

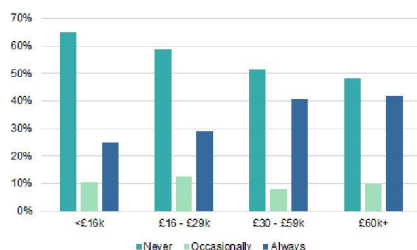


Financial insecurity causes people to engage in unsafe behaviour

People in **low income brackets** are less likely to request a test if they developed COVID-19 Symptoms

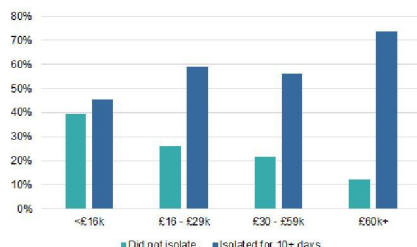
Question: "Since the start of first lockdown back in March, if you developed symptoms of COVID-19 [a cough/fever/loss of taste or smell], have you requested a test?"

Source: UCL COVID-19 Study (Release 28 - 13 January), n = 7,603



People in **low income brackets** are less likely to self-isolate when they had been told they were in contact with someone with COVID-19 symptoms

Source: UCL COVID-19 Study (Release 28 - 13 January), n = 2,497



Source: ADPH London, COVID-19: Barriers to Self-Isolation – Response to DHSC request for input to inform future policy development, 11 Nov 2020; JBC, Furlough of cases and their contacts as an NPI; [Kuckarski et al](#)



Cabinet Office
Analysis and Data Directorate, C10 Taskforce

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - DRAFT VERSION

Self-isolation on symptom onset is the most effective means of reducing R. A **10% improvement in self-isolation adherence** is estimated to **reduce R by 11% in low-income areas**, and 7% overall.

Having to self-isolate carries a financial disincentive. This can explain why those on lower incomes are much less likely to get a test if they develop symptoms or self-isolate when contacted by test and trace.

An ADPH London report identified that the key barriers to self-isolation across London were insufficient financial support, insufficient Universal Credit increase, confusion over the rules when advice to self-isolate hasn't come directly from NHS T&T (e.g. from schools) and employers withholding pay and encouraging return to work.