

Accessing Covid-19 Testing for Higher Risk People: April 2022

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People who have compromised immune systems still have access to free LFD testing and Covid-19 treatments such as antiviral drugs.

<p>You will be contacted via phone or email to identify you as part this group.</p>	<p>If you haven't been contacted by mid-April, and believe you should be part of this group, contact your GP or hospital consultant.</p>
<p>You will be sent LFD tests to keep at home and use in case you have symptoms.</p> <p>If you run out, you can order more. You will not be asked to prove your health status.</p>	<p>To order more LFD tests: Order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>or call 119</p>
<p>If you test positive, register your test and a clinician will be in contact within 24 hours to perform an assessment over the phone. If this doesn't happen within 24 hours, you can call NHS 111, your GP or consultant who can refer you to a Covid Medicine Delivery Unit (CMDU).</p> <p>If you test positive but have not been previously contacted, you may still be able to access treatment. Call your GP, hospital consultant or NHS 111.</p> <p>Only LFD tests from the government can be used to access treatments, not privately bought tests.</p>	<p>To report a positive result: Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>or call 119</p>
<p>If you are eligible for treatment, this will be started as soon as possible, as treatments need to be given quickly to be effective. These can involve going into hospital for an infusion or taking medicine at home.</p>	

Advice for higher risk people:

- **Avoid meeting** with someone who has **tested positive** for COVID-19 (and anyone in their household) **until 10 days after** they've received a positive test.
- If you have **COVID-19 symptoms**, even mild ones, you should **take an LFD test immediately**. Report your result on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by calling 119. It is important that you provide your NHS number and postcode correctly so you can be contacted.
- If your **test is negative but you still have symptoms**, you should take another **test on each of the next 2 days** (3 tests in total over 3 days).
- **Open windows** to create a through-draft if you're having visitors in your home.
- Consider wearing a **face covering when in enclosed spaces** with others you don't know and try to keep your distance from them.
- **Work from home** if this feels right for you. You may be entitled to this as a 'reasonable adjustment' under the Equality Act 2010 in your workplace.
- The NHS urges people who are immunosuppressed (and their household contacts) to **come forward for any vaccine doses** they are eligible for, as a matter of urgency. This includes any **seasonal boosters**.

NHS Volunteer Responders are available to help with things like collecting shopping, medication, or other essential supplies, and with transport to medical appointments. They can also provide a regular, friendly phone call. Information is [available online](#), or by calling **0808 196 3646** between 8am and 8pm.

More information: [COVID-19: guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)