



# Q & A

## COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING

### **WHO SHOULD GET COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING?**

Anyone who has had or suspect they have had COVID-19 in the previous 10 weeks and have had at least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, chills, body aches, sore throat, rash, diarrhea, nausea, loss of taste/smell or temp of 100.4 or greater.

### **WHY SHOULD I GET COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING?**

A completed antibody test provides valuable information to further scientific research to manage the virus. It also equips patients with information for the future. At this time, it is unclear whether people who have the antibodies are immune to COVID-19 but, understanding your personal experience with the virus will be helpful as additional discoveries are made.

### **IS THERE AN AGE REQUIREMENT TO TAKE THE TEST?**

Yes. The test is only available for persons 18 years of age or older.

### **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST?**

The initial test will be administered at no cost. Additional tests may be approved if recommended and authorized by a physician, but are subject to a charge.

### **IF I GET AN ANTIBODY TEST, DOES IT SERVE AS PROOF I CAN RETURN TO WORK?**

No. Returning to work is a decision for your employer.

### **SHOULD ANYONE AVOID GETTING THE COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST?**

Yes. If you have felt sick or had a fever during the last 14 days, think you currently have COVID-19, were diagnosed with COVID-19 less than 14 days ago, were directly exposed to someone known to have COVID-19 less than 14 days ago, or have any condition that weakens your immune system, you should avoid getting the test.

### **WHAT DOES A POSITIVE RESULT MEAN?**

A positive test result means you have antibodies that likely resulted from an infection with COVID-19.

### **IF THE TEST IS POSITIVE DOES IT MEAN I AM IMMUNE TO COVID-19?**

At this time, it is unclear if and how long those antibodies can provide protection (immunity) against getting infected again.

### **I NEVER HAD ANY SYMPTOMS, BUT I TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE ANTIBODIES, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

It is possible that you had a previous exposure to COVID-19 but did not develop symptoms. This is known as having an asymptomatic infection.

### **WHAT DOES A NEGATIVE TEST RESULT MEAN?**

A negative result means that it is unlikely that you have ever been infected with COVID-19. However, there are some individuals who may have been exposed but did not ever make antibodies.