

Further variant testing

Would you be able to clarify what makes a PCR test suitable for further variant testing? Would you also be able to advise what percentage of PCR tests are subjected to further variant testing?

Trust Response

All samples positive for SARS CoV2 that have a Ct 34 or less are suitable for variant of concern testing using reflex tests which provide faster turnaround times. These are then confirmed using Whole Genome Sequencing.

In Pillar 1 100% of positive SARS CoV2 samples that are Ct 34 or less undergo further variant testing using reflex tests.