



TITLE	Primary Care Antibody Testing for SARS-CoV-2
TODAY'S DATE	May 14, 2020
SECTION	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization Wide <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Department <input type="checkbox"/> Inpatient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ambulatory <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical staff [physicians and advance care practitioners]

APPLICABLE LOCATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Bozeman Health locations <input type="checkbox"/> Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Big Sky Medical Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Belgrade Clinic + UrgentCare <input type="checkbox"/> Hillcrest Senior Living <input type="checkbox"/> b2 UrgentCare <input type="checkbox"/> b2 MicroCare
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CONTRIBUTORS	Chris Nero MD, Mark Winton MD, Karl Reisig MD, Mike Spinelli MD
APPROVED BY	Incident Command
APPROVAL DATE	May 14, 2020

PURPOSE:

There have been an increasing number of requests from patients for SARS-CoV-2 Antibody testing to be ordered by primary care physicians. Bozeman Health now has access to antibody testing through the Mayo clinic. This document is intended to provide providers with the information necessary to engage in shared decision making discussions with their patients around antibody testing.

POLICY/PROTOCOL:

Providers are to use clinical judgement when ordering SARS-CoV-2 antibody testing.

Antibody testing for the SARS-CoV-2 virus is now available to order by Bozeman Health providers through the Mayo Clinic. Staff and providers are encouraged to be transparent in communication with patients that the utility of this test remains uncertain. Staff and providers should remember the fundamentals of shared decision making when talking with your patients about ordering antibody testing.

IgG antibody may be detectable as early as 3-6 days after symptom onset, but the median time to seroconversion is 10-12 days with essentially all patients seropositive by 3 weeks.

Recommendations are to wait for the patient to be at least 28 days after the initial onset of symptoms and 14 days asymptomatic to optimize safety to our laboratory staff and be beyond the point when virtually all patients would have seroconverted. The duration of seropositivity is unknown, however it is known that IgG for other coronaviruses tends to be detectable for up to several years.

Staff and providers are to listen carefully to the patient to promote shared decision making. While immunity cannot be guaranteed based on this test, and knowing there are no therapy suggestions based on this test, the test result does speak to likelihood of prior infection and that information may be of value to patients.

NOTES:

- Mayo Clinical Labs SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Testing: <https://www.mayocliniclabs.com/test-catalog/Clinical+and+Interpretive/608825>.

OTHER POLICIES/PROTOCOLS TO REFERENCE:

- Policy in progress: Vitalant Policy Statement

REFERENCES:

- Adopted from Dr. Vicky Fang's Practical Guidelines for Primary Care Providers at UWNC Medical Center
- OKBA N, Muller MA, Li W, et al: SARS-CoV-2 Specific Antibody Responses in COVID-19 Patients. medRxiv 2020.03.18.20038059. doi: 10.1101/2020.03.18.20038059
- Amanat F, Nguyen T, Chromikova V, et al: A Serologic Assay to Detect SARS-CoV-2 Seroconversion in Humans. medRxiv 2020.03.17.20037713. doi: 10.1101/2020.03.17.20037713
- Liu L: A preliminary study on serological assay for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in 238 admitted hospital patients. 2020, in press. doi: 10.1101/2020.03.06.20031856
- Zhang W: Molecular and serologic investigation of 2019-nCoV infected patients: implication of multiple shedding routes. Emerging Microbes Infect 2020, in press. doi: 10.1080/22221751.2020.1729071

SCOPE:

We anticipate these adjustments to be temporary and reserve the right to revise or discontinue these adjustments with or without notice depending on the current understanding and/or business needs of Bozeman Health relating to COVID-19.