

COVID-19 antibody tests

Serology or antibody tests may be able to tell if you have been infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.

Your body makes antibodies when it fights an infection. Antibodies in your blood mean at one time you were exposed to COVID-19. Antibody tests find these antibodies in your blood and tell you if your immune system has responded to the infection.



Antibody tests may show if you have been previously infected.

A blood sample is used to find:



Develop early in an infection.



Develop later or after you've recovered.



An antibody test is different from the test in which a healthcare worker uses a nasal swab to collect a sample from your throat, behind your nose. This test is called a PCR test. A PCR test tells you if you are sick with COVID-19 right now.

Where can I get an antibody test?

Right now, you will need to ask your healthcare provider to order an antibody test. There may be a cost to you and your health insurance for this test. Ask your health insurance provider what the cost will be.

What does a positive antibody test result mean?	What does a negative antibody test result mean?
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If an antibody test is positive and shows antibodies are in your blood, you were likely infected with COVID-19.2. This does not guarantee you have immunity to the virus.3. It is important to still practice social distancing.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If an antibody test is negative and shows no antibodies in your blood, you were likely not infected with COVID-19.2. You may have been tested early in your infection, or your body has not made enough antibodies to be detected.3. It is important to still practice social distancing.

If you get sick with symptoms of COVID-19 (like a fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, or a decrease in your sense of smell or taste), you may need to be tested for COVID-19 with a PCR test. A PCR test is done by a healthcare worker who uses a nasal swab. Call a healthcare provider or visit www.coronavirus.utah.gov/testing-locations/.