

COVID-19 Information and Checklist on COVID-19 Antibody Test Kits Protecting Against COVID-19

Some companies in Ohio are purchasing serological tests that detect antibodies, or proteins, found in the blood when the body responds to the virus that causes COVID-19. They plan to use the tests on staff and, in some cases, customers.

These tests detect the immune response to the virus, not the virus itself, and can help healthcare professionals identify individuals who have overcome an infection in the past and developed an immune response. In the future, this may potentially be used to help determine, alongside other clinical data, that patients are no longer susceptible to infection and can return to work, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommends that employers in Ohio review the following information before purchasing or using COVID-19 antibody test kits:

- In the early days of an infection when the body's immune response is still building, antibodies may not be detected. As such, antibody testing is one piece to the puzzle to determine whether employees can return to work. Antibody test results are not the sole answer.
- Some firms developing the tests are falsely claiming that their serological tests are approved by the FDA or falsely claiming that they can diagnose COVID-19.
- All employers looking to use the tests should ensure that they are buying only antibody tests approved by the FDA for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Without the FDA's EUA approval, there is no way to know if the test kits are valid. Testing companies that are EUA-approved are listed on the FDA [website](#), which is updated daily.
- Testing companies should obtain an FDA letter of authorization on their antibody test kit. These letters are proof that tests have been approved. They are posted on the FDA website.
- Many testing companies are in the queue at FDA for approval. Once approved, this will help expand availability.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword "4HOPE" to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 **Ohio** | Department of Health

Protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.



STAY HOME



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP AND EAT WELL-BALANCED MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH A CLEAN TOWEL OR AIR DRY YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE HABITS

For more information, visit: coronavirus.ohio.gov

For more information, visit: coronavirus.ohio.gov