

MVS for ATS at community pharmacies – site set up (1 of 2)

The following information lays out the minimum viable service (MVS) requirements for self-swab, assisted processing of Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) in community pharmacies. The test will likely be carried out in the pharmacy's consultation room, given it meets the following criteria. Larger pharmacies may choose to set up testing in a dedicated area away from the consultation room, in which case the standard open plan or privacy booth models may be more appropriate.

This guidance should be used in conjunction with the *Clinical Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Community Testing with Lateral Flow Antigen Testing Devices, a detailed framework providing full details on the set up, operation and governance of asymptomatic testing sites (ATS)*.

Consultation room minimum set up requirements

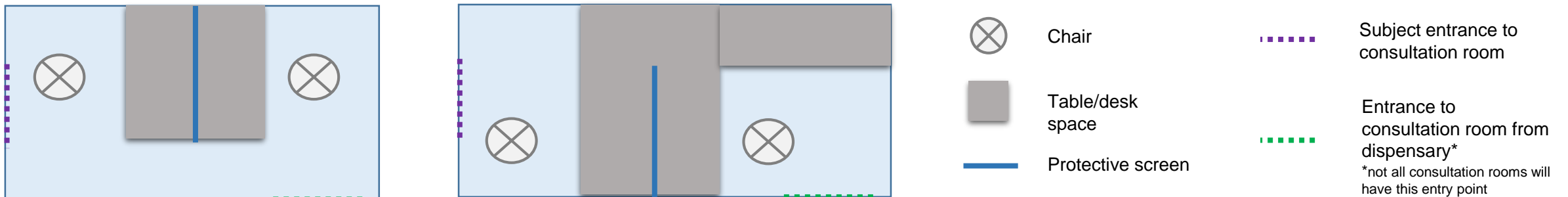
Each site will need to conduct a local risk assessment for full set up

Minimum consultation room size

- Length: 3m
- Width: 1.2m

- Suitable lighting, power, temperature control, airflow/ventilation
- Table (minimum 1mx1m)
 - Table should not block the sink, which most consultations rooms will already have
- Chair (optional - most consultation rooms will have two)
- Cleanable, intact surfaces and flooring
- Internet connection
- Accessible e.g. for wheelchair
- Storage space
- Clutter-free
- Protective clear screen across the table (strongly recommended)
 - Screen should have a hatch to allow subject to pass their sample (upright) to the Processing Operative

Consultation room size and layout varies between pharmacies. Below are examples of two common consultation room layouts which could potentially be set up to provide asymptomatic testing services.



NB. Diagrams are not to scale

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Subject journey step	Minimum requirement
Queuing area <i>(Access for subjects)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe queue management/crowd control allowing for social distancing • Subject must wear appropriate PPE throughout (face covering unless exempt/when taking swab) • Appropriate signage/demarcation based on set up
Welcome desk <i>(Initial point of encounter for subject)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be separate to the pharmacy counter (or separate part of the counter) i.e. separate queue for testing vs BAU pharmacy services. If using a separate part of the same counter, additional considerations and protective measures may be required e.g. plastic partition to keep queues separate • Staff must wear appropriate PPE (face mask) • Appropriate hand hygiene (alcohol-based hand rub) • Subject provided with test kit (including swab and tissues), test registration card, instructions, test barcodes and then directed to consultation room
Sample collection <i>(Area for subject to take sample)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laminated instructions poster on wall • Mirror • Sick bowl • Waste pedal bin (separate ones for domestic waste e.g. packaging and offensive waste e.g. PPE) • Appropriate cleaning and disinfecting products, equipment and processes (in line with the SOP) • Appropriate hand hygiene (alcohol-based hand rub)
Processing area <i>(Area for processing sample and analysis)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff must wear task-appropriate PPE (gloves, apron, face mask, eye protection) • Dedicated, clutter free desk space • Test analysis equipment (e.g. LFD cartridges, extraction solution, extraction tube and nozzles, tube rack, trays) • Pen • Permanent marker • Timer • Paper towels • Waste pedal bin (separate ones for chemical waste e.g. swabs, LFD and offensive waste e.g. PPE) • Ability to input/upload results (computer/device) • Appropriate cleaning and disinfecting products, equipment and processes (in line with the SOP) • Cleaning staff, if different, should also wear the above listed PPE
Subject exit (or waiting area – optional) <i>(Exit for subjects or area for subjects to wait)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject exits the facility and awaits results communication electronically OR, if subjects are waiting for their results on-site, subjects are instructed to wait in waiting area. Waiting area must have measures in place to ensure social distancing and must be a designated area separate to the waiting area for customers of BAU pharmacy services • Safe queue management/crowd control allowing for social distancing • Appropriate signage/demarcation based on set up