

PRINCIPLE aims to rapidly evaluate different treatments that could stem the progression of COVID-19 symptoms in older people and help ease the burden on hospitals.

Any healthcare professional can facilitate recruitment into the PRINCIPLE trial, by guiding patients through screening, consent and registration and performing an eligibility check or by sign-posting to the trial.

Who do we want to recruit:

Patients aged ≥ 65

OR aged $\geq 50-64$ with any of the following known comorbidities:

- Weakened immune system due to a serious illness or medication (e.g. chemotherapy)
- Asthma or lung disease
- Heart disease and/or hypertension
- Diabetes
- Stroke or neurological problems
- Mild hepatic impairment
- Self-report obesity or body mass index $\geq 35 \text{ kg/m}^2$

With any of these symptoms, within 14 days since onset:

New continuous cough

High temperature

Change/loss of smell/taste

OR a positive test for COVID-19 with any symptoms

Finding the right participant:

- Run a daily search for patients with a recent positive test for SARS-Cov-2.
- Run a search for all people who might be eligible if they were to become ill. This can be found at <https://sites.google.com/nih.ac.uk/it-solutions-tv-sm/study-resources/principle>

What to do next:

If the patient is suitable, please complete one of the following actions:

- Recruit the patient yourself. Go to www.principletrial.org and click '**Enrol a patient button**'
Please read through the illustrated Patient Information Sheet with the patient before completing the consent form.
Nb. you are verbally supporting someone to self-consent to the trial and transcribing this information into the online system. Therefore, GCP is not required.
- Refer the patient to the study team: **0800 138 0880**, who will guide the patient through enrolment
- Refer patient to **self-enrolment** page:
<https://www.principletrial.org/participants/how-to-join-the-trial>

- Confirm eligibility, by either i) **online** using your sentry login (Sites only) or ii) **over the phone** with the study clinical team or iii) send a patient **medical summary** to the study clinical team.
The study team will contact you to request the information required and to let you know how to provide it.

- Patients will be automatically randomised to usual care or a treatment arm and the study team will courier a study pack directly to the patient. The study pack contains a participant ID card, self-swab, instructions and return envelope, information booklet and if applicable the medication and medication instruction card.
* If Clinicians wish to prescribe the trial medication themselves, please let the trial team know* *Please see the protocol for medication doses.*

For USUAL care participant packs

GP sites with study materials: send the usual care pack to the patient. Notify the team if you are unable to do this.

All other sites: Study team will send the pack directly to the participant for next day delivery

For MEDICATION participant packs

The study team will send the pack directly to the participant for next day delivery. If clinicians wish to prescribe the randomised medication themselves, please let the trial team know principle@phc.ox.ac.uk

What happens next?

- Participants will start completing their online diary for 28 days and will receive an email with a link to the online diary system. They will be asked daily questions about their symptoms and contact with healthcare providers (approx. 10 mins/day required to complete)
- If online access is not possible, the trial team will telephone participants on days 7, 14 and 28 to collect information about how the participant is feeling.
- All participants will be telephoned on day 3 to check that they have received their participant pack

Please notify the trial team of any Serious Adverse Events:

- Hospitalisation or death **NOT** due to **COVID-19** MUST be reported within 24 hours of becoming aware.

Study Partner

To ensure that patients who may be to unwell at home can register for the trial, a Study Partner can help to assist in completing trial procedures and to provide information on the participants' behalf where necessary.

In brief please remember to:

- ❖ Identify potential participants with suspected/confirmed COVID-19
- ❖ If possible recruit the patient directly.
- ❖ Confirm/provide information to confirm, patient eligibility
- ❖ Inform patients of their SWAB RESULT
- ❖ If you prescribe the medication to a participant (e.g. following a consultation for immediate treatment), **please let the study team know**

Please contact the team if you have any problems:

Email:

principle@phc.ox.ac.uk

Tel: 0800 138 0880

GPs providing information to confirm a patient's eligibility will be reimbursed £50 per patient