



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Imperial College
London

Ipsos MORI



17 July 2020

Dear

Take part in a COVID-19 testing research study

We are writing to invite you to take part in an important study to measure the prevalence of COVID-19. The study is being conducted by Imperial College London and Ipsos MORI, an independent research organisation, on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

The study will help the Government work out how many people may have COVID-19 in different areas of the country. We would like you to take part even if you have already been tested for COVID-19. **The test may indicate whether you currently have the COVID-19 virus.** We have chosen your name at random, and participation is completely voluntary.

It's easy to sign-up to take part

1. Go to the study website: www.reactstudy.org/antigenreg

2. Enter this access code:

3. Enter your details and tell us if you would like to take part

You can register by going online or by calling our FREEPHONE number 0800 157 7818.

It should only take you 5 minutes to register. If you sign up, we will send you a package containing a test to be administered at home. The package will be sent by Royal Mail and should arrive between 24 July and 3 August. The test is a **swab of your nose and throat** and will be returned to a laboratory (by a courier who collects the completed test from your home) for analysis. The result from this test will be sent to you within one week.

There will also be a short online survey that asks about you, including your health and any COVID-19 related symptoms you may have had.

There is more information about the study on the back of this letter.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Bethell of Romford
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department of Health and Social Care

Professor the Lord Darzi, FRS
Co-Director of the Institute of
Global Health Innovation
Imperial College London

Kelly Beaver
Managing Director
Public Affairs
Ipsos MORI

Please turn over

Additional Information



Who is carrying out the study?

Imperial College London and Ipsos MORI are carrying out the study on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care. You can find out more about Imperial College London at <https://imperial.ac.uk>, Ipsos MORI at <https://www.ipsos.com/en>, and DHSC at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>.



How did you get my name and address?

Your name was chosen at random from the NHS list of patients registered with a GP. Under the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 NHS England are responsible for your data. For the data collected as part of this survey, Department of Health and Social Care will be a joint 'Data Controller' together with Imperial College London. Ipsos MORI will be a data processor acting on our behalf to carry out the survey.

Ipsos MORI and Imperial College London will **keep your contact details confidential** and use them to send out the test for this study if you register to take part. Neither organisation has been given any information about your health.



What test will you send?

We will send you a "swab test" of the nose and throat by Royal Mail. The test is of a high clinical standard, can be self-administered and takes only a few minutes to complete. It may cause some mild short-lived discomfort. Once returned to the laboratory and analysed, the test may show whether you currently have the COVID-19 virus (although test results are not 100% accurate). It does not show whether you have had the virus in the past. This will help us to assess how much virus is circulating across the country including in people who do not have any symptoms.



Will I get the results of my test?

Yes – we will send the swab test results back to everyone who takes part. It is important that you continue to follow the Government advice at the time (of your test) around social distancing, regardless of what the results of your test show.



What if I do not have access to the internet to register online?

If you do not have access to the internet, you can call the FREEPHONE number **0800 157 7818** and register over the phone.



Your privacy

The swab test results will be passed to Ipsos MORI and Imperial College London to link to the information in the questionnaire. All questionnaire information will be kept confidential by Ipsos MORI, and approved Imperial College London staff and researchers. Nobody will be able to identify you in any published results. If your test is positive (suggesting that you currently have COVID-19) we will inform NHS Test and Trace so that they can contact you.

If you agree, Imperial College London may link the results to other health information that the NHS holds about you. This linkage would be done by the NHS. For more information go to the full Privacy Policy at www.ipsos.uk/covid-swab-privacy

Any questions

If you have any questions about this research, please visit: www.ipsos.uk/swabFAQs
For the current Government guidance about COVID-19, please visit www.gov.uk.