



Adult Social Care provider webinar - Q&A

Q.1 What testing is now recommended for staff providing home care services?

Only staff who are **eligible for COVID-19 treatments** and who have [symptoms of a respiratory infection](#) should take an LFD test immediately and follow the [guidance for people who are eligible for COVID-19 treatments](#).

Individuals who are not eligible for COVID-19 treatments no longer need to test if they develop symptoms of a respiratory infection.

Q.2 Do people receiving care outside of care homes for example those receiving home care need to test?

From 1 April 23 Individuals who are **eligible for COVID-19 treatments** and who have [symptoms of a respiratory infection](#) should take an LFD test immediately and follow the [guidance for people who are eligible for COVID-19 treatments](#). Most eligible individuals should have received a pre notification letter or email to alert them they have a condition or are on specific treatment that make them eligible. LFD tests should have been sent directly to individuals if they are identified as being eligible to enable faster access to treatment if they develop symptoms and test positive for COVID-19. More tests can be ordered via GOV.UK [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Q.2 Who is eligible for COVID-19 treatments?

You are eligible for COVID-19 treatment if all the following apply:

- you're aged 12 or over
- you're at highest risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19
- you have symptoms of COVID-19
- you have tested positive for COVID-19

Those at highest risk of getting seriously ill with COVID-19:

- Down's syndrome, or another chromosomal condition that affects your immune system
- certain types of cancer, or had treatment for certain types of cancer
- sickle cell disease



- certain conditions affecting your blood
- chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 4 or 5
- severe liver disease
- had an organ transplant
- certain autoimmune or inflammatory conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease
- HIV or AIDS and have a weakened immune system
- a condition affecting your immune system
- a condition affecting the brain or nerves, such as multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, motor neurone disease, myasthenia gravis, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease or certain types of dementia
- certain lung conditions or treatments for lung conditions

Refer to [Treatments for COVID-19 - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Most eligible individuals should have received a 'pre-notification' letter or email to alert them that they have a condition, or are on a specific treatment, that may make them eligible should they have symptoms of and test positive for COVID-19.

Q.3 Can domiciliary care request test kits for staff for twice weekly testing?

Asymptomatic staff testing was paused in August 2022. As per updated testing guidance [COVID-19: testing from 1 April 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) asymptomatic testing of staff is no longer recommended

Only staff with symptoms of a respiratory infection who are eligible for COVID-19 treatments will be required to take a LFD test in order to access COVID-19 treatments if they receive a positive COVID-19 test result.

LFD tests can be accessed for individuals eligible for COVID-19 treatments via GOV.UK

[Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Q.4 Some organisations are still requiring residents to take daily temperature checks - is this now irrelevant, unless showing symptoms?

Daily resident temperature checks are no longer necessary. If you have a resident who becomes unwell, you take a temperature check as advised by GP.



Q.5 We are a domiciliary agency how do we order LFD tests for staff and our clients?

From 1 April 23 , only staff who are eligible for COVID-19 treatments and who have symptoms of a respiratory infection should take an LFD test and follow the guidance [Treatments for COVID-19 - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk). Eligible individuals can be supported to access LFD tests via [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk).

Q.6 What is the recommended COVID-19 testing for staff and service users in supported living settings?

From 1 April 23, only staff and service users who are **eligible for COVID-19 treatments and who have symptoms** of a respiratory infection should take an LFD test immediately and follow the guidance [Treatments for COVID-19 - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk).

Individuals who are not eligible for COVID-19 treatments no longer need to test if they develop symptoms of a respiratory infection.

Q.7 What testing is required for admission into a care home from a hospital?

Individuals being discharged from hospital into a care home should be tested with a LFD test within 48 hours before planned discharge. This test should be provided and done by the hospital.

Q.8 What testing is required for admission into a care home from the community?

Individuals admitted from the community or other care settings do not need to be tested before they are admitted into the care home as there is a lower risk of exposure compared to a hospital setting.