

## **Expansion of Testing for Staff - Operational Definitions**

It is proposed that the below noted groups come within the scope of new testing operations.

### **Definition - Specialist Cancer Wards and Treatment Areas**

Oncology and haemato-oncology in and day patient areas including radiotherapy.

This will include the permanent staff who work in the area and any staff who require to be deployed to the area to ensure safe staffing requirements.

Staff means all NHSScotland employees and volunteers who are physically present in the ward as part of the routine provision of care, support, services and treatment. Where there are smaller cancer centres with patients as part of a bigger ward the staff in these areas should be included. This will include nurses, healthcare students, doctors, AHP's, volunteers housekeeping, cleaning and administration staff and staff or volunteers responsible for transport of cancer patients.

### **Exclusions**

- Staff in who visit the ward infrequently such as a visiting surgeon and are not part of the normal staff cohort.
- Staff from other wards or departments where Oncology/haemato-oncology patients may receive part of their care such as a surgical ward or Accident and Emergency CT scan or x-ray departments.

### **Definition Long stay care of the elderly**

Staff in wards caring for people over 65 years of age where the length of stay for the area is over 3 months.

“Staff” will include the permanent staff who work in the area and any staff who require to be deployed to the area to ensure safe staffing requirements. All NHSScotland employees and volunteers who are physically present in the ward as part of the routine provision of care, support, services and treatment. This will include nurses, healthcare students, doctors, AHP's, activity co-ordinators, volunteers housekeeping, cleaning and administration staff.

### **Exclusions**

Staff in who visit the ward infrequently such as a visiting surgeon and are not part of the normal staff cohort. Staff from other wards or departments where care of the elderly patients may receive part of their care such as a surgical ward or Accident and Emergency CT scan or x-ray departments.

## **Long stay old age psychiatry and learning disability wards**

Wards within mental health services where the anticipated length of stay is over 3 months

This will include the permanent staff who work in the area and any staff who require to be deployed to the area to ensure safe staffing requirements. This means all NHSScotland employees and volunteers who are physically present in the ward as part of the routine provision of care, support, services and treatment. This will include nurses, healthcare students, doctors, AHP's, psychologists, volunteers housekeeping, cleaning and administration staff.

### **Exclusions**

Staff in who visit the ward infrequently such as a visiting physician/surgeon/GP and are not part of the normal staff cohort.

Staff from other wards or departments where Long stay old age psychiatry and long stay learning disability patients may receive part of their care such as a surgical ward or Accident and Emergency CT scan or x-ray departments.

### **Staff who test positive**

As part of the testing process staff who are asymptomatic and test positive will have to isolate for at least 7 days and must be afebrile without the use of antipyretics for 48 hours before return. To ensure there are sufficient staff to be deployed to the area to cover staff absence NHS Boards should plan for back fill. Where bank or agency staff are deployed to backfill gaps in these areas they too should be tested.

Staff who will be new to the ward either through new employee or a healthcare student as with bank and agency should be tested prior to commencement.