

COVID-19 testing for care homes

	Residents	Staff	Visitors
Without symptoms (asymptomatic)	Regular monthly PCR test Pillar 2	Regular weekly PCR test for staff and care partners (CP) – Pillar 2	LFT test – twice weekly (LFTs ONLY for visitors) Visitors' own home
With symptoms (symptomatic)	Immediate PCR test Pillar 1	Immediate PCR test Trust / local testing facility	Immediate PCR test local testing facility

Testing guidance for a single positive case

Scenario	COVID-19 Testing
Single asymptomatic C-19 positive case (staff, resident or CP) AND no positive cases in the 14 days before test date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole home testing (WHT) is NOT required – monitor closely Continue with regular monthly testing of residents and weekly testing for staff/CPs in Pillar 2
Single symptomatic C-19 positive resident AND no positive cases in the 14 days before test date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole home testing (WHT) required immediately on day 0 and again between days 4-7 in Pillar 1 Recommence regular testing for residents in Pillar 2 after day 4-7 tests
Single symptomatic C-19 positive staff member OR CP AND no positive cases in the 14 days before test date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment on likelihood of acquisition and/or transmission in care home. PHA will advise if WHT required. Continue with regular testing staff/CPs in Pillar 2

Testing guidance for an outbreak

Scenario	COVID-19 Testing
2 or more cases symptomatic OR asymptomatic (staff, residents or CPs) within 14 day period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole home testing (WHT) required immediately on day 0 and again between days 4-7 in Pillar 1 Recommence regular testing for residents and staff in Pillar 2 after day 4-7 tests

Contact the PHA Duty Room on Tel: 0300 555 0119 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).
For non-urgent communication only, email: PHA.DutyRoom@hscni.net

During evenings, weekends and bank/public holidays, you should contact the first on call Public Health Doctor via ambulance control on 028 9040 4045.

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 and remains asymptomatic, should not be tested for 90 days. Contact PHA Duty Room if advice is required.
 - If a test is void/unclear or missing results within regular testing programme (Pillar 2) – unless the individual is symptomatic, retest on next care home regular testing day.
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- Please keep using the 119 service for help with regular testing: ordering, couriers, registration and test results.
 - Please keep sharing your comments and queries – email carehometesting@hscni.net
 - For more information go to: www.pha.site/CareHomeTesting