



You are receiving this email as either a Personal Assistant or an employer of a Personal Assistant in England.

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## **We are pleased to announce an update to the testing policy for eligible personal assistants in England**

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Following our review of testing for personal assistants and consultation with the sector, we are pleased to announce that testing for personal assistants has moved to:

- twice weekly rapid Lateral Flow Testing (LFT), with confirmatory PCR tests for a positive test

If a personal assistant tests positive with an LFT they must:

- immediately isolate
- order a confirmatory PCR test
- inform their employer

Personal assistants can order rapid Lateral Flow Test kits at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Please ensure that before using rapid lateral flow tests, all personal assistants watch the instructional video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=S9XR8RZxKNo&list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

**All lateral flow test results (including positives, negatives and voids) must be registered at:**

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

**Personal assistants should stop ordering PCR tests unless they require a PCR for a confirmatory test. If they have PCR tests left over from previous orders, they can be stored until their expiry date and used if a confirmatory test is required following a positive LFT.**

## **Additional support and information**

Please attend one of our personal assistants testing webinars. We strongly encourage you, and those involved in the testing process, to join the webinar. We also welcome Local Authorities to this webinar series.

The webinars will last 1 hour and give detailed information about all aspects of testing, including:

- The ordering, conducting and registering of rapid lateral flow tests
- Results and next steps
- General updates and information
- Support and Resources
- Q&A

The session will also include a Q&A with representatives from the personal assistant testing team, who will be able to answer your questions and address any concerns in the session.

You can sign up to attend any of our personal assistant webinars at:

[https://event.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1433378&tp\\_key=cc65e8ae2d](https://event.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1433378&tp_key=cc65e8ae2d)

Upcoming dates are:

- 10am on Wednesday 14 April 2021
- 10am on Thursday 22 April 2021

## **Personal assistant guidance**

All guidance for personal assistant testing can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-personal-assistants>

If you have any concerns about testing, or about registration of completed tests, please call 119 for help and support.

## **Who should you contact in an emergency?**

Please remember that if, at any stage, you or someone you know cannot cope with their symptoms, or their condition gets worse, or their symptoms do not get better after seven days, use the <https://111.nhs.uk/COVID-19> service or call NHS 111.

In a medical emergency, dial 999.

Thank you,

NHS Test and Trace