

FOR EMPLOYEES

What is an antibody test?

An antibody test can tell someone whether they have had the virus that causes Covid-19 in the past, by analysing a blood sample.

What do antibody test results mean?

A positive antibody test demonstrates that someone has developed antibodies to the virus. The presence of antibodies signals that the body has staged an immune response to the virus. Covid-19 is a new disease, and our understanding of the body's immune response to it is limited. We do not know, for example, how long an antibody response lasts, nor whether having antibodies means you can't transmit the virus to others. Our understanding of the virus will grow as new scientific evidence and studies emerge. An antibody test result can only tell an individual whether or not they have had the virus in the past. Antibody tests are also being used currently in surveillance studies, to understand what proportion of the population have already had the virus.

If you test positive for antibodies, can you ignore lockdown restrictions?

No. There is no evidence yet to suggest that those who have been proven to have had the virus are immune. This is the position of the World Health Organisation. You should continue to comply with social distancing measures and government guidelines. All infection prevention and control measures must continue to be in place irrespective of the presence of antibodies.

How will I be informed of the result?

Communication of the result is the responsibility of your employing organisation. The results will not go on the employment record and your GP should be able to access the result if required and according to local information sharing protocols.

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.

Are there any risks to having the test?

There are some risks related to having a blood test, such as feeling dizzy and faint during and after the test but nothing specific to this antibody test. Risks can also include bruising at the venepuncture site. Serious complications such as an infection at the site where blood was taken and phlebitis (swelling of the vein) are possible but generally extremely unlikely.

Information governance

The data collected as part of this process will form part of the Trust's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The information provided by you will allow the Trust to manage the provision of the antibody test.

This data is given voluntarily by yourself and the Trust will use the legal basis 6(1)(a) and 9(2)(a) Consent to process this information.

However, the Trust is legally obliged to report all positive results to Public Health England and this will include a positive result of the antibody test. This data will be given

anonymously and as such is not required to be covered by the Data Protection Act 2018. In addition to the anonymous reporting, the Trust will collect the positive information as this data will be used to support you, your family and used to manage the planning and provision of Healthcare within the Trust.

In this instance, the Trust will be processing data using the following legal basis:

- GDPR Article 6(1)(e) – the processing is necessary for the performance of its official tasks carried out in the public interest in providing and managing a health service
- GDPR Article 9(2)(i) – the processing is necessary for reasons of public interest in the area of public health

For more information and for your rights under these Articles, please see the Trust's privacy policy here <https://www.derbyshirehealthcareft.nhs.uk/privacy-policy> or contact dhcft.dpo@nhs.net

Consent

- I confirm that I have read the above information; I understand that my participation is voluntary and I consent for this procedure.
- I have had the opportunity to consider the information and can confirm that I understand the nature and purpose of this procedure, together with the benefits and risks.
- I have confirmed a positive test will not mean at this point that I am immune and therefore I will continue to behave as if I might get or pass on the infection I declare that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.
- I do not have an underlying condition that would mean I should not have a blood test.

Organisation	Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
First name	
Surname	
Sign	
Date	