



evidence on the characteristics of the disease and technical testing approaches.

Eliminating the transmission of COVID-19 in healthcare and social care settings requires specific attention. Staff should be periodically tested and patients should be tested at or just prior to admission to the hospital. Hospitalised individuals should be monitored for COVID-19 symptoms for at least 14 days following admission, and be tested regularly along an agreed scheme (e.g. once a week). Moreover, hospital infection control plans should be re-activated.

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Onderwerp: EU common testing approach

Hoi (10)(2e)

Bijgevoegd het HSC paper 'Recommendation for a EU common testing approach. Morgen worden we in de HSC gevraagd akkoord te geven op dit document. Voorstel is om akkoord te gaan, maar voorafgaand nog schriftelijk de onderstaande input mee te geven. Is dit akkoord?

- The Netherlands observed a low overall testing willingness in the population at the time of filling out the survey. However, testing willingness among the population has increased over the last weeks. Therefore, this is not applicable to the Netherlands anymore (p. 5)
- Regarding periodically testing of patients and staff in healthcare and social care settings, this should be subjected to available testing capacity (p. 6)
- The Netherlands is currently experiencing temporary difficulties in lab capacity, which is resulting in longer turn-around-time (p. 7)
- P. 9: The Netherlands recently announced that teachers (temporarily) have priority when it comes to testing. As the turn-around time increased, teachers had to wait longer to receive their test result. This priority applies to healthcare professionals as well
- The Netherlands agrees that countries should aim for a turn-around-time of 24 hours, however this is subjected to lab capacity as well (p. 8)
- In the Netherlands, the results of antigen tests are not yet accepted for public health measures (p. 11)

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<sup>44</sup> Further details on the methods and measures to be applied for testing of COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory viruses can be found in the ECDC guidance on testing objectives for COVID-19.