

ADAPTABLE EMAIL TEMPLATE FOR YOUR PRACTICE CONTEXT*

Customize the information below in keeping with your office procedures

To all our valued patients,

COVID-19 antibody blood tests (also called "serology") are not currently recommended. There is no clear guidance around how to interpret the results of such tests. A negative test result (no antibodies) cannot be used to rule out an active infection, and if a result is positive (presence of antibodies), it is not yet known if this means you are protected against COVID-19 in the future.

At this time, and in accordance with Public Health Ontario's guidance, we will not be ordering these tests or interpreting the results.

If you have [symptoms](#) of a possible COVID-19 infection right now, or meet Public Health's criteria for a recent exposure or travel, you will need a test for active infection. Please visit the Ontario Ministry of Health website for more information about COVID testing criteria and locations: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>.

For further reading about the antibody blood test:

Public Health Ontario: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/laboratory-services/test-information-index/covid-19-serology#:~:text=As%20of%20August%206%2C%202020,is%20immune%20to%20COVID%2D19.>

BC Centre for Disease Control: Antibody Testing [http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/covid-19-testing/antibody-testing-\(serology\)](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/covid-19-testing/antibody-testing-(serology))

Infectious Diseases Society of America Guidelines on the Diagnosis of COVID-19: Serologic Testing
<https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/covid-19-guideline-serology/>

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