Press release
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NEW DATA: Covid-19 testing for care home staff (up to the end of 27 May)

Testing in care homes is "still far too slow"

Today we report that just 9% of care home staff have been tested since 15 May when the government pledged to Covid-19 test "every resident and every member of staff in our elderly care homes in England between now and early June"
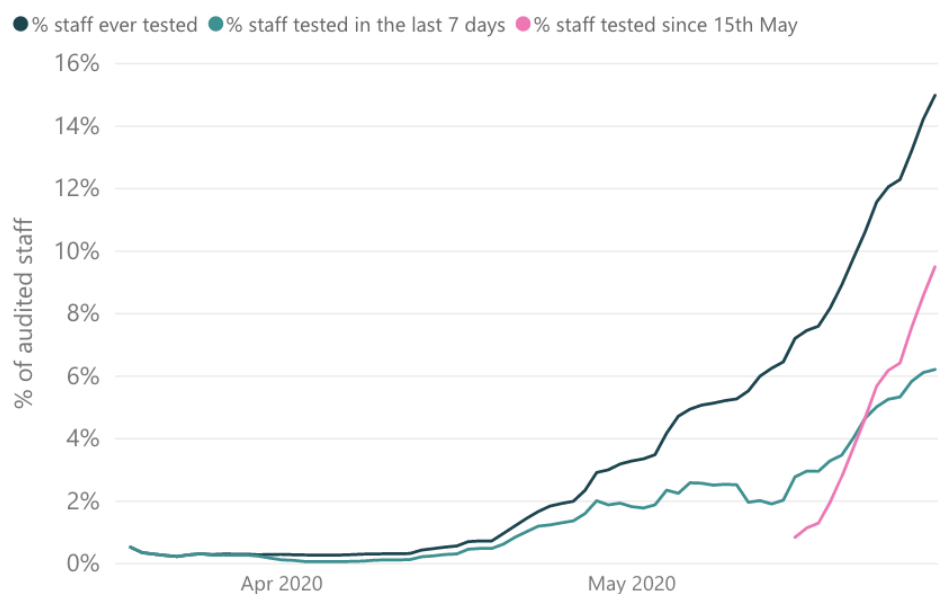
This is an even lower proportion of testing than recorded for residents – 10% over the same period

6% of care home staff were tested in the 7 days up to 27 May, matching the test rate for residents

15% of care home staff have been tested at any time since the start of the pandemic

6 out of 10 (62%) of care homes have not had any staff members tested at any stage

Percentage of staff members tested for Covid-19

This analysis is conducted by The Data Analysis Bureau (T-DAB) based on anonymised data from Person Centred Software. It can be updated daily and include data on testing for carers in the residential setting, and residents. Updates, interactive dashboards, and additional data can be found at t-dab.com/care-home-covid-data/

Simon Briscoe, Director of T-DAB said: "The rate of testing of care home staff has picked up in the last week but is still far too slow to get close to the target set by the government. Testing of just one in ten staff and residents is far below the rate demanded by industry bodies and targeted by government."

Simon Papworth, co-founder and director of Person Centred Software, said: "Our anonymised data covers thousands of care providers, including private and not-for-profit, from single home providers to large groups. This up to date insight of Covid-19 testing provides a close representation of the current situation in care homes across the country, providing a more representative picture than any individual adult social care provider could provide."

Eric Topham, CEO of T-DAB said: "This analysis provides unique reporting of the Covid-19 status of staff and residents, at scale. The data provides a granular view of the state of suspected cases, testing, infection, and deaths in care homes. We will be releasing more in-depth, specific analyses to understand patterns in care practices, policy, and Covid-19 outcomes. The insights from the Person Centred Software data will allow government, home owners, carers, residents and their families to see the progress being made with Covid-19 testing in care homes."

T-DAB is a data science, data analytics, and data engineering innovation agency, based in London's Shoreditch, specializing in delivering cutting edge data analytics and machine learning driven applications, helping clients to understand their data and discover new insights. T-DAB collaborate extensively with both private and academic partners. T-DAB is driven to further the use of data and AI for good. https://t-dab.com/

Person Centred Software is one of the leading suppliers of near real time management information systems to the care home sector. Its digital point of care recording system is used for 50,000 service users across more than 1,800 care providers in the UK. There are an average of 50 care actions recorded per service user per day (2.7 million records a day), which evidence the detail of the care people receive. Person Centred Software's digital care system, Mobile Care Monitoring, reduces paperwork and gives carers more time to care. Person Centred Software's philosophy is person-centred; providing benefits to everyone involved in care by delivering exceptional tools.

www.personcentredsoftware.com

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Notes for Editors:
Data
The data above relates to the period from 18th March up to and including May 27th 2020. There is no equivalent up to date information on the sector as a whole because more than half of the homes have no detailed, timely or automated data collection.

The graph in this release shows the Covid-19 testing of care staff as a percentage of the care staff population for which a Person Centred Software Mobile Care Monitoring (MCM) Covid-19 audit was undertaken. The dataset represents a total sample size of 12,407 care givers from 650 care homes across England, Wales and Scotland. This is a sub-sample of the total care homes in the MCM system. In order for a care giver to be included within the observational group, they must have had a Covid-19 audit form filled out in the MCM software. This data covers a minority of care homes but as many as any other provider. Given the geographic spread and size of the Person Centred Software client base, there is no reason to believe that the sample is not broadly representative of the sector.

- *'% staff ever tested' corresponds to the count of care givers having been recorded as being tested[1] at least once since 18th March, as a proportion of all care givers audited since 18th March.*
- *'% staff tested in the last 7 days' corresponds to the number of care givers recorded as being tested[1] in the 7 preceding days as a proportion of all care givers audited since 18th March.*

[1] Care givers (staff) identified as 'being tested' are those for which the status 'in test' or 'tested – confirmed' was recorded in their audit. The date at which either of these appears first, is taken as the date of testing. In the case where there is no record of 'in test', and 'tested – confirmed' appears first this date is used.

Policy
The government announced on 15 April that testing will be available for all care home residents with symptoms. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-offer-testing-for-everyone-who-needs-one-in-social-care-settings

The government announced on 11 May that "All symptomatic and asymptomatic care home staff and residents in England are now eligible for testing. Testing will be prioritised for care homes that look after the over 65s." https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-portal-for-care-homes-to-arrange-coronavirus-testing

At the same time, Minister of State for Care Helen Whately said: "Care homes are on the frontline in the fight against COVID-19 and we are determined that staff have everything they need to keep themselves and their residents safe. Testing is a crucial part of this. It helps prevent and control outbreaks and means steps can be taken to reduce the spread the virus and protect the most vulnerable." "Testing asymptomatic workers helps prevent and control outbreaks. It means those who test positive can be isolated, reducing the number of people who can spread the virus and protecting the most vulnerable. It also helps to build up a strategic understanding of the prevalence of the virus in local areas and the sector as a whole."

On 15 May at the daily briefing Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock said: "We will test every resident and every member of staff in our elderly care homes in England between now and early June". https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vM-2DsysyQI (7.36 minutes)

ONS has published data relating to deaths in care homes on 15 May: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/deathsinvolvingcovid19inthecaresectorenglandandwales

and on <u>19 May</u>:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/numberofdeathsincarehomesnotifiedtothecarequalitycommissionengland

Date: 30th May 2020

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