

Additional Support and Guidance for Dental Practices for COVID-19 Cases and Contacts in a Dental Setting

National and local guidance is in place to support the management of COVID cases and contact tracing in a dental setting.

There are two main scenarios for Test and Protect teams contacting a dental practice:

- A patient (or close contact of a patient) who has tested positive, has attended your practice
- A member of your practice staff has tested positive and has provided the Test and Protect team with your practice details.
 - The T&P team will usually ask to speak to the employer/owner when they make contact

In most cases the structures in place will be able to manage cases in a timely manner. However, we understand there may be occasions where practices will require additional advice and support during this process.

In the event of needing advice or support you can reach the relevant teams through the following contacts:

For public health or health protection guidance you can reach the Public Health Protection Unit at PHPU@ggc.scot.nhs.uk (Tel: 0141 201 4917). You may also contact the Consultant in Dental Public Health at Michael.mcgrady@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

For advice and guidance on patient pathways and business continuity, or if you have concerns relating to practice matters and patient care, you can contact a Dental Practice Advisor through the GDS Admin Team at gdsadmin@ggc.scot.nhs.uk (Tel: 0141 232 9704).

Positive test results may also arise from the Dental Surveillance Programme or from routine Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) which have been recently been provided to dental teams. Guidance on how to upload LFT results to an online portal has been provided to practices via NHS GGC Core Briefs but this information is included below. Positive tests will be managed through Test & Protect in the same way as positive results obtained through a PCR test.

Staff that use the Lateral Flow testing kit are reminded that if you register a negative test result, but you are showing any symptoms of COVID-19, as well as self-isolating you must book a PCR test through either [NHS Inform](#) or the [staff testing site](#).

https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/264420/nesd1397-poster_healthcare-staff-self-testing-for-coronavirus_final_0912.pdf

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/your-health/health-issues/covid-19-coronavirus/for-nhsggc-staff/lateral-flow-device-testing-guidance/#>

If participating in the Lateral Flow testing programme you must continue to test twice per week however if you have tested positive through PCR you should not commence/recommence the LFT testing programme until after 90 days of your positive test. More detailed advice can be found on our [website](#).

Any general enquiries can be sent to the GDS Team and they will direct you to the appropriate contact.