Department of……………………

Royal Sussex County Hospital

University Hospitals Sussex

Eastern Road

Brighton

BN2 5 BE

27th June 2023

**If you need this letter in easy read, large print or other languages, please visit** [**www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/your-care/local-nhs-services/covid-19-treatments-patients-at-highest-risk/**](http://www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/your-care/local-nhs-services/covid-19-treatments-patients-at-highest-risk/)

**To: [Address]**

**Your NHS number: [NHS number]**

Dear [Name]

Important information about treatments for Covid

You may have previously received a letter, email or your hospital specialist or GP may have explained that you might be suitable for treatments if you get Covid and how to get treatment, if required.

We are writing again because the way that you access treatment will change from Tuesday 27 June 2023.

**If you get Covid from Tuesday 27 June 2023:**

* You will no longer be automatically contacted by the NHS about treatments after reporting a positive Covid test result.
* **This is the preferred and fastest route of access to treatment:** You should instead make an **online self-referral** to the Alliance for Better Care Covid Anti-Viral Medication website at: [Covid Anti-Viral Medication - nMABs | Alliance for Better Care](https://allianceforbettercare.org/nmabs/) or <https://allianceforbettercare.org/nmabs/> . Please ensure that you have the latest FULL LIST (including hospital medicines) of your prescribed medications at hand.
* If you are unable to access the online self-referral you can still contact your GP practice, NHS 111so that they can consider referring you for an assessment for treatment.

**Why are we sending you this letter?**

Your medical records currently show that you may have a health condition which means that treatments might be suitable for you if you get Covid.

These treatments can reduce the chance of you getting seriously ill from Covid and need to be given quickly after you start to have symptoms.

You may have previously been told that the NHS would contact you about treatment once you report a positive Covid test. This will no longer be the case from 27 June.

1. **You should keep lateral flow tests at home**

You should keep lateral flow tests at home to use if you get symptoms. You can order these free of charge from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or by calling 119.

**From 1 October 2023, the way you access tests may change**. More information will be available at [www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments](http://www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments).

You can also now use tests purchased from a pharmacy or shop.

1. **You should take a test if you have Covid symptoms**

If you have Covid symptoms you should take a test immediately, even if your symptoms are mild.

If your test is negative but you continue to have symptoms, you should take another test on each of the next two days (three tests in total over three days).

You should report your test result where possible at [https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result or by calling 119](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result%20or%20by%20calling%20119), using your NHS number and postcode (at the top of this letter). This will ensure your test result is visible to the NHS, to support referral and assessment.

**You will not be able to report the result of a test purchased from a pharmacy or shop** through the gov.uk website but this will not affect your access to an assessment for treatment.

1. **Contact the NHS immediately if you test positive**

From 27 June, if you test positive, you should **immediately make an online self-referral, contact** **your GP practice or NHS 111** so that they can consider referring you for an assessment for treatment.

More information is available at: [www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments](http://www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments)

Yours sincerely,

More information on how the NHS has used your information: [www.digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/treatments/transparency-notice](http://www.digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/treatments/transparency-notice)