

Antibody testing for COVID-19

What is an antibody?

A protein made by our immune system to precisely target a virus. Protective antibodies help fight an infection. Antibodies are produced in response to infection or vaccination.

How does the test work?

A person's blood sample is used to test if there are any **antibodies** present that match the virus.

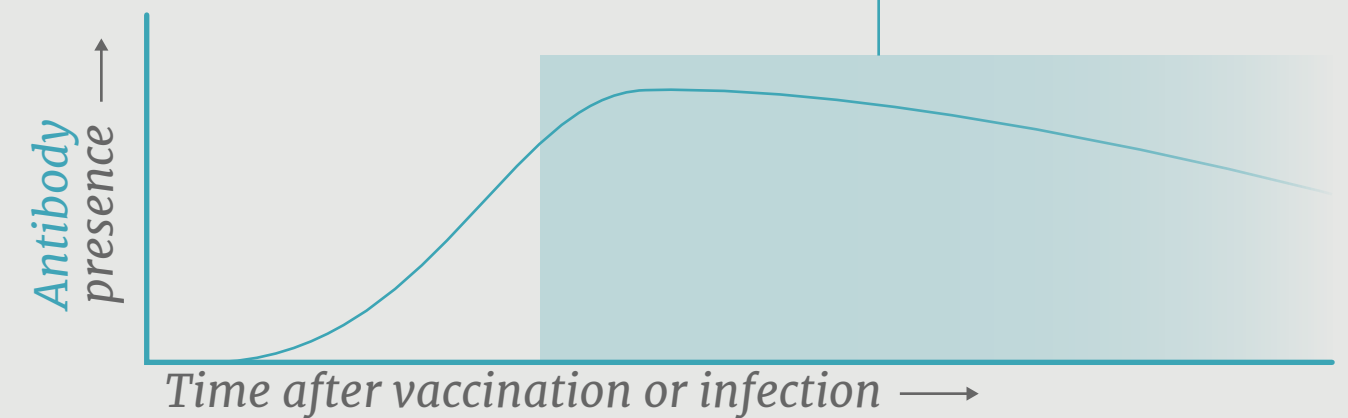


What does the test tell us?

A reliable indication that the immune system has responded to SARS-CoV-2 in the past, whether through infection or vaccination. It does not necessarily mean a person is protected from future infection.

When is the test used?

From a week to several months after infection or vaccination.



May test negative if tested before the body has had time to produce antibodies or if tested much later when the amount of antibody has waned.

How accurate is it?



Highly specific, meaning it's very unlikely to identify false positive results. Sensitivity is slightly lower, meaning there's a small possibility of false negative results.