****

**COVID-19 update**

**24 April 2020**

**In this edition**

* Regional COVID-19 Test Centre

**Attachments**

* Pillar 1/ 2 staff swabbing primary care and CCG request form April 24 2020

**Regional COVID-19 Test Centre**

In line with the national strategy to increase the capacity to test symptomatic key workers and householder members for COVID-19, a new Regional Test Centre (RTC) will be fully operational on Monday 27 April 2020. This is known as a Pillar 2 test centre.

The RTC will be based at Poppleton Park and Ride in York. There are other RTCs in the region. This facility supplements the existing test centre run by York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust where staff can be swabbed at Easingwold and Scarborough Hospital (this is known as a Pillar 1 service).

You will have seen in the national media how to access the new RTCs. In order to streamline the process and make it easier for staff in primary care and the CCG, the CCG will act as the ‘employer’ and process your requests for both Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 services. The current form has therefore been amended to reflect this. Please use this form from now on.

Ideally the Pillar 1 service should be accessed but you can chose to access the Pillar 2 service instead if you wish. Please note that children aged 2 and over can be accommodated at the Pillar 1 service and children aged 5 and over can be accommodated at Pillar 2 so this may affect your choice.

**The referral criteria is the same for both services**

i.e. the test will be carried out on:

* Self-isolating because only the key worker is symptomatic

In this instance only the key worker will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 test

* Self-isolating because key worker and household members are symptomatic

In this instance the key worker and household members who have symptoms will be offered a test

* Self-isolating because someone in their household is symptomatic, but the key worker is not

In this instance only the household member(s) of the key worker who has (have) symptoms is (are) eligible to receive a Covid-19 test. The key worker will not receive a test. If more than one household member is symptomatic, but not the key worker, then all household members with symptoms should be tested.

**Your results**

Pillar 1 service - the occupational health department will contact you by phone with your result and give you advice about your return to work. This will be followed up with a letter.

Pillar 2 service - you will be texted your result. You should then inform your employer of the result. Your employer will give you advice about your return to work.