Dear Colleagues

Please see attached Directors Letter which provides you with information on a change to the asymptomatic Healthcare Worker (HCW) LFD testing policy from twice weekly to daily testing, as well as a move from Innova 25 and Orient Gene 7 test kits (OG7s) to Orient Gene 20 LFD test kits (OG20s).

The evidence emerging is that Omicron has a higher rate of transmission than other variants. As early identification of cases is even more important with the new Omicron variant, we are strongly encouraging all HCWs to test daily.

This letter also gives information on a move from innova 25/OG7s LFD test kits to OG20s LFD test kits. A phased roll out of OG20s will commence from Monday 20 December. OG20s are similar to OG7s, however there are 20 tests in each box and come with 2 bottles of buffer solution rather than individual vials. All training materials, including electronic instructions for use (eIFU), which is to be used in place of the instructions in the box, will be available on TURAS and Scottish Government’s webpages from Monday 20th December 2021.

Included in the letter is information on a change to the guidance on exemption from LFD testing within 90 days of a positive PCR test. HCWs should continue to LFD test daily within 90 days of a positive PCR result. If HCWs have a positive LFD result or have new symptoms, they should isolate and get a PCR test.

The Directors Letter that is attached to this email can also be accessed through the following link: [DL(2021)51 - Healthcare Workers to increase Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing frequency from twice weekly to daily (scot.nhs.uk)](https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/dl/DL(2021)51.pdf)

Many thanks

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