Antibody testing – Covid-19

On 25th May 2020, NHS England announced as part of its response to Covid-19, the availability of antibody testing for patients and staff.

The national message provided clinicians with the authority to request blood tests to use in their routine management of NHS patient's clinical needs and where patients are having regular blood tests as part of the management of other health conditions, the test can be added too.

This leaflet provides information about the test which you should read and sign to advise you understand the basis on which the test is carried out.

What is a Covid-19 antibody test?

An antibody test can tell you whether you have had the virus that causes Covid-19 in the past, by analysing a sample of your blood.

What does the antibody result mean?

A positive antibody test demonstrates that someone has developed antibodies to Covid-19. This means you have had the virus in the past and your immune system has responded by producing antibodies.

However, a positive test does not mean you are guaranteed immunity from Covid-19 in the future. If you do have some immunity it is unclear how long this will last.

Understanding of the virus will grow as new scientific evidence continues to emerge.

The result

If you decide to move ahead with the test, there is **no** evidence to suggest those that have proven to have had Covid-19 are immune. This is the view of the World Health Organisation.

Whatever the result, you should comply with the current government guidelines round social distancing, isolation and shielding if appropriate.

The result will be available from the Practice by telephone 5 days after the sample is taken.

_____(Signature) _____(Print name) _____ (Date)
I have read the information above and wish to proceed with the test acknowledging the terms of which this is undertaken.