

## **Negative 6 Month Follow Ups: Results Information Sheet**

### **What does my result mean?**

#### **Antibody (IgG) Positive:**

- This result is consistent with exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). This may indicate past infection but cannot be used to estimate the timing of infection.

#### **Antibody (IgG) Equivocal:**

- Antibody responses may not develop until 14-21 days after infection and may not be positive in all people. An equivocal result indicates an indeterminate response at the threshold of being either positive or negative. This may be due to a non-specific response with cross reacting antibodies.

#### **Antibody (IgG) Negative:**

- This indicates no current serological response to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). You may still be at risk of infection. Please note, however, that antibody responses may not develop until 14-21 days after infection and may not be positive in all people.

### **If I am antibody positive/equivocal does this mean that I am immune to SARS-CoV-2?**

This is a research-based test. Therefore, at this stage, it is unclear whether having antibodies is protective against future re-infection. Everyone should still follow government guidelines on the use of personal protective equipment, self-isolation and/or testing for SARS-CoV-2.

### **Can I find out the exact level (titre) of my antibodies?**

Unfortunately, we are not able to let you know your exact level (titre) of antibodies. We are still learning how to interpret the results in terms of the level of protection the antibodies provide.

### **What if I develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19?**

Please continue to follow GOSH guidelines on staff testing and infection control measures: [http://goshweb.pangosh.nhs.uk/news\\_and\\_events/Pages/COVID-19-staff-screening.aspx](http://goshweb.pangosh.nhs.uk/news_and_events/Pages/COVID-19-staff-screening.aspx)

We advise that you do this irrespective of antibody status and even if you have had any previous diagnostic tests and/or symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

### **What happens next?**

Irrespective of your result our current study funding only allows us to test a subset of initial negatives again at 6 months, therefore, if you have tested positive, we will **not** switch you onto monthly follow ups.

**What does it mean if my antibody status changes over the course of the study?**

It is possible that your antibody status will change over time – e.g. you might test positive for several months, and then switch to testing negative. One of the aims of the study is to learn about how long antibodies last and to what extent they protect against COVID-19. If you tested positive initially, but now test negative, you will switch onto the 6-monthly follow up arm.

**What if I need to withdraw from the study?**

When you receive the link to book in for a follow up appointment, you can click on the link and complete the first question to formally withdraw from the study.

**What if I have more questions?**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your result, please email [covid.study@gosh.nhs.uk](mailto:covid.study@gosh.nhs.uk) .

Many thanks!  
The Co-STARS team