

## Rapid respiratory microbiological point-of-care-testing in primary care (RAPID-TEST trial) Participant Information Sheet (for young people aged 12 - 15 years)

### Welcome to the RAPID-TEST trial!

**We (the Sponsor at the University of Bristol) would like to ask you to help us by taking part in our trial.**

We are trying to find out the best way to treat coughs, colds and chest infections in adults, children and young people like you. We want to know if a test that looks at nose and throat swabs using a special machine at your doctors surgery can help doctors work out which treatment patients really need.

Your parent or carer knows about this trial. If they are happy for you to join, then it is your choice if you want to take part. You do not have to if you would prefer not to.

**If you do want to take part, you will need to sign a form (called an Assent Form) to show that you are agreeing to help with this trial.** If you join the trial but then change your mind, it is OK to say you don't want to take part anymore. Your doctor or nurse will take care of you just the same.

The rest of this sheet tells you more about the trial and what we, the RAPID-TEST team, are asking you to do. If you have any questions about the trial, ask the nurse or doctor or your parent or carer at any time.

**Thank you for taking the time to read this or listening to someone read it to you.**

### What is the RAPID-TEST team trying to find out?

Everyone gets coughs and colds now and again but a few people can get ill enough to need to go in to hospital. The problem is, we find it hard to tell when an infection will get better by itself or when the person needs a medicine (like antibiotics) to help fight the germs causing it.

We are trying to find a way of working out when we need to give medicines and when we don't. We want to be able to give the right treatment as quickly as possible without giving medicines that aren't needed.

We are hoping that a test using a new machine might be able to help.

### How can I help?

Your parent or carer has contacted the doctor or nurse because you are unwell. If we can use the new machine to find out what is causing your illness and those of other people who are unwell like you, we will know much more about these illnesses and when we should treat them with medicine. This will help show us how we can treat people better in the future.

### What do you want me to do?

#### 1. Tell us about your illness

While the doctor or nurse is seeing or speaking to you and your parent or carer, they will ask lots of questions about your illness. They will also ask a few extra questions about the medicines (antibiotics) normally used to treat your illness.

#### 2. Have a nose and throat swab taken

We would like to find out exactly which germs might be making you ill. For this we need to take a nose and throat swab sample like the ones you may have had done for COVID testing. A cotton bud is wiped over the back of your throat and just inside your nose to catch some of the germs that may be making you ill.

Having a swab taken is quick and easy and just needs you to open your mouth wide enough for the doctor or nurse to see the back of your throat. Sometimes some people find throat swabs a bit uncomfortable or tickly and want to cough, but this is over quite quickly.

#### 3. A computer will then decide whether to test your nose and throat swab using the new machine at the doctors surgery on the day you take the

### **swab, or whether your swab will be sent to a laboratory for testing later**

The new machine will help us work out which germs have been found. If the computer decides to test your swab at the time, the doctor or nurse will get the results in about 1 hour. If the computer decides not to test your swab until a later date, the results will not be given to you or your parent/carer.



If your swab is tested at the time, the doctor or nurse may use the results to help decide what treatment to give you. If your swab is not tested at the time, the doctor or nurse will decide what treatment to give you in the same way as normal.

#### **4. Help keep a Trial Diary until you are better**

We would like to know how you are doing until you get better. We will give you a Trial Diary and ask you and your parent or carer to help fill it in every day for up to 1 month to show how you are.

#### **5. What happens next?**

After 2 months, your parent or carer will be sent a very short questionnaire to complete. At the same time, we will collect information from your GP medical records about whether you have been back to your GP or needed to go into hospital with a similar illness and whether you were prescribed any medicines (like antibiotics). After 6 months, we will collect more information from your GP medical records about whether you have been back to your GP with a similar illness.

Your parent or carer will be offered a £20 voucher when they fill in and return the questionnaire at 2 months to thank you and them for your time.

### **How long does all this take?**

The bit we need your help with lasts about an extra 15 minutes when you see or speak to the doctor or nurse. If the computer decides your swab will be tested at the time, this will take about 1 hour.

The Trial Diary we are asking you and your parent or carer to fill in will only take a few minutes each day. Your parent or carer can do that for you but it will be your job to make sure they get it right!

### **When this has finished, then what happens?**

We need to keep just enough information about your illness and about you so that researchers can learn more about these illnesses in the future. There will be no way they will be able to find out who the swab or information came from. They will not know it was from you as your name won't be kept with the information.

When we have all the information from everyone who has joined the trial, we will write a report which explains what we found. As well as sharing this with other doctors, nurses and people who help treat you, we will make sure you know what we found by sending you and your parents a newsletter at the end of the trial.

### **What if I want to leave the trial?**

You can leave the trial at any time and you don't need to tell us why. We will only use the information that we have already collected. Your doctor or nurse will treat you just the same whether you are in the trial or not.

### **Who will know about me being in the trial?**

Your parent or carer, your doctor or nurse, the trial team, and anyone else you choose to tell.

### **What if I want to know more or have a problem with the trial?**

Your parent or carer will probably be able to help, and they will know how to contact the trial team. You can also email us at: [rapidtest-study@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:rapidtest-study@bristol.ac.uk) but please make sure your parent or carer knows first as we are likely to get in touch with them if there is a problem.