

## We are now offering a Covid-19 testing

It will look like you are making an appointment – but in fact is what you are doing is booking a test kit to be sent to you next day in the post

The information below will help you decide whether you need an antigen test for current infection, or an antibody test for evidence of previous infection



Book your Covid-19 test

### Antibody test for Covid - £93.50

**We are using the kit from Abbott, FDA approved in the USA already and is CE marked for Europe. Data shows reliable results with 99.6% specificity and 100% sensitivity for patients tested 14 days after symptoms began.**

**You may have read about the Roche kit, just approved in the UK.**

**To all intents and purposes the tests are virtually identical in their results –both major firms, one Swiss (Roche), the other American (Abbott)**

An antibody test can detect if a person has had coronavirus before and has since recovered. The test will be able to tell patients whether they have developed an immune response to Covid-19, "even if they were asymptomatic or never diagnosed with the disease"

Most patients who recover from coronavirus have been found to produce antibodies, but it is not yet known if an individual with a positive result showing presence of IgG levels following being infected with SARS-CoV-2 will be protected, either fully or partially from future infection, or for how long protective immunity may last.

We will ship you our easy to use home antibody testing kit right away.

- When you receive it open the package read the letter and information carefully. It is a fairly simple process to provide a blood sample via a finger prick.
- Testing should be undertaken 14 days or more post- exposure or onset of symptoms.
- This is a test you take if you are feeling well and want to confirm whether or not you have been infected with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in past. You should take it after at least 2-3 weeks after any symptoms have started as it does take a while to develop the antibodies after exposure. If you are unwell then it is a throat and nose swab you need - the PCR test. This will detect the presence of the actual virus and check for active infection.

#### What is in the Kit

- Blood collection tube
- Lancets
- Instructions
- Prepaid tracked return envelope

## Results

Your results will be ready within 4-5 days and we will send you a link to a secure portal to get the results. If you do not hear from us within 6 days – please check your junk mail folder and, if there is nothing there, then email us.

There is still a lot of uncertainty, but it is highly likely that if you do have antibodies, you have had covid-19 and that it is quite likely that you may have at least some temporary immunity. Still, it is very important that you do not take the presence of antibodies to mean that you are able to ignore government advice about social distancing, hand hygiene and isolation.

## Antigen test - £138.50

This tests for presence of the virus on swabs. It does not test blood.

We will ship you our easy to use home testing kit right away.

When you receive it open the package read the instructions carefully.

### What to do when you get the Kit.

- Samples should be taken from symptomatic patients between days 1-5 from onset of symptoms.
- Remove the swab without touching the soft tip.
- In front of a mirror firmly swab your tonsils and either side of the throat, avoiding your tongue. Then put the swab into one nostril and twirl for a few seconds.
- Put the swab back into the tube it came in and press it closed. Place the closed swab, along with your completed test request form into the prepaid envelope provided.

### What you will get in your kit.

- Swab in sample collection tube
- Test request form -Instructions
- Prepaid return envelope

### What will the results mean?

- The tests we use show a minimum sensitivity of 98% and a specificity of 100%, with no cross-reactivity with other viruses.
- This means if you have the test and receive a positive result you definitely have an infection. If you receive a negative test this is 98% reliable, however 2% of tests may give an apparent negative result when you are actually infected – this can occur if the test is done too early.
- Patients with very low viral loads are less likely to be detected.
- 'Not detected' results do not preclude infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus and should not be the sole basis of a patient treatment/management or public health decision.
- Your results will be ready within 4-5 days and we will send you a link to a secure portal to get the results. If you do not hear from us within 6 days – please check your junk mail folder and, if there is nothing there, then email us.