
LAB ALERT: Antibody Testing for COVID-19

Date: April 23, 2020

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

UNMC and its partner Nebraska Medicine are currently working on developing and validating an assay to detect the IgG-class antibodies against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, agent of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Meanwhile, as a service to our clients we will be sending this test out to our reference laboratory until the in-house test is validated.

Antibody testing is recommended in individuals at least 10 days post-symptom onset or following exposure to individuals with confirmed COVID-19.

Test Name: COVID19 Ab, IgG

Test Code: [COR2G \(https://www.testmenu.com/nebraska/Tests/1038512\)](https://www.testmenu.com/nebraska/Tests/1038512)

Turnaround Time:

Testing performed Monday through Sunday; 10 a.m.

Results in 2-4 days

Specimen Requirement:

Aliquot Tube, 5mL

Collection Container/Tube:

Preferred: Serum gel, Gold SST

Acceptable: Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 0.6 mL

Collection Instructions: Centrifuge and aliquot serum into an aliquot tube

Stability/Storage:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days
	Frozen	30 days

Cautions:

Symptomatic patients suspected to have acute coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) should be tested using a molecular assay to detect severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) RNA.

Serologic testing should not be used to diagnose SARS-CoV-2 infection in symptomatic patients presenting soon after symptom onset due to the risk of false-negative serologic results.

False-negative serologic results may occur in serum collected too soon after symptom onset. Typically, the majority of patients seroconvert between 8 to 11 days post-symptom onset; specimens collected and tested prior to this time point may be negative.

False-positive results may occur in a small percentage of individuals. Preliminary data indicate minimal cross-reactivity between antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 and the commonly circulating coronavirus strains, OC43, 229E, NL63, and HKU1.

Interface Build:

<u>OrderCode</u>	<u>OrderName</u>	<u>ResultCode</u>	<u>ResultName</u>	<u>ResultUnits</u>	<u>LOINC</u>	<u>CPT</u>
COR2G	COVID 19 Ab, IgG	CR2G	SARS-CoV-w IgG Ab		94563-4	86769
COR2G	COVID 19 Ab, IgG	DEXRG	SARS-CoV-2 IgG Index		94505-5	

Please note that this information changes frequently. We will inform clients of updates as they become available.

If you have any questions or issues with these changes, please contact client services at 402-559-6420 and ask to speak with one of the client coordinators.
