

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6831

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to PCR testing.

You asked:

- 1) Please could you tell me for both Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells trusts, the spin cycle that is currently being used for the PCR testing. (I.e.25/30/35/40/45?)*
- 2) Please could you also tell me any previous cycles, if different, that both trusts have been advised to run the PCR tests on, and the dates in which changes occurred? (Within the last 12 months)*
- 3) Finally, please could you tell me who instructs the NHS service as to which cycle the PCR tests are run on?*

Trust response:

1. The test only gives CT value if positive
During times of low prevalence a CT of <25 is positive
2. During times of high prevalence then <28 is positive. The Trust would test any sample with a CT of greater than 25 with a second test.
3. We are not instructed by an outside body. It is determined by the manufacturer of the kits we use.