

Ref. No: 236110821
From: Public
Date: 11/08/21
Subject: Polymerase Chain Reaction

REQUEST

I would like to know the number of cycles you have been using on the PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test for SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) as standard and if that number has ever been changed at any time for whatever reason?

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Hospitals use various closed systems which stop cycling at the point when the threshold for positivity has been reached. The maximum number of cycles undertaken will be 45. There have been no modifications to the number of cycles.