

Swabbing pathway for all residents in Care/Residential Home or Supported Living Facility

Step 1: Contact the WHSCT COVID19 Community Testing Team

- to request additional supply of COVID 19 Test Kits to enable staff to obtain swabs from residents**
- or*
- to request assistance from WHSCT COVID19 Community Testing Team to assist with swabbing of residents.



Step 2: WHSCT COVID19 Community Testing Team to be contacted:

Monday – Friday 9am-5pm:

- At the following email address: COVID19.Comm.Test@westerntrust.hscni.net

or

Weekends & Bank Holidays: contact PCOP 'On Call Manager' via

- Altnagelvin Hospital switch board: 028 71345171
- SWAH Switch board: 028 66382000



Step 3: **COVID 19 test swab to be obtained from patients/residents as per guidance



Step 4: Western Trust Care Home testing:

Ncov Virology Request Form (as issued) must be completed and accompany each individual resident's swab. This **MUST** include:

- ✓ Resident's name
- ✓ Resident's date of birth
- ✓ Resident's Health and Care Number
- ✓ Name of facility
- ✓ Lab Centre Source: WNHR/COVID
- ✓ Labcentre Care Home Code – *individual code for each facility*

****please note all writing must legible and contain NO abbreviations**



Step 5: Appropriately label and bag each sample.

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Step 6: It is the responsibility of the Care Home to bring the samples to the nearest hospital laboratory (Altnagelvin or SWAH)

- If Care Home staff undertake the residents swabbing, **it is the responsibility of the Care Home to bring the samples to the nearest hospital laboratory**
- If the Testing Team assists with swabbing of residents, **it is the responsibility of the Care Home to bring the samples to the nearest hospital laboratory**

Laboratory Reception staff available:

Altnagelvin - Monday-Friday 9.00am to 6.30pm. Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 9.00am to 4.00pm

SWAH - Monday to Friday 9.00am to 6.30pm. Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 9.00am to 12.30pm



Step 7: Results of positive swabs will be emailed to the COVID19 Community Testing Team at the following email address: COVID19.Comm.Test@westerntrust.hscni.net

- Non Positive results will be verified by COVID19 Community Testing Team on NIECR
- The COVID19 Community Testing Team will convey results for residents to the person in charge of the facility.



Step 8: It is the responsibility of the facility to ensure that the GPs of all residents are informed of all results. All results will be available on NIECR.

Step 9: Contact PHA Duty Room to notify of results and for advice regarding further management and actions if required.



Further advice can also be obtained from assigned WHSCT Care Home Support Team

****Swabbing should only be carried out by staff that have had a recent up to date training in the collection of Nose and Throat swab for COVID 19, including packaging and transport of specimens.**