Important information about new coronavirus treatments





Department of Health & Social Care







Important information about coronavirus treatments



This is an **Easy Read** document which explains a **letter** sent out in **December 2021**



This letter is from **Professor Stephen Powis** who is the **National Medical Director** of **NHS England and NHS Improvement.**



The **NHS** is going to **start** giving **new coronavirus treatments** to some people.



Health experts have found out that some health conditions can make people seriously unwell if they get coronavirus.



UK chief medical officers agree with the health experts.





 Your medical records show you might be more at risk of getting seriously unwell.



The **new treatments** can **stop** you from getting seriously unwell if you get **coronavirus**.



Vaccination is still the best way to protect

- You
- Your family
- Your friends.



For more **information** about **vaccines** go to:

www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination



There are **3 steps** to getting the new **coronavirus treatments**.



Step 1 Have a PCR test kit ready at home

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The **NHS** will send you a **PCR test kit** to **keep at home.**



The **PCR test** is a **swab** that you put into your **mouth** and **nose** and then **post** to get the result.

The test is explained on Page 9.



This means you will **always** have a **PCR test kit** at **home** so you can take a test **straight away** if you get **coronavirus symptoms**.



The **PCR test kit** will be sent to your **home**.

If **your address** has **changed** please **tell your GP** as soon as possible.



Call 119 for advice and select 1 to speak to NHS Test and Trace if any of these things happen:



• a PCR test has not been sent to your home by 10 January 2022



you lose or damage your PCR test kit



 you get coronavirus symptoms before your PCR test kit has arrived.



You could ask **someone you trust** to help you contact **NHS Test and Trace.**



After you use your PCR test NHS Test and Trace will send you a new test kit.



Step 2 Take a PCR test if you have coronavirus symptoms



Use your **PCR test kit** if you have **any coronavirus symptoms**.



The coronavirus symptoms are:

• a high temperature or fever



coughing a lot



 a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.





Taking a PCR test

- To take a **PCR test** you **need** to put the **swab**:
 - o inside your mouth
 - o then up your nose



• Put **the swab** into the **test tube** and **post it** to get the **results**.

You could **ask someone** to support you to do the **PCR test**.





Registering your PCR Test



click

When you **register** your **PCR test make sure** you **correctly** enter your:

1. NHS number

To find your NHS number go to:

www.nhs.uk/nhsservices/online-services/findnhs-number/



2. Postcode.



Step 3 If the PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus



The **NHS** will contact you **the next** day to talk to you about the **new coronavirus treatments** that you could have.



If the **NHS does not** contact you the next day:



 You must contact your GP surgery



 or call 111 if your GP surgery is closed



 Your GP or 111 can arrange someone to call you about the new treatments if you have not already been contacted by the NHS.



You could ask **someone you trust** to help you **call 111** or **your GP surgery**.



You can **only** get these **new coronavirus treatments** from the **NHS**.

The **new coronavirus treatments** are completely **free**.

- The NHS will never ask for:
 - your bank details

• any type of payment.

For more **information** about the **new treatments** go to:

www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments



Click

Find out how the **NHS** uses your information to contact you go to:

www.digital.nhs.uk



Would you like this **Easy Read letter** in:



• Braille?



• another language?



Please visit https://www.england.nhs.uk/ coronavirus/treatments

or



Please email england.contactus@nhs.net



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