



COVID-19 IgG Antibody Test Fact Sheet



What is the COVID-19 IgG Antibody test?

This is a blood test to determine whether you may have had a COVID-19 infection.

When should I have a COVID-19 IgG Antibody test?

It can take up to 4 weeks for a person to develop antibodies to the virus. For those who choose to be tested, we recommend waiting at least 4 weeks after a COVID-like illness (e.g. fever, cough, hard time breathing, sore throat, body aches, and/or loss of taste or smell).

What does it mean if I test positive?

A positive test means that you likely have COVID-19 antibodies due to a COVID-19 infection. You may or may not have had symptoms at the time. We do not know if or how much protection these antibodies may provide against future COVID-19 infection. This test can sometimes give false positive results.

If I test positive, is it okay for me to change my behaviors?

No. It is not clear if COVID-19 antibodies provide immunity and false positive results can occur. It is very important that even people who have antibodies continue proper social distancing, masking, and hand hygiene. They should also strictly follow guidelines for appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) use in healthcare settings.

What does it mean if I test negative?

A negative test means that you likely do not have COVID-19 antibodies and have not had a COVID-19 infection. This test can sometimes give false negative results.

How much will this test cost me?

Your out-of-pocket expenses will depend on your insurance coverage. Contact your health insurance carrier for more information.

Where can I get more information about this testing?

Please visit <https://www.fda.gov/media/137382/download>.