Having swabs taken

Information for patients

Easy Read
This booklet uses easy words and pictures.
You might want to ask someone to help you read it.

Every patient is checked to see if they are carrying any infections.
People can carry and spread bugs without even knowing.

They use a swab to check for bugs.
If you have an infection, the swabs can tell the doctors what medicines might help.
Staff will swab inside your mouth.

Or put the swab in your nose and rub it against the inside of your nostrils.
This can feel uncomfortable.

Or under your armpit
This can tickle.

Or in your groin area.
A new swab is used for each area.
This is uncomfortable but it does not last long. Please tell staff if you need reasonable adjustments to manage this.

The swabs are tested in a lab.

You will be told the results and if you need any treatment.

If you have a Learning Disability or Autism diagnosis please complete a Health Passport and return it to the Learning Disability and Autism team on: leedsth-tr.ldautism@nhs.net