

Is this an Antibody test?

Yes, the test we are using is an IgG Antibody (Serologic) Test that detects the presence of antibodies (proteins) produced in the late stage of infection with the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2). These proteins circulate in a patient's blood stream and help fight off the viral illness as part of the body's immune response.

How sensitive is the Cedar Diagnostics Antibody test?

None of the currently available CoVid-19 Antibody tests (including the Abbott test we are using) have a determined absolute clinical sensitivity and specificity. This was WAIVED as part of the FDA exceptional release for testing. WE DO NOT KNOW the true clinical sensitivity of any of the assays currently granted emergency use authorization (EUA) by the FDA. However, based on the large validation performed by Abbott prior to releasing this test for use and achieving EUA status from the FDA, we expect the sensitivity and specificity to both be greater than 99% for patients who have been symptom free for at least 14 days following Covid-19 infection.

I have heard in the news and read online that many antibody tests are inaccurate. Is this true?

In the early days of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in the US, approximately 90 Antibody tests were shipped into the country (mostly from China), none of which had been evaluated at all by the FDA. Over the past several weeks, many studies have unfortunately demonstrated that some of these tests are inaccurate. Therefore, the FDA mandated that all antibody tests not granted EUA status after FDA review, even the fingerstick blood tests, could only be performed in a high complexity clinical laboratory, like Cedar Diagnostics in Durango, CO

What does a positive test mean?

A positive test indicates that IgG antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 were detected, and the individual has potentially been exposed to COVID-19. This generally means a past infection but does not exclude recently infected individuals who are still contagious. It is unknown how long IgG antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 will remain present in the body after infection or if they confer immunity to infection. There is also a very low chance that the positive antibody test could result from cross-reacting antibodies to other "common cold" coronaviruses. This assay was designed to minimize the risk of this cross-reactivity, but in the validation of 997 frozen blood samples collected before September 2019 there was a false positive rate of 0.4%. Because we do not know if SARS-CoV-2 antibodies provide immunity, a positive test DOES NOT mean that appropriate social distancing precautions can be ignored.

What does a negative test mean?

A negative test result means that SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibody was not present in the patient's serum above the limit of detection. Individuals tested early after infection may not have detectable IgG antibody despite active infection. In addition, not all individuals will develop a detectable IgG response to SARS-CoV-2. The absolute sensitivity of this assay is unknown.

Do I need a doctor's order?

No, you can get this testing without a doctor's order.

Where can I go to get my blood drawn for this test?

At this time, we have three draw stations where you can have your blood drawn for this test.

To make an appointment, please use the following scheduling link.

<https://booking.appointy.com/cedardiagnosics/locations>

For scheduling in Pagosa Springs, call Pagosa Medical Group at 970-372-0456

What is the turnaround time (TAT) for CoVid-19 test results?

Current TAT for in house testing is 24 hours.

The most up-to-date information on COVID-19 is available at [cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19).
In addition, please also contact your healthcare provider with any questions/concerns.