



SY COVID Anti-viral Service

2026



Covid anti-viral triage and prescribing service for South Yorkshire

- Introduction

- Ellie Bennett, Managing Director at Wicker Pharmacy
- Brendan Walker, Superintendent Pharmacist at Wicker Pharmacy

Covid anti-viral triage and prescribing service for south yorkshire

Who is running it?

- Wicker Pharmacy – established January 1952 – open late every day since.
- Commissioned via tender by South Yorkshire ICB – started June 1st 2026
- This service is run by 5 pharmacist independent prescribers - able to scale up if needed.
- Clinical lead is Brendan Walker who worked as a pharmacist prescriber in Barnsley GPs for 7 years.
- All pharmacists have been trained specifically for this service by CMDU specialist.

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This service started June 1st and is for people who are at severe risk of hospitalisation or death if they contract covid-19.

What is it?

- Antiviral prescribing and triage for at risk people who have a positive lateral flow test.
- Our pharmacists will have a short clinic each day to do patient consultations.
- We must respond to referrals within 24 hours on a weekday and 48 hours at the weekend.

What will be offered?

- Video consultation if possible (access to translators available)
- Assessment of eligibility for service
- Review of patient record using GP connect
- Assessment of suitability of anti viral meds taking into account conditions and meds interactions (using Liverpool checker)
- Prescribing of appropriate meds/referral to secondary care

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Who is eligible?

- Non-hospitalised, NHS South Yorkshire ICB patients over the age of 18
- With a positive COVID-19 lateral flow test result,
- Are symptomatic AND onset of symptoms of COVID-19 within last 5 days (or 7 off label) and show no signs of clinical recovery.
- AND have risk factors for progressing to severe COVID-19. (see next slide)

Exclusion criteria

- Patients aged under 18yrs - patients aged up to 15 years inclusive, should be referred to the paediatric specialist who can arrange transfer of care to the Children's Trust will be transferred to the secondary care triage team for onward management and treatment decision.
- 16 and 17 year olds under the care of a paediatrician should be referred to the paediatrician for discussion with the Children's Trust. If the patient has transitioned to adult care, the adult route should be followed with MDT support from the Children's Trust.
- Patients requiring supplemental oxygen for COVID-19
- Patients requiring hospitalisation for COVID-19
- Patients who are pregnant

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People the service is for:

- have Down's syndrome, or another chromosomal condition that affects the immune system
- have certain types of cancer, or had treatment for certain types of cancer
- have sickle cell disease
- have certain conditions affecting the blood, including some types of blood cancer
- have chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 4 or 5, including people on dialysis
- have severe liver disease
- have had an organ transplant
- have certain autoimmune or inflammatory conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease
- have HIV or AIDS and have a weakened immune system
- have a condition affecting the immune system
- have a condition affecting the brain or nervous system, such as multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, motor neurone disease, myasthenia gravis, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease or certain types of dementia
- have certain lung conditions or treatments for lung conditions

This list is a summary and does not cover everything.

[Find out more about people at the highest risk who are eligible for COVID-19 treatment on the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence \(NICE\) website - Supporting factors for progression to severe COVID-19 | Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir and tocilizumab for treating COVID-19 | Guidance | NICE](#)

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Outcome of consultation:

- Advice about self care if patients are not eligible
- Referral to secondary care (hospital) if patient needs it
- Prescription for full dose Paxlovid
- Prescription for half dose Paxlovid (for people with moderate kidney problems)
- Prescription for Lagevrio for people where Paxlovid is contraindicated

Following the consultation, all patients will receive a text with a link to advice on what to do next depending on which outcome they have.

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Accessing the service

- GP or Self referral via our website /the icb website

<https://www.wickerclinic.co.uk/covid-triage-and-treatment-service-nhs-sy>

Response times

- 24-hour response on weekdays – Pharmacist will call back within 24 hours and offer video consultation if the patient's equipment allows
- 48 hours on weekends / bank holidays – we'll endeavour to make it shorter but maximum wait for call back will be 48 hours on a weekend or bank holidays

The referral website

[HOME](#)[CONTRACEPTION](#)[TRAVEL HEALTH
ABOUT](#)[WEIGHT LOSS
LEGAL](#)[COVID & FLU !\[\]\(e10773081adcaeab632f9dd4c8931cd5_img.jpg\)
NHS MEN B JAB](#)[OTHER SERVICES](#)[APPOINTMENTS](#)

Complete your details below to self refer

Only patients who have a positive covid test and have previously received a letter from the NHS confirming they are eligible for free covid tests and covid anti viral medication are able to use this service. If you have covid and are not eligible please follow the **covid-19 self care advice** or call NHS 111.

First Name

Last Name

Address

Post code

Email

Phone

NHS number (if known)

Are you eligible to receive NHS anti viral medicines for covid-19?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you tested positive for covid-19 in the past 5 days?

☐ Yes ☐ No

When did your covid symptoms start?

- ☐ Today
☐ Yesterday
☐ 2-3 days ago

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- Paxlovid/Lagevrio is not usually stocked, so we will confirm with the patient's pharmacy if they can dispense. If not, we will dispense and if the patient lives further away and can not collect, will send out by blood bikes.
- If the patient has moderate kidney problems, they will need to take a lower dose of Paxlovid. Instead of taking two pink and one white tablet in the morning and evening, the patient will take one pink and one white tablet in the morning and evening
- The pharmacy should pop out the tablets which are not needed into a dupe bin to ensure the patient gets the correct dose.

Phone calls

- **The pharmacy will be able to answer queries about the service, in ‘normal’ hours.** If it’s urgent, please call out of hours and we will do our best to get an answer, but we are already busy in those times so please only use if urgent.

(0114) 2727676

WICKER PHARMACY CLINIC

COVID TRIAGE & TREATMENT

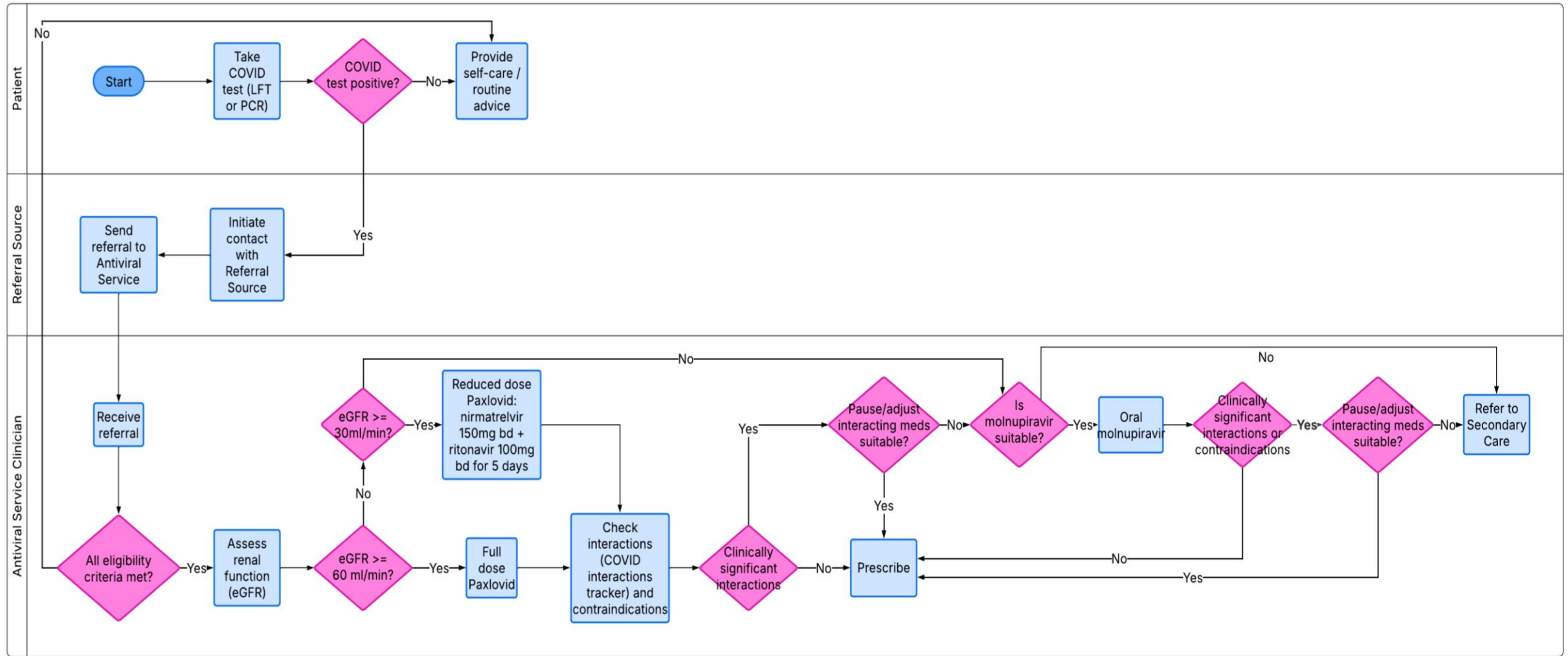
If you are eligible for free NHS covid tests, you can also access NHS antiviral medication via our covid-19 treatment service if your test is positive.

For more information scan the QR code
or go to www.wickerclinic.co.uk



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- Questions?