

COVID-19 Antibody Testing

What should I know about a COVID-19 antibody test?

Antibody tests are blood tests used to check the body's immune response to an infection or vaccine. Ongoing studies are looking at the relationship between antibody levels and protection against COVID-19 infection and to determine how long antibodies last.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend checking antibodies before, during, or after COVID-19 vaccination.

What does a COVID-19 antibody test tell me?

- It is uncertain what an antibody test result means. Research is needed to determine if the presence of antibodies provides protection from infection or re-infection with SARS-CoV-2, and if so, for how long.
 - It is unknown whether a positive (reactive) test represents immunity to COVID-19.
 - There are other types of immune responses produced by vaccination that help protect against infection that are not detected by antibody tests.
- There are no recommendations to change COVID-19 vaccine dosing schedules based on antibody testing results. Additional vaccine doses are not recommended if antibody testing is negative.

COVID-19 vaccination is highly recommended for all eligible individuals. Regardless of your antibody test result: social distancing, masking, hand hygiene, and other measures to reduce the likelihood of transmitting or becoming infected with COVID-19 should be practiced at all times.

Who can get an antibody test?

Anyone can get an antibody test as long as there are no active COVID-19 symptoms. If you recently had COVID-19 infection, you should wait at least 14 days since your symptoms started or since you tested positive by a diagnostic (PCR) test.

Scheduling your COVID-19 antibody test

Before going to the lab, log on to your secure account at kp.org.

- Go to the appointment section at kp.org and select "Schedule an Appointment".
- Select "COVID-19 Scheduling".
- Select "I am interested in getting an antibody test for COVID-19".
- You will be asked to answer some questions that will help us understand more about what your antibody test may mean in the context of your exposure, illness, and vaccination history.
- If you do not have a kp.org account, call **303-338-4545** or **1-800-218-1059** (TTY 711) to schedule your appointment.
- Once you have scheduled your appointment, visit a Kaiser Permanente medical office lab.

What can I expect?

A few days after you visit the lab, your antibody test results will be available on kp.org.