COVID-19 antibody testing: Everything you need to KNOW

In the global fight against COVID-19, we need to be armed with every available tool. That's why Quest Diagnostics offers COVID-19 antibody testing.

Antibody tests have the potential to play a critical role in helping us learn more about the virus, help stop its spread, and move our communities forward.

What is antibody testing?

COVID-19 antibody tests (also known as serology or immune response tests) may show if you had a prior infection, whether or not you ever experienced symptoms.

The test is performed as a blood draw. If antibodies are detected in your blood, you may have some level of immunity to the virus.*

*While the role of antibodies in preventing COVID-19 disease has yet to be established, antibody testing for other respiratory illnesses (SARS, flu) provides insight into immunity to future diseases.

Why choose antibody testing?

Antibody testing offers benefits globally, locally, and individually.

Public health officials can use antibody status data to get a more accurate picture of the prevalence of COVID-19 around the world and in local communities. Understanding the true reach of the virus is key to slowing its spread.

For yourself, knowing your own antibody status means you can alert your family and friends of your previous exposure and recommend they get tested if you had been in close contact. Antibody status also helps give you and your doctor or healthcare provider added insight to make an informed decision about possibly returning to work, school, or other activity.

However, antibody testing is just one tool available to you while making decisions about your health. To help protect yourself and others from COVID-19, it's important to also follow the latest guidance set by your community, the CDC and the FDA.

Also, antibody testing only offers a look backward on your exposure to COVID-19. If you believe you may currently be sick with COVID-19, consider an active infection swab test. Find out more at QuestDiagnostics.com/COVID19test

Who is right for antibody testing?

COVID-19 antibody testing may be right for you if you have been symptom-free for at least 10 days and you meet one of the following criteria:

- You were previously diagnosed with COVID-19.
- You suspect you likely had COVID-19.
- You think you were previously exposed to the virus.

Common COVID-19 symptoms: Fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, feeling weak
How can you get antibody testing?

**1 Order the test for yourself from QuestDirect™**

QuestDirect allows you to make the decision to get tested without a doctor visit, though it’s always important to connect with your doctor on health matters. The cost of the test cannot be submitted to health insurance. Order at GetQuestTest.com

**Two options:**

Then:

**2 Get a doctor’s order**

Talk to your doctor or healthcare provider and have them submit an order for your test. The cost of the test can be submitted to health insurance.

Schedule your appointment at a Quest near you.

Appointment.QuestDiagnostics.com

Get your test results:

The results of your COVID-19 antibody test will be sent directly to you and your doctor or healthcare provider through the secure MyQuest™ online portal.

Log in or sign up at: MyQuest.QuestDiagnostics.com

More about COVID-19 testing options: QuestDiagnostics.com/COVID19test

Testing statements

The antibody tests (sometimes known as the serology tests or IgG tests) are intended for use as an aid in identifying individuals with an adaptive immune response to SARS-CoV-2, indicating recent or prior infection. Results are for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies. IgG antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 are generally detectable in blood several days after initial infection, although the duration of time antibodies are present post-infection is not well characterized. At this time, it is unknown for how long antibodies persist following infection and if the presence of antibodies confers protective immunity. Individuals may have detectable virus present for several weeks following seroconversion. Negative results do not preclude acute SARS-CoV-2 infection. If acute infection is suspected, molecular testing for SARS-CoV-2 is necessary. The antibody test should not be used to diagnose acute SARS-CoV-2 infection. False positive results for the antibody test may occur due to cross-reactivity from pre-existing antibodies or other possible causes.

- The antibody tests and the molecular tests (together “All tests”) have not been FDA cleared or approved;
- All tests have been authorized by FDA under EUAs for use by authorized laboratories;
- The antibody tests have been authorized only for the detection of IgG antibodies against SARS-CoV-2, not for any other viruses or pathogens;
- The molecular tests have been authorized only for the detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2, not for any other viruses or pathogens; and,
- All tests are only authorized for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 under Section 564(b)(1) of the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner.