

WHY TEST FOR COVID-19 ANTIBODIES?

TO KNOW YOUR STATUS:

- Research suggests that many who are infected COVID-19 show no or mild signs and symptoms of illness, so antibody tests could be useful in determining if you had it without knowing.
- People who test positive can get care earlier. Contacts can be traced and self-isolation or quarantine started sooner to help stop the spread of the virus.
- Employers determine their return-to-work-stay-at-home strategies.

UNDERSTAND DISEASE PREVALENCE:

- Widespread antibody testing could give researchers a better understanding of how many people have been infected and how deadly the virus really is.
- Researchers can use this data to predict how COVID-19 might affect us in the future, including why some people are more severely impacted than others.
- For convalescent plasma therapy: Convalescent plasma therapy uses the blood and antibodies from recovered COVID-19 patients to help treat others with COVID-19.
- To help develop a vaccine: When a vaccine is developed, it imitates a certain infection, and once injected, it helps build up the body's natural defense against the infection, creating immunity to the disease.

Note:

- Some people think having COVID-19 antibodies means they are immune to the virus and won't catch it again. There is currently no evidence to suggest that people who have recovered from COVID-19 are immune to catching it again.
- If you test negative for COVID-19 antibodies, it doesn't rule out the chance that you could have an active infection.

For more information, call or text

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