

Oxford RCGP RSC  
All year-round surveillance 2020/21

Patient

Contacts the GP practice by phone

1. **Triage identifies patient with ILI or LRTI\* AND/OR symptoms consistent with COVID-19.**  
If the patient is suspected of having COVID-19, and recorded by telephone consultation, code as *Telephone consultation for suspected SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2)*
2. *According to practice procedures (usually call back by a healthcare professional):*  
Eligible patients asked if they are happy to self-swab for influenza, RSV and coronavirus (COVID-19) **if they**
  1. **Present up to and including 10 days of symptom onset**
  2. Have no difficulty understanding instructions
  3. Have a mobile phone they can use when requesting the test and the same phone to receive test results.

Parents of eligible younger children will be asked if they are happy to perform the swab. **A mobile number can only be used once to order one test kit.**
3. **Yes - eligible**  
Please open the patient's record in the Clinical Medical Record system. **Please code the presenting problem as a diagnostic term eg. symptoms consistent with COVID or ILI or LRTI or pneumonia etc. Please do NOT write a symptom or free text.**  
When the voucher code has been given to the patient please code:  
*Self-taken swab for SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) offered*
4. Please provide the patient with the next available voucher code.\*\* Ask them to log onto TakeATestUK.com and enter their voucher code to activate their kit request. They should do this on the same day wherever possible. The voucher code will expire 14 days after it was issued to the practice as the test may no longer be useful.  
  
Patients will need to answer a small number of questions on the TakeATestUK website. Please provide the patient with their NHS number as this is requested when they enter their details but it is not mandatory.  
  
Please record the patient's NHS number with the allocated voucher.
5. **Please advise the patient that once they enter their details and request a kit, they will be sent a test kit by post. They should take the sample and arrange postage on the day they receive the kit if possible, and follow instructions to maintain good hygiene standards.**  
**Please ask the patient for their patience in getting the result as their swab is being used to monitor disease in the community. It is important that they continue to follow advice on isolation.**
6. When a swab result becomes available please code into the Clinical Medical Record system as follows:  
*Self-taken swab for SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) completed*
7. When results become available, please code PCR test results into the Clinical Medical Record.

\*The **definition** of influenza like illness (ILI) is:An acute respiratory illness with a temperature measured/reported/plausibly  $\geq 38$  °C and cough, with recent onset. ILI cases should not have another more plausible diagnosis.

ILI cases have a sudden onset, and there are often symptoms suggestive of systemic upset – myalgia, fatigue, malaise, headache etc.

Children under 5 years showing symptoms of acute bronchitis or bronchiolitis

Lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) including pneumonia.**No – not eligible**Continue with usual patient management. If the patient otherwise meets the definition for **ILI or LRTI** (as above) please ensure you include this in the 'problem' field and complete relevant coding in the Clinical Medical Record System.\*\*Please note your practice will be allocated up to 20 voucher codes each Monday. Allocations may fluctuate each week. These should be used before new codes are issued the following Monday. Any codes that remain unused in the week they were provided should be discarded. A voucher code can be used once and is given to a patient or their parent/guardian so that they can order a self-swab kit online.**Please try to include patients spread across the following age groups:**

- <5 years
- 5-17 years
- 18-64 years
- 65 years old and older

The patient will be posted a self swab kit with clear instructions on how to take a nose and throat swab, package and arrange postage of the completed self-swab. Appropriate packaging including a pre-paid addressed envelope is provided.

Test results will be texted to the patient. Test results will be sent to the GP practice in the usual way. The practice will also have the option of joining eLab which allows them to see results in real time.