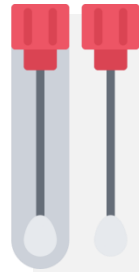


# Viral and antibody tests

## What are the differences?



### VIRAL TEST



### ANTIBODY TEST

<b>When is it used?</b>	To find out if you have COVID-19 right now	To find out if you have had COVID-19 in the past
<b>What does it do?</b>	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.
<b>What is tested?</b>	A swab sample taken from your nose or throat	A blood sample
<b>Is it used in BC?</b>	Yes	Limited to specific clinical and research uses and some outbreak investigations
<b>Other names for this test</b>	Nucleic acid Amplification Test (NAT)	Serology test