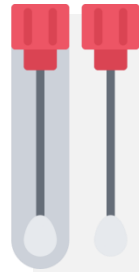


Viral and antibody tests

What are the differences?



VIRAL TEST



ANTIBODY TEST

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| When is it used? | To find out if you have COVID-19 right now | To find out if you have had COVID-19 in the past |
| What does it do? | It tests to see if you have COVID-19 by detecting genetic material from the virus. | It checks for antibodies created by your body in fight against the COVID-19 virus. We don't yet know if these antibodies help prevent future infection. |
| What is tested? | A swab sample taken from your nose or throat | A blood sample |
| Is it used in BC? | Yes | Limited to specific clinical and research uses and some outbreak investigations |
| Other names for this test | Nucleic acid Amplification Test (NAT) | Serology test |