

Classification: Official
Publication approval reference: C1480

To: [Patient address]

NHS England and NHS Improvement
Skipton House
80 London Road
London
SE1 6LH

14 December 2021

Your NHS number: [NHS NUMBER]

Dear [Patient]

Important information about new treatments for coronavirus

From 16 December, the NHS will be using new treatments for coronavirus. Your medical records show that you might be suitable for these treatments if a PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus.

These treatments need to be given quickly after you start to feel unwell. They can stop you from getting seriously ill. More information: www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments

You should:

1. Have a PCR test kit ready at home.
2. Take a PCR test if you get coronavirus symptoms.
3. If the PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus: the NHS will call you to tell you how you might get a treatment.

Coronavirus treatments can help you if you are ill, but vaccination is still the best protection for you and your loved ones.

1. Have a PCR test kit ready at home

NHS Test & Trace are sending you a PCR coronavirus test kit to keep so that you can get tested quickly if you have any coronavirus symptoms. This kit will be sent to the address that you have provided to the NHS. Tell your GP as soon as possible if your address has changed. NHS Test & Trace can send replacement tests.

Call 119 for advice, selecting the option for Test & Trace, if:

- you have not received a PCR test by 10 January 2022

- you develop symptoms before your PCR test arrives
- you lose your PCR test or it has any damage or missing parts.

2. Take a PCR test if you get coronavirus symptoms

Use your PCR test if you develop any coronavirus symptoms, even if they are mild: a high temperature, a new continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours), a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

If you get coronavirus symptoms and don't have a PCR test kit at home, you can still get a PCR test by phoning 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

When registering a PCR test, it is very important that you enter your NHS number and postcode correctly – these are at the top of this letter. This lets you get your test result and allows the NHS to contact you about treatment if you have coronavirus.

3. If the PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus

If the PCR test shows that you have got coronavirus, the NHS will contact you within 24 hours to arrange a telephone appointment with a health professional.

If you are not contacted about treatment within 24 hours of your positive PCR test result, please contact your GP surgery or call 111. They can make an urgent referral.

Why have you sent me this letter?

Health experts have looked at the health conditions which put people more at risk of coronavirus. This has been agreed by UK chief medical officers.

Your medical records show that you have, or previously had, one or more of those health conditions, which means that these new treatments might be suitable for you if a PCR test confirms you have coronavirus. You can find out how the NHS has used your information to identify and contact you about this treatment at www.digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/treatments/transparency-notice.

Yours sincerely



Professor Stephen Powis

National Medical Director, NHS England and NHS Improvement

If you need this letter in easy read, braille or other languages, visit www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/treatments or email england.contactus@nhs.net