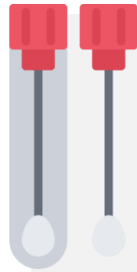


Viral and antibody tests

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