

Understanding COVID-19 Testing and Antibody Testing



Call your clinic or 1-877-AT-AVERA (1-877-282-8372).

COVID-19 Diagnostic Test

- Is the gold standard for diagnosing COVID-19.
- Is the most sensitive and can identify COVID-19 even before you have symptoms.
- At Avera, must be ordered by a physician or provider.
- Must be collected at a sample collection site.
- Are collected with a nasal swab, which will be sent to a lab, where it will be tested.
- Results can take several days to return.
- A positive results means that you are currently infected with COVID-19, and able to spread the disease.
- A negative result means COVID-19 was not detected. However, this test can't tell if you have been infected in the past, and a negative result does not mean you can't be infected in the future.
- Cost is \$140 and may be covered by your insurance. Please call the number on the back of your insurance card to confirm.

Antibody Tests

- Are sometimes referred to as IgG, IgM, IgA, or PCR tests.
- May be able to detect whether you've been infected with COVID-19 and have developed antibodies.
- Uses for antibody tests are still being evaluated. The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) does not recommend that antibody tests be used in making health care decisions, and instead recommends that they only be used to monitor COVID-19 in our communities.
- Cannot tell whether you currently have COVID-19.
- Are collected by a blood draw.
- Are offered directly to consumers through Avera QuickLabs and select clinic labs.
- Cost \$80 credit/debit at any Avera QuickLabs/participating clinic lab.
- Are not covered by insurance if purchased from Avera QuickLabs/clinic labs, but may be reimbursable under FSA/HSA plans; call the number on the back of your insurance card to verify.



[Avera.org/covid-19](https://www.averahospital.org/covid-19)

Avera's mission is to make a positive impact in the lives and health of persons and communities by providing quality services guided by Christian values. If you think you may have problems paying part of your bill, contact your local business office or billing staff. We can discuss payment options that may be available to you.