

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE TEST TO SEE IF YOU CURRENTLY HAVE THE COVID 19 INFECTION
– IT IS NOT THE TEST FOR IMMUNITY WHICH TELLS US WHETHER YOU HAVE HAD THE
INFECTION.



COVID-19 testing to manage spread

I am now able to offer a

- pre-test consultation to discuss your situation
- swab test kit
- post-test phone call

for the price of £300.

With 99.9% accuracy, this test can be requested by:

- People without symptoms who are or have been in contact with infected individuals
- People who are at high risk of contracting the disease (key workers)
- People who are currently experiencing current COVID-19 symptoms
- People who have experienced symptoms up to, but not later than, 14 days after the potential exposure.

To remind you the following symptoms include and may appear 2-14 days after exposure (based on the incubation period of MERS-CoV viruses):

1. Fever
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath
4. Fatigue
5. Loss of appetite
6. Loss of smell and/or taste, and
7. Body aches

About the kit

This contains a sterile PCR swab which will be sent to you by next day delivery in order for you to collect a throat and nasal swab sample. Full details of how to do this will be enclosed. You will find it very straightforward.

Using the 24 hour tracked reply paid envelope, your swab test should then be posted to our WC1 laboratories which offer a turnaround of 5-10 working days from receipt. Alternatively you can ask someone to drop it into the lab or use a courier.

If you supply your mobile number your results will be text to you

How the test works

A PCR test looks for the presence of the genetic material making up the virus (known as RNA. This means that it will pick up the presence of the actual virus in the nose and throat.

It is very accurate and will be able to confirm whether anyone with symptoms is actively infected with the virus. It will also pick up whether the virus is present for people who have been exposed but are not showing any symptoms as yet.

The test will also be able to confirm whether someone has the virus in their nose and throat for up to 14 days or so before they show any symptoms.

If your test is positive we will support you with advice about what steps to take. Obviously you should self-isolate to avoid infecting others.

Do you know anyone else who needs a test at this time?

I am happy to talk to your relatives, contacts and colleagues and am offering a discount to NHS and healthcare workers.

The current situation about immunity tests

I am in regular contact with the experts at the laboratory that I have used for over 20 years. They do not feel that the immunity tests currently on offer are sufficiently accurate and as soon as they have the right test I will be offering it.

April 20th 2020