

April 28th, 2020

SARS-Cov-2(novel coronavirus) IgG Antibody Testing

What is a serology test?

You (your child) is having a blood test to measure antibody or immunoglobulin for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) using the SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay. Antibodies are proteins made in response to infections.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The virus can cause mild to severe respiratory illness such as fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, muscle aches, shaking chills, new loss of taste or smell. The virus spreads from person-to person during close contact (6 feet or less) when infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. COVID-19 can also spread from people who are infected and show no symptoms.

Where is the test run and when will I get the result?

This blood test will be performed at the Upstate University Hospital clinical laboratory. Your provider will contact you with the results of the test which will be available within a day from the receipt of the specimen.

How are the results interpreted?

A negative test (no antibody or IgG detected) means one of the following:

- You have not had COVID-19 disease
- You had COVID-19 but the infection is recent and you have not yet developed antibody
- You had COVID-19 but the infection was in the past and antibodies waned over time

A positive test (there is antibody or IgG) means you had COVID-19 at least 2 weeks ago.

Does a positive test mean I am immune?

We do not know if a positive test means you are protected against an infection. Also, if there were to be protection or immunity, we do not know how long this will last.

Is this test experimental?

Test is authorized for use under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization to allow for rapid response during a declared public health emergency. This assay was validated by the Department of Pathology SUNY Upstate Medical University. Additional information is available on the following FDA website. <https://www.fda.gov/media/137382/download>

Information provided today can change in the future. If you have any questions please ask your provider who is ordering this test.

For more information, please visit:

1. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-serological-tests>.
2. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>