

COVID-19 UPDATE

Diagnosis of Infection and Testing for Antibodies

WHAT TO KNOW IF DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19

Some patients may be diagnosed with COVID-19 based on symptoms, without doing a test. Self-quarantine recommendations should be followed, just as if a test was performed. See details on: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html

Positive COVID-19 nasopharyngeal swab test results are extremely accurate.

However, a negative swab test result isn't perfect, missing 25 to 30 percent of infections. It is possible to receive a negative test result when the patient is, in fact, infected.



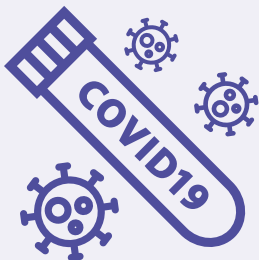
Seek emergency care for worsening or severe symptoms, such as trouble breathing, persistent chest pain or pressure, confusion, or bluish lips or face.

Social distancing remains important for those who have recovered from COVID-19. It's unknown how long someone can shed the virus, or if it can be caught again. It is critical to support social distancing and public health guidelines to help prevent the spread of the virus.

The CDC has guidelines, but it's important to meet with your healthcare provider to determine when to end a quarantine after a COVID-19 diagnosis.



BLOOD TEST FOR ANTIBODIES



Acton Medical closely monitors serologic testing developments, but does not currently offer or recommend this testing for our patients.

Serology testing checks a blood sample for antibodies to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This test checks for previous infection, but isn't recommended for general use.

The blood test can give false results, and a false sense of security.

It's not known if antibodies from SARS-CoV-2 can protect someone from reinfection, or how for how long. Scientists are conducting research to answer those questions.

Serology tests may not predict if a person is currently infected because it can take one to two weeks to develop antibodies

