

Guideline for Inpatient COVID-19 Serology Testing:

- I. What test is currently being offered?**
 - a. SARS-CoV-2 IgG
- II. Who is appropriate for inpatient COVID-19 serology testing?**
 - a. High suspicion of having had SARS-CoV-2 infection AND
 - b. At least one negative SARS-CoV-2 nasopharyngeal PCR AND
 - c. Must have had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 starting **at least** 11 days before testing AND
 - d. Patient for whom serology testing would change management
- III. How do I order this test?**
 - a. It is currently only available to in-patients with a negative COVID PCR diagnostic test AND
 - b. Day of symptoms onset is required at the time of order.
- IV. How do I interpret this test?**
 - a. Detection of IgG antibodies indicates exposure to SARS-CoV-2. The presence of IgG antibodies does **NOT** establish definitive immunity to COVID-19.
 - b. Results from the antibody testing should not be used as the sole basis to diagnose or exclude SARS-CoV-2.
 - c. Negative results do not rule out SARS-CoV-2 infection, particularly in those who have been in contact with the virus.
 - d. IgG status should not be used to inform presence or absence of infectious status. Molecular tests are the only tests currently recommended for the diagnosis of COVID-19 infection.
 - e. Immunocompromised patients who have COVID-19 may have a delayed antibody response and produce levels of antibody which may not be detected as positive by the assay. Consideration of repeat antibody testing should be done in conjunction with ID consultation
 - f. Not for the screening of donated blood.
 - g. Positive results may be due to past or present infection with non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus strains, such as coronavirus HKU1, NL63, OC43, or 229E.
- V. Is this a quantitative or qualitative test?**
 - a. The assay currently is a qualitative test (i.e report is antibody detected vs. not detected).
- VI. How quickly will I get the results?**
 - a. The turn around time is ~ 24 hours.
- VII. What tube type do I need to collect in?**
 - a. Red Top Tube