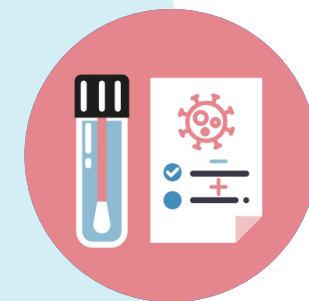


COVID Staff Testing Application



Background

Staff working in patient facing roles in NHS organisations and care homes are required to self-test for COVID-19 twice a week. The COVID Staff Testing Application gives staff the means to submit their results electronically. The results are captured and shared with Public Health England.

How it works

The lateral testing kit and app was designed to capture potential COVID infections in asymptomatic staff before they start their shifts in hospitals, care homes and other healthcare settings.

The rapid COVID staff testing app works alongside a self-testing kit to provide quick results and bespoke advice based on the outcome. The survey can be accessed using a mobile app or online portal. It asks for the test result and includes a confirmation step to satisfy clinical safety requirements. Advice is provided depending on the result.

Staff are required to record the test kit serial number and their contact details to satisfy national and local reporting requirements. Trusts have access to the data which can be viewed at department level and supplied to Public Health England and NHS Digital.

Product features

- Staff are provided with a supply of COVID lateral testing kits. They receive a welcome email where they can set up their account. They can choose to access the service through either an app or an online portal.
- Whenever they perform a home test, staff record their contact number, test kit serial number and whether the result is positive, negative, or unclear.
- Following confirmation of the result (if unclear after two consecutive test results, advice is then automatically provided), submitted data is collected by the Trust using an API. The data is then made available for reporting to NHS Digital and Public Health England.
- If staff test positive, they are required to request a standard PCR test.



COVID Staff Testing Application

Benefits

- The app captures data about possible COVID infections in asymptomatic individuals before they are due to go to work.
- It means that trusts are adhering to national and local reporting requirements
- Staff are given reassurance and clear guidance depending on their test outcome.
- It helps keep patients safe from staff unintentionally spreading the virus.

Deployed

Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust

Durham Dales Health Federation

North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust

Graham King, the Chief Information Officer for the Newcastle Hospitals Foundation Trust said: *"Throughout the pandemic we've had to work at speed to respond to the changing situation. This testing programme involves thousands of our frontline clinical staff, and finding an intelligent digital solution for recording and reporting results was essential. The home testing app gives us real time information and the ability to respond quickly to positive results and keep people safe from Covid-19."*

Maurya Cushlow, the Executive Chief Nurse for the Newcastle Hospitals Foundation Trust said: *"It's been a real pleasure to work with Health Call to develop this app. Their ability to understand the specific challenge and work with us to develop a rapid response was exactly what we needed and gave the team working on this project real confidence. We now have a solution which is clear, simple and easy to use and provides real time data for national reporting."*



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