

Welcoming Designated Visitors and Explaining Lateral Flow testing

There are a number of documents in this guidance pack that support the practical delivery of the introduction of the lateral flow tests. This document provides suggested approaches to introducing lateral flow testing to designated visitors:

1. Testing explained

- It's important to remember that testing does not replace the other vital layers of protection we have against COVID, it is an added protection.
- Designated visitors are still required to follow wider infection, prevention and control measures such as wearing PPE and maintaining social distancing during the visit.
- Appreciate that this will may be frustrating however by reducing contacts, keeping our distance, wearing face coverings, and vaccines when they come we all work together most effectively to stop the impact of the virus on our residents.
- The test may cause some small discomfort and we appreciate you will be anxious during the period you are waiting for your results.
- This test returns a result for level of infectiousness and is not a positive COVID result. It indicates that you likely have the infections.
- If you return a positive test result we appreciate that you will be disappointed that your planned visit cannot go ahead but we would ask that you leave the premises quickly and arrange for a confirmatory PCR test through the UK Government portal.

2. Requirements for consent

- Prior to undertaking the test we will require you to review and complete a short consent form for our records.
- This consent form will be kept as a record that you consented to your test being processed by members of the care home team.