

Serological Tests for Diagnosis Corona virus (COVID-19):Review Article

Mohammed Qasim Waheeb¹, Nuha Mohammed Mousa²

^{1,2}Department of Biology, College of Science, Al Muthanna University, Iraq.

E-mail: mhmdkas@mu.edu.iq

Abstract

The outbreak of COVID-19 had a significant effect on general populations and workers in public health particularly since beginning outbreak of the disease. The collection of respiratory tract sample at the right time is necessary for serological diagnosis. A serological retrospective study can be helpful in investigation of continuing outbreak and assessment of the attack rate. The analytic antibody techniques are considered as supplementary tools and the results must be interpreted using serological tests. Serum samples can be support diagnosis serological tests after validated with world health organization (WHO). The persons who recovered after infection can be founded antibodies in their blood and have usually developed an immune response to the virus. Finally, antibodies can be detected COVID-19 and diagnosis in the mid and terminal stage for disease by using serological tests.

Keywords: COVID-19, SARS-COV-2, Coronavirus, Serological tests, Diagnosis.

1. Introduction

During December 2019, several cases of pneumonia came out in Wuhan, China. An unknown virus was discovered and was isolated from the human epithelial cells way stream called SARS-CoV-2 that cause Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) [1]. Coronavirus contains single-strand RNA belonging to genus Nestiviridae, Coronaviridae, and Orthokinovirus subfamily [2]. The epidemiological examination achieved through the Chinese Centre aimed at Disease Control & Prevention (CCDC), 80.9% of the statuses are slight/moderate pneumonia. As the Centre is giving a picture daily about the rate of mortality COVID-19, according to link (www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/) [3]. A characteristic manifestation that note of most patients includes fever, sore breathing and caught, etc.

There are two types available for diagnosis COVID-19:

1-A virus-related test used a present contagion.

2-An antibody test used in a historical infection.

A current infection might not show in an antibody test because infection takes 1-3 weeks to become antibodies in the body. Giving antibodies against the coronavirus that causes (COVID-19) might give protection from obtaining new infections with the virus. These antibodies might give long protection. To obtain the current tested for COVID-19 infection, the viral test is using [4]. The people who have mild symptoms can gain recovery without health care and stay at home for a period of 14 days. The rules antibody testing that uses for diagnosis COVID-19 in clinical and public health frameworks [5]. The data will tell guidelines serological testing is rapidly developing [6]. Recommendations about the use of serological tests to provide protective immunity between peoples infected recently with

COVID-19, it will become available as updated new information. Serological methods have been sophisticated and can use to monitor for response to COVID-19. Serological tests for COVID-19 have use license by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), their performance has reviewed autonomously.

Presently, there is no specific feature of examinations for IgG and IgM or entire antibody. Results are significant to reduce false-positive tests by selecting an examination with high specificity and experimentation in inhabitants by a high probability of prior exposure to COVID-19. After symptom beginning, antibodies usually become detectable 1-3 weeks and evidence indicates that infections probably greatly decrease and immunity from future infection has sophisticated. However, needed more data when modified recommendation public health depended on serological tests. Almost all individuals immune-competent will evolve immune response after COVID-19 infection that expansion of IgM and IgG antibodies are beneficial for estimating antibodies response because of tiny amounts of IgA response in the blood [7]. Antibodies can be detected for some persons in the disease onset. The infection with COVID-19 is rare because IgM and IgG antibodies emerge in serum after the onset of disease within 2-3 weeks. Therefore, uncovering of IgM without IgG is unusual. Antibodies IgM and IgG stay demonstrable after infection is not recognized [8].

In infectious diseases, neutralizing antibodies prevent viral growth and replication in a laboratory which correlates present these antibodies in the future to prevent infection [9]. Repetition of COVID-19 disease manifest to be very unfamiliar, the attendance of antibodies might discuss immunity at the smallest short-term against the infection with COVID-19. Thus, the post-development of antibodies and primary infection got protection from reinfection. Furthermore, antibody in persons relates with a development remarked reduction in virus-related load in the respiratory tract [10]. The presence of these observation indicates antibodies may decrease the infection and offer protection from recurrent infection. However, there is no final data and still unclear whether individuals with antibodies have protected against recurrent infection with COVID-19 [11].

2. Antibody Testing

There are two main antigenic targets of coronavirus COVID-19 that are detected: spike glycoprotein (S) and nucleocapsid phosphoprotein (N). The S protein is to enter the virus and is exist on the virus surface, while the N protein is that interacts with RNA and expressed immunodominant protein. Several forms of S protein like the receptor-binding domain (RBD) are utilized as antigens. The N protein is more preserved across coronavirus than S and RBD are more preserved than S [12].

2.1. Types of Antibody Testing

The different assays that determine features of immune response and the functions of antibodies can be used. In general, the tests can be used to detect whichever neutralizing or binding antibodies [13].

- **Binding antibody detection:** These tests can be performed in minimum level biosafety laboratories and use purified proteins coronavirus. An individual's antibody kinds can be determined with use specific reagents. Generally, the first type of antibodies are IgM generated after the infection and are useful for detecting new infection, whereas IgG evolves afterward IgM and maybe stay measurable for several months. IgG can be revealed in mucus

secretion and blood, therefore is important in mucosal immunity during its significance in COVID-19 is still to be determined. Depending on these examinations can be completed faster than one hour in an area framework and in a few hours in a laboratory [14]. The tests of antibodies can be detected into two wide groups:

***Period of care (POC) tests:** In general, lateral flow devices can detect IgG or IgM in whole blood, plasma, serum, and saliva. Some point-of-care tests features used the entire blood obtained by finger instead of venipuncture [15].

***Laboratory tests:** antibody detect by using methods ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) or CIA (chemiluminescent immunoassay), that required some assays specialized instruments and trained laboratorians. Depending on IgG, IgM, and IgA and their reagents can be detected individually or joint as an entire antibody [16].

-Neutralizing antibody detection: neutralization tests have not yet licensed by the FDA on COVID-19. The ability of antibodies determines by neutralization tests to prevent infection COVID-19 in vitro. The test performs by plasma or serum incubation by the living virus followed through infection and incubation of cells. The test requires laboratories either Biological Safety Level (BSL-2 or BSL-3), according to a type of virus to use [17].

Neutralization test can be divided two into types:

-Virus neutralization tests (VNT): for example the micro neutralization and plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT), from a clinical isolate using a coronavirus or recombinant coronavirus expressing receptor proteins. The testing needs to laboratory level 3 or BSL-3 and may take up approximately five days to perform [18].

- Pseudovirus neutralization tests (PVNT): pseudovirus usage recombinants that contain the S protein of coronavirus-19. According to the type strain used testing can be conducted in BSL-2 laboratories [19].

3. FDA-licensed serology tests

Serological tests licensed, FDA requires to receive Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) commercially marketed. The authorization gives developers voluntarily but tests that do not require FDA which is not commercially marketed. Several agencies- including FDA are evaluating many serology tests using samples (serum or plasma) throughout the present COVID-19 epidemic [20]. All tests presently licensed are considered qualitative providing an outcome that is (positive, negative, or unknown) instead of quantifiable that provides a quantitative assessment about antibody levels. Together laboratory and fast serologic tests are demonstrated a laboratory-based immunoassay and a color change on a paper strip that let for the treatment of many samples simultaneously. The setting of the test depended on the FDA determination of convenient regulation for usage throughout the community health emergency.

4. Optimizing Testing Findings

4.1. Test execute

Characteristics of the test execution are specified by using a specific group of negative and positive samples, these tests depended on the sensitivity and specificity of the examines [21]. Additionally, the prediction values of a test must take into consideration because these values can be to affect the total result of testing.

The positive predictive value may indicate to likelihood individuals with a positive result are really antibody positive. The negative predictive value may indicate to likelihood individuals with a negative result are really antibody negative. The predictive value positive and negative result of the test is determined depending on the percentage of really antibody-positive of the tests population and the sensitivity and specificity of the tests [22]. For example:

- The positive predictive value increases in high prevalence surroundings this is more probable that individuals who test positive are actually antibody positive if this test is carried out in a population with decrease prevalence. Once the proportion prevalence in a population is low, the positive predictive value decreases because exist are more false-positive outcomes.

- The same with the predictive value negative is likewise influenced by the prevalence. In a high prevalence condition, the negative predictive value decreases while the positive predictive value increases in a low prevalence condition.

COVID-19 outbreak in crowded alive amenities therefore the prevalence of contagion in the population is highly significant. The serological test may lead to results false-positive and more false-negative results [23].

5. Testing approaches

In general, antibodies in most populations seem likely low. For instance, the prevalence does not exceed 5%, at a test by 95% specificity and 90% sensitivity will result in a positive predictive value less 50%. In other meaning, those testing positive if less than half will really have antibodies. On the other hand prevalence antibody, more than 52% will result in a positive predictive value of more than 95% in the same test in a population, this means the proportion of single in 20 populations testing positive determination have a false-positive test outcome [24].

There are three plans that can be second hand to enhance positive predictive value:

1- Selecting a test leads to high specificity, maybe 99.5% or more will result in a high positive prognostic value in inhabitants tried with a prevalence of more than 5%.

2- A test concentrates on persons have with pretest likelihood of SARS-COV-2, such as individuals have symptoms similar to COVID-19.

3- An orthogonal testing procedure to employees in those individuals who a first positive test with a second test. Efficient orthogonal algorithms depend on one test a patient sample with two tests.

6. Determination of serologic tests

At current, the immunological associations of SARS-COV-2 has not been well identified. Many research centers and the medical community are working to determine the preventive against COVID-19 by using positive serologic tests. The assessing levels of antibodies include protection from infection one more time based on many factors related with the development of antibody response and period this protection [25]. The kinetic response of the antibody, its longevity, the protective from reinfection, the titer protective of neutralizing antibody, and the association of bound antibody titer to equalization. Some studies demonstrate in the short term on animals, the demonstration on human in long term need a future study. Therefore, the existence of antibodies cannot be equalized with a person's immunity from COVID-19 infection [26]. Some tests may display a cross reaction with another coronavirus such as a popular cold. This might outcome in false-positive test consequences.

Antibodies in certain individuals may not progress detectable afterward COVID-19 infection[27]. In some cases, antibody levels might disappear over time to undetectable levels. Antibodies IgM and IgG are not existence in initial contagion. Hence, outcomes of the serological test do not indicate to appearance or nonappearance of existing or prior infection with COVID-19[28].

7. References for Usage of Serologic Tests

Serological recommendations are developing rapidly because information affects, positive serological tests refer to preventive immunity or a decrease in mobility between patients recently. These references will be modernized whenever new evidence is obtainable[29].

7.1. Testing strategy and choice of test

- According to Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), serological tests must be licensed because are better for public health or clinical use provided that is reviewed data by the FDA.
- If serological tests were positive or negative must be explained in the setting of the predictive standards.
- Improvement of the positive predictive value when the results are returned to persons.

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