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YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE FROM PROF. SIMON DE LUSIGNAN,
DIRECTOR OF THE OXFORD-RCGP RSC

# TakeATestUK Swabbing Pathway

A big thanks to our virology sampling practices for your participation this winter.

Our Take-A-Test-UK patient self-swabbing pathway is a great way to encourage all of your patients to request a swab kit at the earliest signs of flu. You can promote this on your websites and social media (See our section below on social media assets) - <a href="https://takeatestuk.com/">https://takeatestuk.com/</a>.

Please include your ODS practice code in your promotion of the pathway, as patients are required to enter this as the mandatory 'Voucher code'. Patients will also need to enter their NHS number to request a self-swab kit.



The reimbursement to practices for all valid samples received to the laboratory via this pathway is £12.50 per sample. We have recently updated our website for patient and practice-facing sampling documents on our <u>Information for Patients</u> page of our website. Please see the 'Information Sheets & Posters' section on the lefthand side of the webpage to access these documents.

For advice and queries relating to virology sampling, please contact Dave and Ellya at <a href="mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk">practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk</a>

#### Social Media Practice Assets for TakeATestUK

We are currently working on updated promotional materials and social media assets for our member practices to use to show their network participation, and offer services to patients. Updated patient facing posters can be found here: <u>Information for Patients</u>.

We are kicking things off with the TakeATestUK service. For practices that currently offer this service to patients, we have a selection of call out images that can be posted to any social media account the practice has.

We request that these assets are accompanied by text referencing the TakeATestUK service and the Oxford-RCGP RSC team. Here is a suggested post:

Our practice takes part in national virology swabbing as part of the Oxford-RCGP RSC network. We are offering the free TakeATestUK service to our patients. Contact us today.

#takeatestuk #oxfordrcgprsc #cihorg #primarycare

If you would like to use these assets, please contact our Practice Liaison team.

### Professional Engagement

We would like to remind our network practices about our **Professional Engagement** page.

This page is dedicated to members, both inside and outside of the RSC, allowing the opportunity to provide feedback on our network and studies. This in turn will help us to co-produce and develop our surveillance and research work.

We are happy to hear from any member of the general practice workforce.

Please complete our <u>Professional Engagement form</u> to express your interest or send an email to our PPIE inbox <u>rscppie@phc.ox.ac.uk</u>.

## Adult Flu Vaccinations for the 2025-26 Season

#### Help us collect vital vaccination data

#### Thank you to the practices that have completed this form already

To support our vaccine effectiveness work for UKHSA, we would like to understand what adult flu vaccines are being used this season. Please could you let us know which type of adult flu vaccines you are using or planning to use this season by completing this short <u>form</u>. We will only use this information internally to help guide our VE analysis and virology sampling strategies.

We really appreciate all your hard work in supporting this important work.