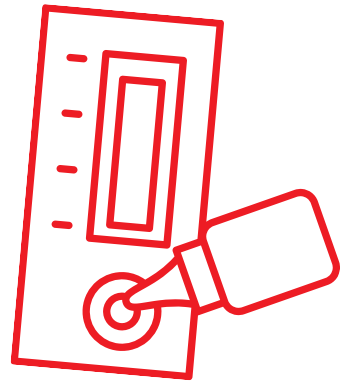


# COVID-19 TESTING: THE RAPID ANTIBODY TEST



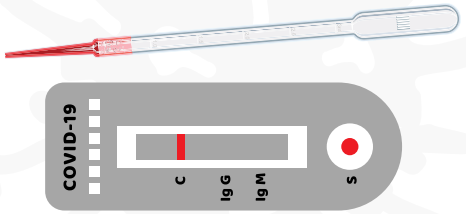
An antibody, also called an immunoglobulin, is a protective protein produced by the immune system in response to the presence of a foreign substance, or an antigen. Antibody tests are not used to diagnose current infection. Antibodies are detected in the blood of people who have been previously infected with COVID-19. Antibodies show the body's efforts or preparedness to fight off the virus. Once the antibodies are made, they may protect people from getting infected or getting severely ill for some period of time afterward. Antibodies diminish over time. How quickly antibodies wane is different for each disease and each person. The length of time that people will carry antibodies for COVID-19 is currently unknown, which is why regular testing can be beneficial.

## HOW IT WORKS

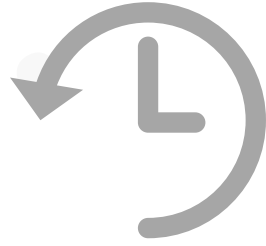
① A technician will prep your finger with an alcohol swab, then use a lancet to retrieve a small sample of blood.



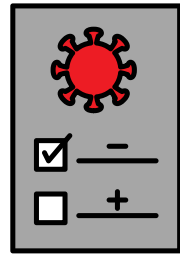
② The blood will be drawn from your finger with a small pipette, then dropped into the test cassette with a buffer solution.



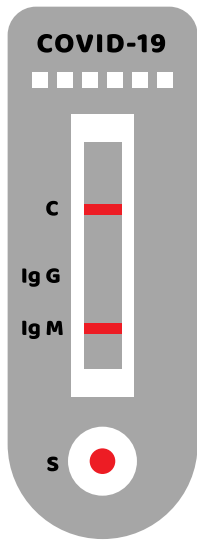
③ Wait 10 minutes. Note that results should not be read after 15 minutes.



④ Your test cassette will indicate a positive or negative result for COVID-19 antibodies.

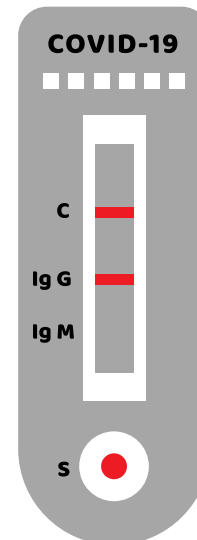


# HOW TO READ ANTIBODY TEST RESULTS



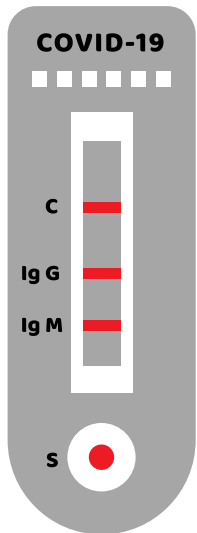
## ▶▶▶ IgM POSITIVE

A line at the mark labeled "IgM" indicates that you are carrying a class of antibodies known as immunoglobulin M (IgM), which is mostly found in blood, and it's the first type of antibody produced when the body is fighting a new infection. Detection of these antibodies indicates that you have already been infected with COVID-19. In most cases, it suggests that your case of COVID-19 is more recent, as these usually develop after the first week of infection, and it's possible that you are still contagious. It is usually recommended to test for antibodies again later to confirm that IgG antibody status has become positive only.



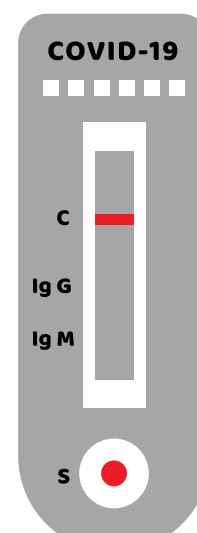
## ▶▶▶ IgG POSITIVE

A line at the mark labeled "IgG" indicates that you are carrying a class of antibodies known as immunoglobulin G (IgG), which is mostly found in blood, and it's an antibody that develops and remains in the blood after the infection has passed. It usually indicates that the body finished fighting COVID-19 several weeks ago and has developed a longer term immunity to infection. IgG antibody production can continually rise over time, but it varies for each person.



## ▶▶▶ IgG & IgM POSITIVE

A line at both marks labeled "IgG" and "IgM" indicates that your body is actively producing antibodies to an infection that it still ongoing. Both IgM and IgG may be detected around the same time after infection. While IgM is most useful for determining recent infection as it usually becomes undetectable weeks to months following infection, IgG may remain detectable for longer periods. If both antibodies are positive, it is possible that you are still contagious. It is usually recommended to test for antibodies again later to confirm that IgG antibody status has become positive only.



## ▶▶▶ NEGATIVE

If a line does not show up at either mark labeled "IgG" or "IgM", then your body's immune system is not carrying antibodies to the target the virus and is not suspected of having COVID-19 in the past. This is not intended to determine whether or not you are currently infected, however you can conclude that you are not immune to getting COVID-19 in the future. This result also does not rule out possible recent exposure to the virus. If recent exposure is suspected for any reason, then a rapid antigen or PCR test is recommended.