

## **KEY WORKER INFORMATION:**

### **COVID-19 Antibody Testing**

---

It is important that you do not attend for testing if you: are self-isolating as a contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19; have symptoms of Covid-19 and are awaiting testing or you are a confirmed case undergoing self-isolation.

#### **What is COVID-19 Antibody testing?**

COVID-19 is the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

The COVID-19 antibody testing is used to establish whether a person has been infected with the novel coronavirus.

#### **Why am I being offered a test?**

We are offering the antibody test to see if you have been infected with Covid-19 and to further our understanding of transmission of the infection in Wales.

#### **What does a positive result mean?**

If you have been exposed to COVID-19, then you may have developed antibodies. A positive result means that you probably had coronavirus in the past.

It is important to remember that a positive test (detecting antibodies) does not mean that you are necessarily protected against reinfection and it is possible that you could be infected by COVID-19 again.

#### **What does a negative result mean?**

It could take more than two weeks to have an antibody response after COVID-19 exposure. Hence, a negative result could either mean that you haven't been infected or you are in the time period before an antibody response could be generated by your body.

A negative result could also mean that you may have had coronavirus but do not have detectable antibodies.

#### **Why do I have to sign a disclaimer before the test is undertaken?**

You will be expected to sign a disclaimer before your blood test. This is to ensure that you have understood what the results of the test will mean. If after having discussions with the healthcare worker you do not wish to have the test then you can refuse.

**Where will the results be sent?**

Your results will either be given to you when the test is carried out or will be sent to you by text messaging service. You can expect your test result within seven days, please do not ring for result before this.

All results will also be added to your medical record.

**Despite the outcome of the antibody test, if you become symptomatic for SARS COVID-19 at any point (fever, cough, altered sense of taste and smell), then you must inform your line manager, undertake the swab test and isolate until the results are known. You must continue to self-isolate from onset of symptoms for seven days if your swabs results are positive.**