

How to use the test - Checklist

It is **really important** that you follow these steps in the correct order.

- ✔ Prepare test area and unpack equipment onto a clean and dry surface
- ✔ Visitor takes the swab sample - throat then nasal swab
- ✔ Process your sample and wait 30 minutes
- ✔ Read and report result before disposing of equipment

Before performing the tests

- 1 Read the instructions carefully.**
- 2 Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds, using liquid soap and warm water, and dry thoroughly.**
- 3 Clean and dry a flat surface for the test.**

Check the test kit contents

Remember, store the test kit at room temperature – not in direct sunlight and not in a fridge or freezer. Keep the test kit away from children and animals.

- ✔ **Nozzle cap**
- ✔ **Extraction buffer bottle**
- ✔ **Swab, inside sealed wrapper**
- ✔ **Extraction tube**
- ✔ **Rapid test strip**

Lot number is on outer foil package and serial number is below the QR on device. Please record both.

Ensure that the test device (called 'antigen test cartridge'), swab and extraction solution are not damaged, broken or out of date.

Use a clean extraction tube rack or clean small container e.g. an egg cup to keep the extraction tube upright and prevent spillage.

Prepare the test and the visitor

It is important that you only deal with one test sample at a time.

Ask the visitor if they consent to having the test done and can perform the swab test themselves.

If the visitor is unable or unwilling to perform self-swab, carry out the throat and nasal swab as per Health Protection Scotland guidance (see HPS Website - Workforce educational resources).

1	2	3	4	5
<p>Wash and dry your hands (use ABHR, if available).</p> <p>Put on appropriate PPE (single use gloves, single use apron, sessional type IIR facemask).</p>	Check the swab in the sealed wrapper is intact.	<p>Place the extraction tube in the extraction tube rack or clean small container e.g. an egg cup to keep it upright.</p>	Unscrew the extraction buffer bottle and place 6 drops only of the extraction buffer into the extraction tube. Try to avoid touching the tube with the bottle. Reseal the extraction buffer for future use.	<p>Ask visitor to remove their face mask, place in bin and gently blow their nose – ask them to sit and have a sick bowl at hand</p>

Taking the swab sample - visitor self-swabbing

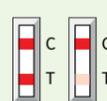
6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>Explain to the visitor that they will have to swab their throat and then the back of their nose and this may make them gag.</p>	<p>If there is a mirror available ask the visitor to look in the mirror and open their mouth widely to expose and view the tonsils and back of the throat.</p>	Ask the visitor to remove the swab from the sterile packaging without touching the fabric tip to avoid contamination.	Holding the swab in their hand the visitor should open their mouth wide and rub the fabric tip of the swab against both tonsils (or where they would have been) for at least 10 seconds.	Ask the visitor to tilt their head back slightly and gently insert the tip of the swab into one nostril about 2.5cm or one inch until gentle resistance is felt and rotate the swab 5 times, then remove the swab from the nose carefully without touching the external nasal skin or face.	Ask visitor to place fabric tip of swab into extraction tube containing the buffer solution.
12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>Ask the visitor to clean their hands with ABHR and replace their face mask, they can now leave the testing area.</p>	Press the swab head against the edge of the tube with some force while rotating the swab for 10 seconds to squeeze as much fluid out as possible.	Take out the swab while squeezing the tube and fabric end of the swab . Place the swab back into its wrapper and dispose of it appropriately.	Press the nozzle cap tightly on the tube to avoid any leaks.	Turn the tube upside down and squeeze two drops onto the specimen well . Place the rapid test strip on a flat surface for 30 minutes.	<p>Remove PPE, dispose appropriately and perform hand hygiene. The results can be read in 30 minutes</p>

Note: It is important not to touch tongue, teeth, or gums with swab as this may contaminate the swab.

Report the results

The results will be available in 20-30 minutes for a positive test, but you must wait the full 30 minutes to confirm a negative result. If the test device is left to develop longer than 30 minutes you may receive a false positive result and you will need to repeat the test.

You need to record all results.



Positive result
Two lines – even faint lines – indicate the test is positive

You must immediately ask the visitor to leave the care home, and no visit can take place. Advise visitor to go straight home and self-isolate and arrange to take a confirmatory PCR test following Scottish Government guidelines.

Negative result



A single line at the C position indicates the test is negative

Visitor can proceed with their visit if other IPC measures are adhered to. The visitor should only enter designated parts of the care home and must wear appropriate PPE and follow IPC measures in line with the care home and Scottish Visiting.

Invalid result



A single line at the T position. Record the information and repeat the test with a new test kit.

Disposing of the test

Carefully dispose of the test device and equipment and then wash your hands using warm water and soap.

Please refer to detailed waste disposal guidance and local waste operator requirements.

Do not dispose of in clinical waste (yellow or orange bags).

If you can't perform the test you should contact your local Care Home oversight board.

