Information on resident testing and accessing COVID test kits

Each care home has been seeded with five COVID test kits for prompt testing of residents on identification of symptoms (this should be discussed with the Health Protection Team or GP).

Once ANY of the seeded test kits are used, ALL FIVE kits are to be returned to your nearest NHS Lanarkshire Hospital Microbiology Department (Wishaw/Monklands/Hairmyres) by calling the Community Transport Hub and using the transport authorisation code provided to you.

Any unused swabs should be placed between the hard-shell and the inside of cardboard transport box.

Any used swabs should be taken in accordance with current guidance and placed inside a specimen bag with some absorbent material e.g. a tissue, wiped with disinfectant then put inside the hard-shell container inside the cardboard transport box.

Each transport box can hold up to 5 swabs. All forms (used or not) should be placed between the hard-shell and the inside of cardboard transport box.
If they are put inside the hard-shell container, they will get contaminated in the event of a leak.

Further test kits can be ordered to ensure each care home has a stock of five test kits for prompt testing of symptomatic residents.

Test kits are available from the Stores Department. The Testing Kit Request Form should be completed and emailed to procurement.cs@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk. The Stores Department will contact Lifesavers to arrange delivery the following day.

In situations where test kits are required urgently (for example in an outbreak situation), the Stores Department can be contacted directly, Monday-Friday between 07:30-15:30, on Tel: 01355-584962. You will be asked to provide information as detailed on the Testing Kit Request Form. The Stores Department will contact Lifesavers or a taxi to arrange the delivery as soon as possible.

Requests for test kits out with Monday-Friday 07:30-15:30 should be avoided where possible. Any enquiries during this time should be directed to the Hospital Cover Team if essential. The Hospital Cover Team can be contacted via University Hospital Hairmyres switchboard on 01355 585000.