



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board  
Hampshire Fire & Police Headquarters  
Leigh Road,  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 9SJ

21 June 2023

Dear colleague,

## Important information about treatments for COVID-19

We are writing to you to introduce the Hampshire and Isle of Wight COVID Medicines Delivery Unit (CMDU) and changes taking place for patient access.

You may already be familiar with the CMDU, which was first set up in December 2021.

It enables vulnerable patients (within the [highest risk clinical subgroup](#)) who test positive for COVID-19 to receive oral antivirals or IV treatment in the community.

**From Tuesday June 27, 2023**, eligible patients will be able to self-refer into this service and NHS England will no longer be referring people directly to the CMDU.

## What this means for our GP practices, secondary care and out of hours providers

The CMDU is run by Partnering Health Limited (PHL) and is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm. Patients will be able to self-refer either by:

- Visiting <https://phlgroup.co.uk/cmdu/> and completing a self-referral form
- Phoning 03300 587080

Patients will then be contacted within 24 hours of referral and clinically assessed for treatment and a treatment plan will be put in place.

We want to highlight there is **no expectation** for GP practices or secondary care to take on the assessment and treatment of these patients.

NHS England has written to most patients that have been identified as eligible, advising them they will no longer be automatically contacted.

It is now the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board's responsibility to work with GP practices and other providers, to inform patients of the agreed local clinical pathway for the treatment.

## More information

To help you navigate patients to the right place we have created:

- An infographic explaining the change on a page for internal use



- A text message template to send to patients if they present to your service
- Suggested wording for your websites
- A FAQ section on the [ICB website](#)

Please could we ask for your help in navigating eligible patients towards this service, who may present to primary care, secondary or out of hours teams with a positive test result.

## **Lateral Flow Tests**

Patients of this 'highest risk clinical subgroup' will still be able to order lateral flow tests (LFTs) free of charge from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or by calling 119.

Vulnerable patients should keep them at home, only using them if they get symptoms. Patients are also now able to use tests purchased from a pharmacy or shop.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Joe Bagley

Clinical Transformation Lead: Covid-19 Treatments

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board