

Coronavirus Testing – West Lancashire update 9th July 2020

Types of Test

If you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), you can ask for a test to check if you have the virus. This is called an antigen test.

There is another type of test (antibody test) that checks if you've already had the virus. This test is not widely available yet.

Public

To apply for a test, if you have symptoms, and think you currently have Coronavirus visit : <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or you can ring 119

Exclusions are Under 5s.

If you have been told to have a test before you go into hospital, for example, for surgery visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Key Workers

Key workers and household members can also apply online via: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers>

Exclusions are Under 5s.

There is a helpline for staff results 0300 303 2713 and a CCG email address for issues : welaccg.covidstafftesting@nhs.net

Key workers can also go via the LCC email covid19-testing@lancashire.gov.uk

Care Homes

If there is a **new outbreak** in a Home then Public Health England will carry out testing via COVID19ilogs.NorthWest@phe.gov.uk

If the home has subsequent cases and would like testing they should contact LCC IPC: InfectionPrevention@lancashire.gov.uk

Whole home testing can be requested from: covid19-testing@lancashire.gov.uk

Test, Trace, Isolate and Support

More in [Testing and tracing for coronavirus](#)

- [What your coronavirus test result means](#)
- [NHS Test and Trace: if you're contacted after testing positive for coronavirus](#)
- [NHS Test and Trace: if you've been in contact with a person who has coronavirus](#)

Antibody Testing

The test is a blood test and requires people to give a blood sample, and there is an consent form which must be completed.

Testing is available for NHS staff in the first Phase. Practice, CCG and CSU staff, as below:

- Appointments are available from Monday-Friday. Appointments are available at Skelmersdale Walk In Centre between 8.15am-12.30pm and at West Lancashire Urgent Treatment Centre between 8.15am-4pm. We will also be offering some weekend slots soon.
- To make an appointment please call 01695 402 200 between 12.30pm and 5.30pm.
- There is a antibody screening request form (which must be completed and taken with you to your appointment) and FAQs about the test. If colleagues do not have access to a printer there will be forms available at either centre for you to complete upon arrival at your appointment.
- You must also take with you your NHS staff ID badge.

You will receive your result via text message. It is expected that this will happen within two working days. The CCG is not responsible for delivering the results but if you haven't heard anything within seven working days you can chase up with the microbiology department on 0151 430 1837.

Public testing is not yet available routinely, however a GP can arrange the test if they feel this is appropriate. This is likely to taken while other routine bloods are being taken by the practice or community staff.

