Sore Throat Test and Treat – Guidance for providing the service during the pandemic

As discussed at the Refresher webinar on 22/11/2022:

- Patients presenting with temperature, new continuous cough, or anosmia should not be consulted face-to-face, **advise patient to self-isolate and undertake PCR testing** in line with national guidance.

Then complete initial assessment **remotely**:

- If FeverPAIN 0 or 1 or Centor 0,1,2 – supportive treatment only
- If FeverPAIN 2 or 3 – await PCR result then re-assess:
  - Negative PCR – visit pharmacy for full assessment
  - Positive - refer to another service for assessment (e.g. GP or NHS 111/GP OOH)
- If FeverPAIN 4 or 5 or Centor 3, 4 – advise to come in to the pharmacy when negative, or refer to another service for assessment (e.g. GP or NHS 111/GP OOH) now, or on receipt of positive result

- **All other patient presentations:**
  - Recommendation of a lateral flow test before attending the pharmacy, if a patient doesn’t have access to a test the pharmacy can supply the test to the patient before a consultation is undertaken.

  - For patients being referred by their GP practice to the pharmacy it is important that you inform the GP practice that the patient needs to have had a negative LFT before accessing the service

  - If positive LFT – follow the advice above (for patients presenting with temperature)

- **PPE:**
  - For consultation alone without examination a Type IIR mask is recommended.

  - For examination of the throat or undertaking a POCT, a Type IIR mask, visor, gloves and apron are recommended