

JACK M. GINDI, MD, FACP
Internal Medicine

Dear Patient,

Many of you have been asking about a reliable blood test to detect whether or not you have had COVID-19 infection, especially now that we know that a substantial number of people have been infected with very mild nonspecific symptoms, and some apparently with no symptoms at all.

A reliable antibody test by Abbott labs is now being run through Quest Labs. This Abbott immunoassay test has been EUA FDA approved, and was evaluated at the University of Washington Virology Lab, with excellent specificity and sensitivity (very few false positives or false negatives).

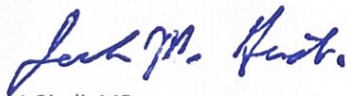
We do not yet know whether a positive result (having these IGG antibodies circulating in your blood) confers immunity to subsequent infection, and if so, to what extent and for how long.

Also, this is not a test of active infection, so you would not want to have this test while symptomatic. In fact, it is recommended that you wait at least 2 weeks from the onset of symptoms before testing to minimize any chance of a false negative result.

If you wish to have this blood test performed, please reply to this email and we will add you to our list for us to schedule you. I will discuss the testing further and interpret the results with you in the context of your medical conditions and general state of health. This will be done as a telemedicine visit, preferably prior to testing.

As always, wishing you the best of health through these trying times.

Sincerely,



Jack M Gindi, MD