# COVID-19 antibody testing - Information for patients

If we need to take your blood as part of your clinical treatment today we will also test to see whether you have antibodies for COVID-19.

For more information please read the information in this booklet.

## What is an antibody test?

An antibody test can show if you have had the virus that causes COVID-19. It does not show whether you currently have COVID-19.

## What does a positive result mean?

If you have COVID-19 antibodies it means that you have probably had COVID-19 at some time and that your body has produced antibodies to it. This does not mean you cannot catch COVID-19 again.

## What does a negative result mean?

If you do not have antibodies it may mean either that you have not had COVID-19 or that you have had it very recently: too soon for any antibodies to be detected. We think it takes 21 days after infection for antibodies to be detected.

## Does the result affect my treatment?

It is unlikely to affect your treatment.

## Can I still get COVID-19 even if I have a positive result?

Yes - as far as we know, having antibodies to COVID-19 does not protect you from further COVID-19 infection (although it might).

## If I have antibodies could I still be a carrier of the virus and infect others?

Having antibodies means that you are unlikely to be carrying the COVID-19 virus, so the risk that you might infect someone else is low. We do not know if you can get COVID-19 again and therefore you are still strongly advised to follow national advice relating to social distancing and infection control.

---

**The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.**
- **Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available**
- **If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111**
- **Keep the environment clean and tidy**
- **Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.**

## Who will know my result?

The Trust will know your result in confidence and we will need to report your results to Public Health England because Coronavirus is a notifiable disease.

If you have a Wolverhampton GP, they will have access to your result.

## How will my information be used?

The anonymised results across the testing programme will provide information on the prevalence of COVID-19 in different regions of the country and help better understand how the disease spreads.

## English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.


## Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.


## Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.


## Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।


## Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.


## Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。