

Q&A - Asymptomatic Test Sites (ATS) 2/5

Question	Answer
Who should go to an asymptomatic testing site (ATS)?	<p>Everyone, apart from those with the common COVID-19 symptoms. We are inviting people to get tested within their community, even if they have no symptoms or are not sure if they have any symptoms. Sites testing for asymptomatic coronavirus are walk-in with no booking required. (Local authorities may create their own booking system for site attendance - sign post people to check locally and local information).</p> <p>If community testing is in your area you should get tested. Local areas may also specifically target groups in the community (for example, disproportionately impacted groups, seldom heard groups and those deemed least likely to come for testing- who have no COVID-19 symptoms).</p> <p>People with symptoms of coronavirus should not attend these sites. Any person who has the symptoms of COVID-19 – (a cough, a temperature or loss of taste or smell) - should take immediate steps to book a test.</p> <p>If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, you can book a test at nhsinform.scot or by calling 0800 028 2816. If you need support with the booking process, call 119.</p> <p>The testing programme provides additional protection for our communities. Coronavirus (COVID-19): Testing in Scotland NHS inform</p>
Should people who have been vaccinated take part in asymptomatic testing?	<p>Yes, people should still get tested after getting the vaccine. 1 in 3 people with Covid -19 do not have symptoms. While vaccines reduce the risk the risk of infection after 14-21 days, people who have been vaccinated could still become infected and spread the virus. No vaccine provides 100% protection against a virus. Testing should continue and all government guidelines should continue to be followed despite vaccination. The clinical trial evidence demonstrates that vaccine reduces clinically severe infection and severe disease. However, the impact on minor infection, asymptomatic carriage and transmission remains unknown. Therefore, the use of LFDs and PCR for asymptomatic testing should continue and will continue to be reviewed. The Scottish Government is keeping the evidence about the impact of vaccination on transmission under review.</p>

Q&A - Asymptomatic Test Sites (ATS) 3/5

Question	Answer
What type of tests will be used for asymptomatic Community Testing and how do they work?	<p>Lateral flow antigen tests (LFT) are a new kind of technology that can be used to test a higher proportion of asymptomatic people, better enabling us to identify and isolate more people who are at high likelihood of spreading virus, and break the chains of transmission.</p> <p>A Lateral Flow Device (LFD) detects the presence or absence of coronavirus from a swab or saliva sample. The sample is mixed with a buffer solution, which releases and breaks up virus fragments. Some of the solution is then dropped on to the lateral flow device. The sample runs along the surface of the devices' absorbent strip, showing at the end a visual positive or negative result dependent on the presence of the virus.</p> <p>The rapid lateral flow test involves taking a swab from your nose and throat (self-administered). Tests should take less than 15 minutes with results being received within an hour.</p>
Why should people participate in Community Testing?	<p>Greater testing can reduce the prevalence of the disease. Targeting testing and other resources at communities to identify high transmission rates will identify positive cases and break chains of COVID-19 transmission. By getting tested, this will help the population stay safe and help protect families and friends, your local community, help prevent further lockdowns and help to protect the NHS.</p> <p>Local authorities should provide significant details on isolation and wraparound support if people do test positive for coronavirus. This may include information such as:</p> <p>If you are asked to self-isolate and you are concerned about the financial impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your employer should be able to assist you• You may be eligible/entitled to statutory sick pay.• You may be eligible for the Self-Isolation Support Grant. <p>More information on these and other types of available support, please contact the National Assistance Helpline on 0800 111 4000 or Textphone on 0800 111 4114. See also COVID-19: Self-Isolation Factsheet</p>
How often should people get tested?	<p>This is locally determined. However, we suggest encouraging regular testing and encourage the public to get into the routine of regular testing and not a 'one off'.</p>

Q&A - Asymptomatic Testing 4/5

Question	Answer
Will people be required to take a test?	No. Tests are voluntary. If you are asked to take a test, it is important that you take it to help stop the spread of COVID-19. We are hoping that many people will recognise the benefits of getting involved in local testing efforts to reduce the spread of the virus in their communities.
What about people who cannot get to a test site?	From 26 th April, we enabled people in Scotland who do not have symptoms but want to test regularly to access up to 2 lateral Flow tests per week to test themselves at home (you can collect kits or call 119 or order online). See Universally Accessible Testing offer section. Tests can be ordered online here NHS Inform: Testing in Scotland . Please note this is for those 18 years old and above.
Will you be able to upload your results to the Protect Scotland app if you are tested at a test site for asymptomatic cases?	Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by the local contact tracing team so their close contacts can be identified. These close contacts will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they will be sent a unique code to their mobile to enter into the app. The data held in the app will then be sent to a server so close contacts also using the app can be notified and advised to self-isolate.
Are lateral flow tests less accurate than PCR tests?	Lateral flow is an established technology, adapted to detect proteins (antigens) that are present when a person has COVID-19. The best-known example of a lateral flow test is the home pregnancy test kit. While lateral flow tests have lower sensitivity than PCR, they deliver results far faster and do not require a lab. This means we can do more tests quickly and enable people to isolate quicker to help break the virus transmission.

Q&A - Asymptomatic Testing 5/5

Question	Answer
What should I do if I test positive?	If you test positive with a Lateral Flow Test, you will be asked to take a confirmatory PCR test. You will need to self-isolate for 10 days. Information on the wraparound support available can be found at: www.nhsinform.scot . For more information on these and other types of available support, please contact the National Assistance Helpline on 0800 111 4000 or Textphone on 0800 111 4114. See also COVID-19: Self-Isolation Factsheet
Why should people take part?	We aim to identify people who are infectious and could spread the infection to others unknowingly. Identifying and supporting infectious people to isolate before they develop symptoms will help reduce the spread of coronavirus and help protect our communities. People who test positive will be offered support to self-isolate.
What happens if I test negative?	You should continue to test regularly, follow the preventative measures currently recommended for stopping the spread of the virus and download the Protect Scotland app .
What should someone do if they have coronavirus symptoms?	<p>Free testing continues to be available to everyone in Scotland.</p> <p>If you have/are showing symptoms (high temperature, continuous cough or loss of / change in taste or smell), please book a test. If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, you can book a test at nhsinform.scot or by calling 0800 028 2816. If you need support with the booking process, call 119.</p> <p>More information on Testing can be found at NHS Inform - Coronavirus (COVID-19): Testing in Scotland</p>