

Staff Respiratory Infection (including COVID-19) Isolation/ Testing/ Return to Work Guidance

Guidance reviewed 26/09/2022

Day zero is the first day of symptoms or the day of the lateral flow test result - whichever is earlier.

	Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13
<p>SYMPTOMATIC You have symptoms of respiratory infection and / or high temperature.</p> <p>Respiratory symptoms include: Continuous cough Loss of/change in sense of taste/smell Shortness of breath Unexplained tiredness Unexplained muscle aches Loss of appetite Headache Sore throat Blocked/runny nose Nausea</p>	<p>Positive LFT Symptoms start and lateral flow test is positive. ISOLATE from work, inform Line Manager</p>	Isolate from work	Isolate from work	Isolate from work	Isolate from work	Isolate from work do lateral flow test	<p>Do lateral flow test. If day 5 & 6 LFT are negative you are able to return to work the same day, if you are well enough and do not have a high temperature.</p> <p>If day 5 or day 6 LFT is positive, continue to isolate from work.</p>	<p>If day 5 or 6 LFT remain positive, perform daily LFT until you have 2 consecutive negative tests 24 hours apart. Then you are able to return to work if you are well enough and do not have a high temperature</p>						
	<p>Negative LFT Symptoms start and lateral flow test is negative. If you feel well enough to work and you do not have a high temperature you can return to work and a surgical mask should be worn. If you work in SROMC, MDU, Haematology /Oncology Oakdale, then an FFP3 mask should be worn until symptoms have resolved. Continue to do twice-weekly lateral flow tests.</p>							<p>If returning to work on day 6 to 13, a surgical mask should be worn. However, if you work in SROMC, MDU, Haematology/Oncology Oakdale, then an FFP3 mask should be worn until day 14. After day 14, a surgical facemask can be worn and twice-weekly lateral flow tests resumed.</p>						
						<p>DAYS 5-9 – staff well but positive lateral flow test -well & no high temperature -unable to work from home -does not work in SROMC,MDU, Haem/Onc-Oakdale -Able to wear FFP3 (and fit tested) -Ongoing absence causing critical issues with delivery of patient care If all these apply then a risk assessment can be submitted for a decision on that staff members return to work. The risk assessment is accessed from the intranet COVID page and should be completed by the line manager.</p>								

Lateral Flow Tests will continue to be provided free of charge for NHS staff.

Order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow tests - <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>