <li>Recommence regular testing for residents in Pillar 2 after day 4-7 tests</li> </ul>

## Testing guidance for an outbreak

Scenario	COVID-19 Testing
Two or more probable or confirmed COVID-19 cases in residents, staff or CPs (regardless of symptoms) with onset within 14 day period, where transmission within care home is considered likely	<ul> <li>Whole home testing (WHT) required immediately on day 0 and again between days 4-7 in Pillar 1</li> <li>Recommence regular asymptomatic testing for residents, staff and CPs in Pillar 2 after day 4-7 tests. Staff should also continue with LFD testing before each shift.</li> </ul>

 Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 and remains asymptomatic, Contact the Health should not be tested for 90 days with a PCR test. Testing using LFDs can **Protection Duty Room on** commence after 3 weeks. Contact HPDR if advice is required. Tel: 0300 555 0119 (Mon-Fri If a test is void/unclear or missing results within regular testing programme 9am-5pm). (Pillar 2) – unless the individual is symptomatic, retest on next care home regular For non-urgent testing day. In the interim, staff should continue with LFD tests before each shift. communication only, email: Staff may continue to test during periods of leave but it is not required. A LFD PHA.DutyRoom@hscni.net test should be taken at home before first shift on return to work. During evenings, weekends and bank/public holidays, • Please keep using the 119 service for help with regular testing: ordering, couriers, you should contact the first registration and test results. on call Public Health Doctor

- · Please keep sharing your comments and queries email carehometesting@hscni.net
- For more information go to: www.pha.site/CareHomeTesting



via ambulance control.

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