SECTOR UPDATE 11/8/21: **Introduction of Orient Gene 7s LFD kits – Social Care**

To : HSCP Chief Officers, Local Authority Chief Executives, NHS Directors of nursing, Chief Social Work Officers, Care Homes, Sheltered Housing providers

Dear Colleague

Introduction of Orient Gene 7s LFD kits – Social Care

Further to our recent correspondence, we would like to update you on the introduction of Orient Gene 7s LFD kits. These new kits will begin to be distributed week beginning Monday 16th August when guidance and training materials will also be published here. Please note that all existing Innova 25s stock must be used up first. If you currently receive PCR kits, you will continue to do so and guidance remains unchanged. Some benefits of the new Orient Gene 7s kits are listed below:

- Swabbing is double nasal - easier and quicker (15 mins) to use
- Orient Gene 7s are licensed for use at home. Care Home staff can test once per week at home (at discretion of Care Home), it is recommended the one lFD test should be carried out at the same time as the weekly PCR test.
- All other social care staff may test twice per week at home (at discretion of employer)
- Results should continue to be recorded on the NSS portal (please do not use bulk upload function for time being) and registration is recommended. Mental Health and CYP providers should continue to record tests on the UK government portal.
- Please continue to enter your LOT number on the NSS portal (7 numbers located on the box, not the ID number on the device)

Online workshops – feedback and updates

We will be holding online workshops to walk through the new testing process, as well as to share updates and hear feedback from you. All are welcome to attend one or more session although please note that Microsoft Teams can only accommodate around 300-350 people in any one meeting. Places are on a first come, first served basis and meetings will be opened a few minutes before the start time. Any future workshops will be communicated here.

Wed 18th August 11-11.30am - Click here to join the meeting
Wed 25th August 11-11.30am - Click here to join the meeting
Wed 1st September 11-11.30am – Click here to join the meeting
Wed 8th September 11-11.30am - Click here to join the meeting
Wed 15th September 2-2.30pm - Click here to join the meeting (Scottish Care members)

Helpline & new provider information

- For advice for LFD and PCR testing delivered by NSS (Tel: 0800 008 6587)
- For advice for Mental Health, CYP and other testing delivered by DHSC (Tel: 119 - advise call handler you are ringing from Scotland)
- New providers should contact their HSCP to arrange testing in the first instance. Alternatively, any organisation with ten or more employees can now apply to take part in a routine asymptomatic workplace testing programme https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested/pages/workplace-testing/

Thank you to you and your colleagues for your continued support.