Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to inform you that I do not give my consent to have any form of the SARS-CoV-2 testing, including the lateral flow testing in the workplace.

Lateral flow testing is extremely unreliable -“ University of Birmingham and Scottish universities suggesting that the lateral flow tests had a sensitivity of just 3% (the proportion of people with covid-19 who tested positive) and that 58% of the positives were false positives.” (<https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4941?ijkey=d740dd9b9acc2b5a861ea203e42064d195b6f02e&keytype2=tf_ipsecsha>)

As well as being very unreliable, it is not even a medically accurate form of testing. “Previous data from the Liverpool mass testing pilot programme found that lateral flow tests detected just 48.89% of covid-19 infections in asymptomatic people when compared with a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test. It also found that the Innova Lateral Flow SARS-CoV-2 antigen test failed to detect three in 10 cases with the highest viral loads.” (<https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4848?ijkey=59b33a7ebf5a97073ffa050d1923b7af1a949fce&keytype2=tf_ipsecsha>) A minister at the Department of Health and Social Care admitted that mass swab testing was “not an accurate way of screening the general population” and could provide false reassurance. (<https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4916?ijkey=6b6478434764d5b13f1f0a88d02b60f7c30baf09&keytype2=tf_ipsecsha>)

In another study by Public Health England, published in the British Medical Journal, it states - “The absence of strong evidence that asymptomatic people are a driver of transmission is another good reason for pausing the roll out of mass testing in schools, universities, and communities” (<https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4851?fbclid=IwAR2DM5AJakLqtVnLrikEYQRz2oA7WVCQzIIchbOOaioZv80Oi1KCnkrbNgo>)

A meta-analysis of 54 studies looking at infections inside houses where people live together, involving nearly 78,000 participants, found that asymptomatic or presymptomatic index case transmission was 0.7%. In other words, 1 asymptomatic person would need to encounter about 140 people INSIDE A HOUSE for them to infect another. The chance of infection when in larger areas (e.g., stores) and particularly when outside is far less, to the extent that you may need to encounter thousands of people before infecting another. (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33315116/>)

Post-lockdown SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid screening in nearly ten million residents of Wuhan, China shows no asymptomatic transmission. The citywide screening of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Wuhan recruited nearly 10 million people, and found no newly confirmed cases with COVID-19. All close contacts were studies and virus cultures were negative for all asymptomatic positive and repetitive cases, indicating no viable virus in positive cases detected in this study. (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-19802-w>)

Another study concluded “that the infectivity of some asymptomatic carriers is weak”<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7219423/>

I am declining this on ethical reasons, which I do not need to divulge, but as you can see above, the science is overwhelmingly against these testing strategies and asymptomatic transmission. When I signed my work contract, I did not agree for any testing or intervention. I enjoy my job, but as per my rights, I will be taking legal action if I get reprimanded because of my ethical beliefs and my informed choice of declining the testing.

I am not symptomatic, and have never been symptomatic. If this does change, I will, of course self isolate immediately and inform yourselves and anyone that I have been in contact with.

Kind regards