

## Making the workplace and community safer by COVID-19 Testing

### Who we are

Richmond Research Institute (RRI) is a London-based not-for-profit research organisation that aims to improve and save patients' lives through improving the safety of pharmaceuticals and access to medicines. RRI was born out of a partnership between St George's University of London and Richmond Pharmacology Limited, a clinical trials company.

### Meeting the needs of our community

RRI is now providing quick and efficient community testing for COVID-19. By offering tests to local businesses, schools, and other members of the community, we hope to address current shortcomings in targeted testing for COVID-19. The outcome of these tests aims to provide reassurance among members of the public and allows people to make informed decisions by weighing up the risks they may pose to others around them. Finding out if you have previously been exposed to COVID-19 or are currently infectious, allows you to take appropriate action (e.g. self-isolation).

### The COVID-19 tests we are providing

We are providing the following tests to determine if a person is currently infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 disease, or if they previously had the virus:



- **PCR test using a throat swab to check for a current infection:**

We take a throat swab to test whether the SARS-CoV-2 is present in a person's system. We use a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test that checks whether the mucus membrane in the throat contains genetic material of the virus.

If positive this tells us

- a) whether you are currently infected or
- b) that virus material is still present if you have had an infection.

- **Antibody test: we perform two tests to determine whether you have had the infection**

1. **Finger prick:** We take a drop of blood from a finger prick to use in an antibody rapid test which indicates whether someone has antibodies and has been infected and is currently fighting off or has successfully fought off the virus. The test detects antibodies produced by the body as it fights the virus over a certain threshold.

- Blood sample:** We take a blood sample from a vein to use a more sophisticated antibody test which allows us to measure the number of antibodies against the virus. This is confirmatory but also part of our research as we are keen to measure how long these antibodies persist and whether they protect from future infections.

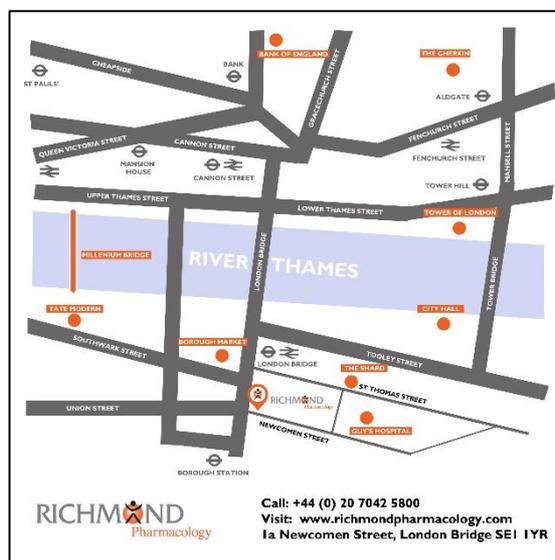
### Location of testing

Tests are performed by appointment at [Richmond Pharmacology Ltd, 1a Newcomen Street, London Bridge, SE1 1YR.](http://www.richmondpharmacology.com)

### How to book an appointment

To book an appointment for SARS-CoV-2 testing, call 0207 042 5800, choose Option 1. Please let our team know who arranged for your test, for example, the name of the organisation you work for if they arranged your test.

Please arrive 5 minutes before your scheduled appointment.



### Receipt of test results

The PCR and finger prick antibody test results will be reported verbally approximately 30 minutes after testing.

The antibody test utilising the venous blood sample will be reported 24 hrs after testing.

A formal summary report containing test outcomes will be emailed or sent by sms text to the individual being tested directly in accordance with general data protection regulation (GDPR). The report will be sent within 24 hrs of all test results being available.

### Meaning of results

This table shows the meaning of the test results:

|                                      |  |  |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| <b>PCR Test (Throat Swab) result</b> | Negative (-)   | Negative (-)   | Positive (+)  | Positive (+)   |
| <b>Antibody Test* result</b>         | Negative (-)   | Positive (+)   | Negative (-)  | Positive (+)   |
| <b>Meaning</b>                       | No Evidence of infection. You have likely not been exposed to SARS-CoV-2 | No evidence of current infection. You have likely previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2, but have now recovered | Virus detected, likely to be in the early stages of infection | Virus and antibodies detected, likely to be in the mid to later stages of infection. |

### **Research studies**

Individuals tested may have the opportunity to take part in one of our research studies which include:

- (i) monitoring the presence of COVID-19 specific antibodies over time
- (ii) studying individuals who suffer from long-term COVID-19 symptoms and find it difficult to recover to full health
- (iii) studying the impact of COVID-19 on individuals with diabetes, heart failure or hypertension.

To read more about our COVID-19 testing activities and see an overview of test results over time, updated on a weekly basis, visit <https://www.richmondresearchinstitute.org/covid-19-testing>