

Testing for coronavirus

For people leaving hospital and going into a care home or supported living.



This easy read information is for people who are:

- going back to a care home or supported living
- or going to a care home or supported living for the first time.

Introduction



If you have been in hospital and you are:

- going back to a care home or supported living
- or going to a care home or supported living for the first time



you will need to be tested for coronavirus first.



Everyone must be tested for coronavirus before leaving hospital when they are going into a care home or supported living.



You will not be able to go to your care home or supported living if the test shows you have coronavirus.



This is to help us stop coronavirus getting into care homes and supported living. And to keep people safe and support you in the best way.

If you do not have coronavirus



If your test shows that you **do not** have coronavirus, there are still some rules we need to follow.

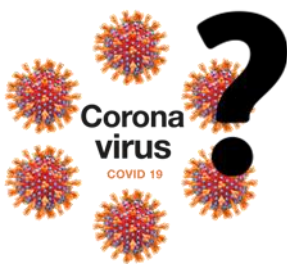


You can go to your care home or supported living. But you must **isolate** for **14 days**.



Isolate means:

- you will need to stay in your room
- you cannot go near other people
- you cannot go out.



This is because you might still have coronavirus. Even if the test says you do not. Or you might catch coronavirus **after** you have your test.



Even if you feel well or have no symptoms you may have coronavirus. So you must still **isolate** for 14 days.



If you do get symptoms you must stay in **isolation** for **14 days** or until the symptoms have gone. Whichever is **longer**.

The **symptoms** are:



- high temperature
- a cough
- a change to or loss of taste and smell
- feeling tired
- headache
- muscle ache
- not wanting to eat.

If you have coronavirus



If your test shows that you **do** have coronavirus you will not be able to go back to your care home.



You will not be able to go to your care home until you have a negative test. A negative test means you do not have coronavirus.

If you have coronavirus you will:



- need to stay in hospital until a test shows you do not have coronavirus anymore.



- Or move to another place called a **step-down facility**.



Step-down facilities are places like hospital, where you can get care and support until you can go home.

A **step-down facility** could be some separate rooms in a specialist care home. Or smaller community treatment centres.

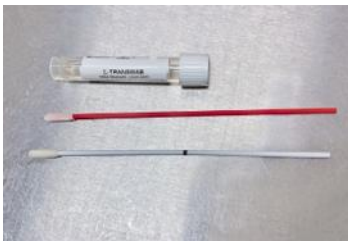


You must **isolate** for 14 days or until your symptoms are gone. Whichever is longer.

Testing for coronavirus



The test will be to take a sample of your saliva at the back of your throat.



The nurse or doctor will use a large cotton bud or swab to wipe the back of your throat.



The test will not hurt and will be quick.



The sample will be taken away and tested to see if you have coronavirus.