

“£9 Million spent on Lateral Flow Testing”



A Freedom of Information reply dated 6th October 2022 revealed that 3.1 million LFT kits had been dispensed free of charge over a 14 month period on the IOM at a cost of £9 million.

The regime of lateral flow testing for Covid-19 is now considered by many in the scientific community as being fundamentally flawed and discredited.

Legitimate concerns have been expressed around issues such as:

1. The high percentage of false positives which caused wholesale and unnecessary absences from the workplace.
2. The creation of a culture of frequent testing, engendering considerable fear and real anxiety.
3. Positive test results (such as arising from dead/historic cellular material) in otherwise perfectly healthy and asymptomatic individuals, leading to wholly unjustified disruption and harmful self-isolation.
4. Self-testing in the absence of any independent verification seen as wide open to abuse and malpractice, providing the perfect uncorroborated excuse not to do or not to go somewhere (or in the alternative to do/go).
5. Failure to keep up to date with developing scientific opinion on respiratory illness.
6. Same symptoms (headache, fatigue, high temperature, sore throat, runny nose) but apparently not Covid-19. What is the practical difference and is there any sensible basis for different lifestyle restrictions?
7. Government sponsored screening programme of asymptomatic secondary school children via home testing seen as particularly problematic and causing serious educational damage.

£9million of taxpayers' money spent in the last 14 months on LFT kits could be considered by many people as being misconceived and ill-judged.

LFT = Laughable Folly Tests?

Please see our FOI page for the full reply.