

*A COVID-19 Antibody test looks for the presence of COVID-19 antibodies, which are proteins made in response to a COVID-19 infection. Antibodies are detected in the blood of people who are tested after an infection; they show an immune response to the infection.*

### **PURPOSE OF THE COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST**

At this time, the full use of the results of this test is unknown. It is in our opinion that, until a vaccine or cure for COVID-19 is available, this is one of the few tools available to us in the reopening of our communities and businesses, as we do not currently know when this pandemic will end. Results of this test should be used in addition to the recommended safety precautions. Results of this test should also not be used to discriminate the non-immune or those you have had COVID-19. We do not know if the antibodies that result from COVID-19 will provide someone with protection (immunity) from getting the infection again. If antibodies do provide immunity, we don't know how much antibody is protective or how long protection might last. Scientists are currently conducting studies to answer these questions. Antibody tests are important for detecting previous infections in people who had few or no symptoms. This test is not meant to be used to screen for a current, active COVID-19 infection.

### **THE VERANDA'S COVID-19 ANTIBODY TEST**

The Veranda has chosen to use the FDA-approved Beckman Coulter's Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) COVID-19 Antibody test. This test will be performed in our own high-complexity CLIA certified lab by our own trained certified lab technicians. This test is a venipuncture lab that detects COVID-19 IgG antibodies using special ELISA lab machines. IgG antibodies appear around day 14 of infection. In the studies for the Beckman Coulter's COVID-19 IgG antibody test, the test showed 99.1% clinical sensitivity at day 14 and 100% at day 18. This test also showed a 99.5-100% clinical specificity. In other words, this is a very accurate test with rare false positives and false negatives.

### **Who qualifies for the COVID-19 IgG antibody test:**

- Someone who has no known COVID-19 infection, symptoms or exposure.
- Someone who had a confirmed positive COVID-19 test at least 14 days ago.
- Someone who suspected that they had COVID-19 at least 14 days ago but was not tested or believe that they had a false-negative test.
- Someone who was exposed to someone with COVID-19 at least 14 days ago and never had symptoms, had a negative test, or was not tested.

### **Who does not qualify for the COVID-19 Antibody test:**

- Someone who currently has any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, fatigue, chills, sweating, body aches, cough, shortness of breath, chest tightness, loss of taste or smell, decreased appetite, nausea, or diarrhea)

- Someone who has had exposure to someone with COVID-19 less than 14 days ago with or without symptoms.
- Someone who needs to be cleared for a current infection for any reason.
- These people will need a COVID-19 RNA PCR nasopharyngeal swab to test for an active, current COVID-19 infection. The Veranda has the ability to test for this and we overnight the specimen to another lab.

### **Important things for you to know:**

- This test is conducted via blood draw.
- Masks are required at the outdoor clinic and inside The Veranda at all times.
- COVID-19 Antibody testing can be requested via the portal and be drawn with your routine blood work.
- Results in 24 hours or less. Patients can access results via **NEW** patient portal account with Priva. If you do not have a portal, you can request a be put on the call list but this may delay you getting your results.
- This test can be filed with your insurance company.
- During walk-in lab testing, we will **ONLY** be doing the COVID-19 Antibody test and you will **NOT** be seen by a provider.

## **How to Interpret COVID-19 Antibody Test Results**

### **If you test POSITIVE:**

- A positive test result shows you may have antibodies from an infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.
- We do not know yet if having antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19 can protect someone from getting infected again or, if they do, how long this protection might last.
- You should continue to protect yourself and others since it might be possible you could get infected with the virus again. At this time, we do not know.
- If you have no symptoms, you likely do not have an active infection and no additional follow-up is needed.
- You might test positive for antibodies even if you never had symptoms of COVID-19. This can happen if you had an infection without symptoms (also called an asymptomatic infection).

### **If you test NEGATIVE:**

- You may not have had COVID-19 before.
- You could still have a current infection. The test may be negative because it typically takes 14 days after infection to develop IgG antibodies. It's possible you could still get sick if you have been exposed to the virus recently. This means you could still spread the virus. Some people may take even longer to develop antibodies, and some people may not develop antibodies.
- If you have symptoms or develop symptoms after the antibody test and you meet other criteria for testing, you would need the nasal swab test. An antibody (blood) test cannot tell if you are currently sick with COVID-19.

***Regardless of whether you test positive or negative, we do not know if the results confirm whether or not you are able to spread the virus that causes COVID-19. Until we know more, continue to take steps to protect yourself and others.***