**COVID-19 testing FAQs**

**I have symptoms of coronavirus. How can I get a test?**
If you have symptoms of coronavirus, please book in for a test by calling 119 or using the [online government portal.](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

**How do I organise a test for my child?**
To organise a test for your child, please call 119 or use the [online government portal.](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

**What symptoms do I need to display to be eligible for a test?**
To be tested for coronavirus, you should have a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. Most people with coronavirus display at least one of these symptoms.

**Can I get a test if I feel unwell but do not have symptoms of coronavirus?**
If you do not have symptoms of coronavirus, please do not book in for a test. This is really important as you could be taking a test away from someone who really needs it. If you are feeling unwell and do not think it is coronavirus, please call your GP or seek medical help by calling 111 or visit 111 online. In an emergency, call 999.

**Can I call NHS 111 to book in for a test?**
No. If you have symptoms of coronavirus and need to book in for a test, you can do this by calling 119 or using the online government portal. Please do not call 111 about testing as 111 needs to be protected for people who are ringing about other medical and health issues.

**How long does it take for test results to come back?**
Most people get their test results the day after taking the test. Some results might take longer, but you should get them in 72 hours. You'll get a text or email when your result is ready.

**A member of my household has coronavirus symptoms, do I need to get tested?**
If someone in your household starts to have symptoms, then that person must get tested and the rest of the household should self-isolate with them whilst they wait for the results. If you or other members of the household don’t have symptoms, then you should not get a test. Only people with symptoms should get tested. [Full guidance on self-isolation is available here.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

**I have symptoms of coronavirus but am unable to book in for a test, why is this?**
This is a national issue regarding the right level of pathology lab capacity needed to meet the increased testing demands we are all experiencing. The advice is to keep trying to book either by calling 119 or visiting the [online government portal](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). At a national level work is underway to rectify and improve this as soon as possible.

**Can I go to any testing site for a COVID-19 test without booking an appointment?**
No. You must book in for a test prior to attending a testing site. Unless stated it is a walk through testing site, locations are drive-through only so you either need to drive or be driven to a site.

**For information on the NHS test and trace service visit:**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>