

COVID-19 SWAB TESTING PROTOCOL FOR CARE SETTINGS IN NEWHAM

TESTING SCHEDULE – RESIDENTS

- First test: Day 0
- Follow up tests: Every 28 days

Note: Testing is subject to resident giving consent

New admissions:

Test before / on admission if not already tested or is symptomatic. Treat as if positive for 14 days.

EXCEPTION:

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 **should not** be tested again for 90 days unless they develop symptoms

ORDERING SCHEDULED TESTING

Via [.gov.uk Care Home Testing Portal](https://www.gov.uk/care-home-testing-portal)

Only for CQC registered settings

- The care home manager needs to register to receive regular testing for **all residents and staff**.
- Priority will be approved by the Director of Public Health.

NOTE:

Testing capacity is expanding to accommodate the above testing schedule.

Therefore, implementation may start more slowly than planned i.e. testing staff every 10-14 days at first.

TESTING SCHEDULE – STAFF

- Every 7 days*
- Agency staff: At the start of first shift **AND** then every 7 days

*** Ask all staff if they are working elsewhere **and** if those locations have any confirmed cases ***

REGISTERING FOR THE PORTAL

- The portal enables employers to securely upload a full list of names and contact details.
- For access management need to send the following to portalservicedesk@dhsc.gov.uk
 - Organisation name
 - Location (region)
 - Nature of organisation's business
 - Names (where possible) and email address of 2 users
- Once employers have been verified, 2 login credentials will be issued.

ADMINISTERING THE TEST TO OTHERS

- Instruction video: <https://youtu.be/1l0jcv37WzI>
- Before administering tests staff must complete the [online care home swabbing competency assessment](#).
- An apron, mask, visor and gloves must be worn when administering the test to others.
- Consent must be obtained before administering the test to others.
 - Residents are able to refuse testing.

TEST PROCESS

1. Put on PPE
2. Prepare space
3. Explain process
4. Obtain consent
5. Follow swabbing instructions
6. Swab back of throat and both nostrils

Testing should not hurt but it may trigger the gag reflex or feel uncomfortable

OUTBREAK TESTING

Testing can be requested via the LCRC **OR** the Director of Public Health.

Tests will be delivered and collected by courier.

OUTBREAK DEFINITION:

2+ residents or staff members test positive within 14 days

If this occurs contact the LCRC (London Coronavirus Response Centre) **AND** Newham Public Health Team.

Contact Details:

lcrc@phe.gov.uk 020 3837 7084
PublicHealthEnquiries@Newham.gov.uk

LINKS & CONTACTS

.gov.uk Care Home Testing Portal: www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-care-home

.gov.uk Employer Testing Portal Registration: portalservicedesk@dhsc.gov.uk

Helpline for .gov.uk Portals: 0300 303 2713 (7am-11pm)

Video instructions for administering test to others: <https://youtu.be/1l0jcv37WzI>

Public Health England Outbreak Follow Up / Queries: lcrc@phe.gov.uk or 020 3837 7084 (opt. 1)

LBN Public Health Team (Notification or Advice): PublicHealthEnquiries@Newham.gov.uk

Online Care Home Swabbing Competency Assessment: <http://www.genqa.org/carehomes>

COVID-19 SWAB TESTING OPTIONS FOR CARE SETTINGS IN NEWHAM

TESTING SYMPTOMATIC RESIDENTS

Individuals can be tested via the Newham Home Monitoring Service if you're unable to access a home kit through the national portals.

Tests are delivered and collected by courier. Results are provided to the Home Monitoring Service who will inform the care setting, and possibly the Director of Public Health.

Book via **07845 013 893** (8am-8pm, 7 days a week)
Call before 5pm to request same day testing

NEW ADMISSION TOOLKIT FOR GPs

- Coordinate My Care (CMC) Plan
- Next of Kin Details
- Additional Care Needs
- Medications
- Allergies
- COVID-19 Swab Test

GPs can request COVID test via the Home Monitoring Service if unable to request via T Qwest themselves

TEST RESULTS

- Management will receive results for tests booked via the .gov.uk Care Home or NEL testing portals.
- Management will not be sent the results of staff tested through the .gov.uk testing portal.
- If you receive/are informed of a positive test for staff or residents please inform the Public Health team via PublicHealthEnquiries@newham.gov.uk

TESTING FOR SYMPTOMATIC STAFF

Note: NHS staff be tested by the NHS trust

Arranged by Management: .gov.uk Care Home Testing Portal (CQC registered settings only)

The .gov.uk care home testing portal allows employers to refer essential workers for testing if they are self-isolating because either they or member(s) of their household have symptoms.

Arranged by Management: NEL Regional Testing Portal

The NEL Regional Testing Portal enables staff in care settings to receive priority access to national drive-through testing sites or request a NEL home self-swabbing test kit via courier.

Arranged Themselves: .gov.uk Testing Portal

The .gov.uk testing portal includes an option for symptomatic essential workers, or symptomatic household members of essential workers.

There are four testing options available in Newham:

- Regional drive-through test site (Nearest: Lea Valley Athletics Track / O2 Arena)
- "Pop-Up" drive-through test site (Locations listed on national website)
- Home self-swabbing test kit
- Walk through test sites (Locations in East Ham & Beckton)

Note:
All testing options have limited daily availability

See link below for list of "Essential Workers"

**** Swab tests ONLY tell you if someone has COVID-19 WHEN THEY WERE TESTED.**

*They DO NOT tell you if the person tested previously had COVID-19. ***

The NEL Local Testing Portal & Newham Home Monitoring Service use Barts NHS laboratory capacity to provide testing for care residents and staff in Newham

PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Director of Public Health will review Situation Reports weekly to assess resilience and capacity for managing cases.
- Local Authority will assist with contact tracing to enable management and identify probable cases.

OTHER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Checklist to determine capacity for managing cases.
- Infection prevention and control guidance and training.
- CQC & NHS support.
- Deep cleaning and PPE acquisition.

LINKS & CONTACTS

.gov.uk Care Home Testing Portal: www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-care-home

.gov.uk Testing Portal: www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

NEL Regional Testing Portal: <https://nhscovidtestlondon.onk2.com> or 0191 691 3656

List of Essential Workers: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested

Newham Home Monitoring Service: 07845 013 893

LBN Residential Care Setting Support: adultsproviderqueries@newham.gov.uk