

Laboratory Technical Bulletin

Effective Date: April 14, 2020

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Title: COVID-19 Antibody Testing

Test: COVID19 (SARS CoV-2) IgG Ab, S

The presence of IgG antibodies to COVID-19 indicates previous exposure and the presence of an immune response that suggests that the patient is less likely to get infected/re-infected with COVID-19 compared to seronegative individuals. IgG antibodies to COVID-19 develop approximately 8-11 days after symptom onset for most patients. Serologic testing should not be used for symptomatic patients to rule out active infection – please order PCR testing (test code COVID) instead. A positive IgG test result does not mean that the patient is no longer shedding virus.

Although IgM and IgA antibodies against the virus may be detected sooner than IgG antibodies, MCL will not be offering this testing for the following reasons:

- These are often considered markers of acute infection; however, it still takes one week or longer for these antibodies to be detectable in most patients, making them limited as markers of recent infection.
- Studies at Mayo Clinic Laboratories have shown a concerning rate of false-positive results using an IgA SARSCoV-2 ELISA.

	New
Perform Site	Mayo Clinic Laboratories (MCL)
Method	Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)
Test Code	COR2G
Reference Range	Negative
Therapeutic Range	N/A
Specimen	Serum Gel / Red Top
Volume Required	0.6ml
Turnaround time	2 Days

	Date	4/14/20	
Dr. Daniel Sudilovsky, Laboratory Medical Director			
Tom Buran	Date	4-14-26	
Toni Burger, Laboratory Administrative Director			