



## ANTIBODY ONLY TESTING

*Updated April 24, 2020*

**NOTE:** *The scientific understanding regarding antibody test interpretation, incubation periods, seroconversion and viral shedding needs further research. Recommendations rely on presumptions made based on experience with similar coronaviruses.*

### **CURRENT ANTIBODY DATA**

- Antibody results are not diagnostic
- Antibody results do not rule out infection or viral shedding
- Day 7 post symptom onset - Antibodies can be detected
- Antibodies increase after day 7
- Day 10-12 post symptom onset – Antibodies detected in up to 80%
- Day 16-29 post symptom onset – Antibodies detected in all patients

### **NEGATIVE ANTIBODY TEST RESULTS**

Patients with **negative** antibody results **presumably have not been exposed** and would be considered at risk for becoming infected.

Patients should be instructed to follow the same precaution guidelines that are established for their community.

Guidance regarding the patient's likelihood of being infectious are dependent on clinical history.

### **POSITIVE ANTIBODY TEST RESULTS**

Patients with **positive** antibody results **presumably have been exposed** and would be considered low risk for becoming infected.

Guidance regarding the patient's likelihood of being infectious are dependent on clinical history.

## **WORK RELEASE**

The scientific understanding regarding antibody test interpretation, incubation periods, seroconversion and viral shedding needs further research. Recommendations are based off presumptions made based on similar coronavirus clinical experience.

**If Antibody test-based work release is requested from a patient's employer, consider wording the release to reflect the state of the science:**

*"Patient meets CDC criteria for release from home isolation. Based on patient testing, the patient is presumed to have a lower risk of infection."*