

Date: 25th June 2026

**Temporary unavailability of Point of Care Testing (POCT)
Covid-19 and Flu A/B testing**

Please note that Point of Care Testing (POCT) for Covid-19 and Flu A/B is currently unavailable for patients admitted to acute medicine wards.

Where clinically indicated, colleagues should instead request Microbiology Lab Covid-19 and/or Flu A/B testing via Cerner.

Once the request has been submitted, staff should:

- Print the patient label
- Collect the swab sample
- Ensure the sample is correctly labelled
- Send the sample to the Microbiology Laboratory at Bromborough for processing

Clinical teams are asked to make colleagues aware of this temporary change and ensure the alternative testing process is followed to support safe and timely patient care.

For further advice, please contact the Microbiology Laboratory on 01244 365653.