

Testing times when managing your own health.

Point of Care Testing (POCT) refers to any medical test performed by a member of a healthcare team or a patient outside a hospital laboratory, for example, a glucose meter used in a GP surgery, a pregnancy test used in an Accident and Emergency department or a cholesterol test performed in a local pharmacy.

Led by scientists involved in POCT, students will examine a case study about a patient diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and discuss the issues surrounding it, including, what are the risks with POCT compared to testing in a hospital lab? Who should ensure tests performed outside labs are at an appropriate standard? What is the impact on the patient if you get the right or wrong result? How would you feel about taking responsibility for your own test results?

National Curriculum Links

AQA

- Science A: Biology Unit 1a - Human Biology
- Science B: Unit Biology 1
- Additional Science: Unit Biology 2
- Applied Science (Double Award): Unit 2 - Science for the Needs of Society
- Applied Science (Double Award): Unit 3 - Developing Scientific Skills
- Additional Applied Science: Unit 2 - Science at work

OCR

- Gateway Science - Science B: Module B1 - Understanding Ourselves
- Twenty First Century Science - Additional Applied Science A: Module AP1: Life Care
- Twenty First Century Science - Biology A: Module B2 - Keeping Healthy
- Twenty First Century Science - Science A: Module B2 - Keeping Healthy

KS4 Teacher's Guide for Citizenship: Scheme of Work

- Pupils can consider power and limitations of science in addressing industrial, ethical and environmental issues.
- Pupils can explore how different groups have different views about the role of science.
- Pupils can explore the social and moral dilemmas surrounding scientific advances.
- Pupils can learn to recognise hazards, assess risks and take action to reduce risk to themselves and others.

Curriculum practical skills

Students will:

- Take part in group activities that will develop teamwork and communication skills
- Think critically and rationally through different challenges
- Take part confidently in discussions with others about issues involving science and medicine.

Life skills

Students will:

- **Be creative.** Use imaginative and empathetic thinking to understand other people's motives and experiences. (i.e. Why some people may feel differently about POCT than others).
- **Develop sensitivity.** Encourage understanding and respect for people with different values and opinions. (i.e. A range of views exist on the topic of POCT)
- **Develop critical awareness.** Stimulate debate on difficult issues. (i.e. Who should the public trust with regard to POCT?)
- **Develop independent learning.** Activities that encourage students to ask their own questions. (i.e. group discussions will explore different viewpoints)
- **Link science to issues relevant to students' own lives.** Developing an understanding of health issues related to students' life experiences. (i.e. Pathology is involved in almost every medical test)