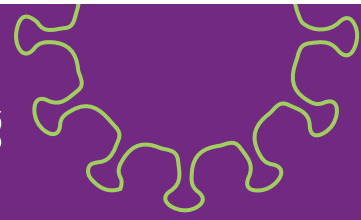


COVID-19 Antibody (Serology) Testing



Understanding the Test

There is a lot to learn about COVID-19, the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus; like how it travels from person to person, why it affects people differently, if it will come back seasonally like the flu and if people can catch it again. One way to help answer these questions is through serology testing.

What is serology testing?

When you are infected with a virus, your body produces proteins called antibodies. An antibody, or serology, test identifies these antibodies and the amount of them in your blood.

What can serology testing tell you?

- If you have antibodies, which **might** help protect you from being infected in the future.
- If you have not developed antibodies after a known COVID-19 illness.

What if I've never felt sick?

All people, even those who have never felt sick, can have blood drawn to know if they have antibodies.

Understanding Your Results

Negative Result

When you had your blood drawn, you did not have any COVID-19 antibodies. In very few cases, individuals who have been diagnosed and tested positive for COVID-19 illness still have not developed antibodies to the virus.

Positive Result

You have COVID-19 antibodies in your blood. This means you might have some immunity or protection from being re-infected. However, the degree to which those antibodies protect you and how long they last is currently unknown. For this reason it is important to continue to follow the Safe Practices outlined below, even if you have antibodies.

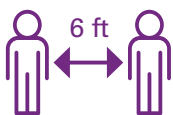
Can I donate blood to help COVID-19 patients?

If you have COVID-19 antibodies, you may also be a candidate to donate your blood (part called convalescent plasma). Studies are currently being done to see if convalescent plasma helps people with COVID-19 get better.

Next Steps

Scientists are trying to understand how some people, even those who have been sick with COVID-19 do not develop antibodies. Many people who were sick with COVID-19 will develop antibodies. Also, some people who have been exposed to the virus will develop antibodies even if they've never felt sick. With or without antibodies, it is important you follow your doctor's instructions. The below guidelines can also help you stay and keep others healthy.

Stay Safe - With or Without Antibodies



Maintain Social Distancing

Avoid close contact with others and maintain a social distance of six feet. Avoid large groups and crowded places.



Wash your hands often

Regular washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use of an alcohol-based hand sanitizer can help keep you safe. Avoid touching your face especially your eyes, nose and mouth.



Wear a mask when around others

You can spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. To protect others, wear a mask in public and stay home when you're feeling ill.