



# SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Antibody (Serology) Testing

September 10, 2020

**COVID-19 antibody testing** can now be performed at St. Paul's Hospital and is available **only after approval by a PHC Medical Microbiologist** and on a case-by-case basis.

Clinical indications are limited to inpatients and to the follow clinical scenarios:

1. Diagnosis of patients with atypical clinical manifestations for whom COVID-19 NAT results are negative and antibody test results will affect clinical management (e.g., Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome).
2. Diagnosis of acutely ill, hospitalized patients for whom COVID-19 NAT results are negative, yet clinical signs and symptoms are highly suggestive of COVID-19 and results will guide patient management .

To increase clinical sensitivity of serology, testing is best performed 14 days or more after symptom onset.

Serology should not be used to diagnose acute SARS-CoV-2 infection.

At the present time, detectable antibodies have not been proven to confer meaningful or durable immunity to re-infection.

Orders for COVID-19 serology submitted without approval by a PHC Medical Microbiologist will not be processed.

For approval of a request for COVID-19 antibody testing, please contact the Medical Microbiologist on-call through the PHC Switchboard.