

August 2009

Gateway reference: 12313

A notice to all who conduct lung age tests and CO tests as part of their activities within the NHS:

If you use a hand held device to test for CO and lung age, please take extra precautions in light of swine flu. The following information is additional guidance to the standard procedures you follow for infection control.

Swine Flu and infection control - using CO monitors and Spirometers

- Only public who are well should be being tested - those who do not have symptoms of swine flu.
- Hand sanitiser gel should be used before and after using the machine.
- The machine should be wiped down quickly between uses with an alcohol wipe or equivalent (please note that alcohol wipes may not be compatible with some machines, so please check with the manufacturer for guidance on the appropriate wipe to use).
- Mouth pieces should be disposed of after each use and the black bag tied before being placed in another bin for collection (double bagging) to prevent domestic staff touching the mouth pieces (domestic staff should be wearing gloves when emptying bins as is usual infection control guidance).
- This testing activity should be reviewed as more cases of swine flu are detected.

Contact information

If you have any other queries, please contact Emma Croghan in the Department of Health (Policy) by emailing: Emma.Croghan@dh.gsi.gov.uk