[Patient Name]

[Patient address line 1]

[Patient address line 2]

[Patient address line 3]   [date]

Your NHS number: [NHS NUMBER]

Dear [Patient],

Important information about new treatments for coronavirus

The NHS is using new treatments for coronavirus. You **might** be suitable for these treatments if a PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus.

These treatments need to be given quickly after you start to feel unwell. They can help to stop you from getting seriously ill from coronavirus.

More information about these treatments is available at www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments

This letter has specific instructions for patients who have been identified by a specialist team as potentially being able to benefit from COVID treatments. Please ignore this letter if you have already been contacted by NHS England.

You should:

1. Have a PCR test kit ready at home

2. Take a PCR test if you get coronavirus symptoms

3. *If the PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus:* call your GP practice or 111 so they can refer you for potential treatment.

Coronavirus treatments can help you if you are ill but vaccination is still the best protection for you and your loved ones. You can find more information at www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine.

1. Have a PCR test kit ready at home

You are strongly encouraged to keep a PCR test kit at home so you can get tested for coronavirus quickly after any symptoms. This will help you get treated more quickly.

Please call **119**, selecting the option for Test & Trace, to request a PCR test to keep at home, noting you may be eligible for COVID treatments. You can use **119** to request a replacement PCR test at any time.

You can also request a PCR test kit to keep at home by going online at https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test. When answering the question, 'Why are you asking for a test?', select 'I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional', and then select 'A GP or other healthcare professional has asked me to get a test'.

2. Take a PCR test if you get coronavirus symptoms

Use your PCR test kit as soon as possible if you develop **any** of these coronavirus symptoms, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If you get coronavirus symptoms and don't have a PCR test kit at home, you can still get a PCR test by phoning 119 or visiting https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Follow the PCR test instructions to register and send it back to Test & Trace.

When registering a PCR test, it is very important that you enter your NHS number and postcode correctly. This lets you get your test result and helps the NHS to contact you about treatment if you have coronavirus.

3. If the PCR test confirms that you have coronavirus

Following a positive PCR test, most patients will be contacted by a local NHS coronavirus medicines team to assess whether they might benefit from treatments.

However, some patients including you might not be contacted.

If you test positive after a PCR test you must contact your GP practice or call 111 who can make a referral.

Your specialist team can also make a referral if necessary.

These treatments will only be available from the NHS and will not cost you anything. The NHS will never ask you for your bank account details or to pay for treatment.

Why have you contacted me?

Health experts have looked at the health conditions which put people more at risk of coronavirus. This has been agreed by the UK chief medical officers.

Your medical records indicate that you might currently have, or have previously had, one or more of those health conditions, which means that these new treatments **might** be suitable for you if you ever test positive for coronavirus through a PCR test.

More information is available at www.nhs.uk/CoronavirusTreatments

Easy read and other language versions of this information are available from https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/treatments

Yours sincerely,

[Insert consultant / team name]