

Covid-19 Serologic testing for non-ordering clinicians and leaders

MultiCare is offering antibody testing for Covid-19 developed by the UW and Abbott Labs. This test will detect presence or absence of IgG antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. We are requiring this test to be ordered by a licensed independent practitioner.

This test should not be used to diagnose current infections and should not be ordered before 14 days after onset of symptoms. Patients with positive antibody tests should not be considered non-infectious. Negative tests also do not rule out active infections.

Current consensus is that the presence of IgG antibodies has not been proven to provide immunity from subsequent Covid-19 infections. For this reason, this test might not be useful to most patients. We recommend shared decision making between patients and their providers before ordering this test.