Information for participants in the COVID-19 antibody test research study

We would like to ask if you would like to participate in a COVID-19 antibody test research study. In this document, you will find information about the study and what it means to participate.

What type of study is this and why do you want me to participate?

You are hereby asked if you would like to take part in a study in which we will investigate the extent to which employees at authorities or companies with socially critical functions, as well as employees and residents of old-age homes, in Sweden have acquired a SARS-CoV-2 infection. We want to understand how the infection has spread in society and within the healthcare sector. Staff and residents of old-age homes and employees at selected workplaces have been offered an opportunity to participate in the study. Participation in the study is completely voluntary. The Karolinska Institute is responsible for the study.

How are the blood samples taken?

You will schedule an appointment to have a blood sample taken which then will be analysed for the presence of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. A small amount (3-5ml) of venous blood is taken from the arm by a nurse (health care professional). Sampling will potentially be followed up after 3 and 6 months. You can access your test results by logging into the Hope Corona App.

What will happen to my samples?

The blood samples will be destroyed after the analysis.

Are there any health or bodily risks from participating in the study?

During blood sampling, some pain and shedding of blood may occur at the insertion site.

What happens to my data?

The study will register personal information about you, such as name, social security number (personal number) and contact information.

The information collected in this research study will be processed by researchers at the Karolinska Institute and the Royal Institute of Technology. Personal data from the study will be stored in a database. The primary purpose of this database is research and secondary is clinical treatment. Your personal information is protected by data privacy regulations and no unauthorized person has access to the database. Your query responses and antibody results will be processed so that no unauthorized persons can access the data. During data processing, or in association with the reporting and publishing of study data, no individual data can be identified. The study complies with

current legislation according to the EU Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Patient Data Act (2008: 355). The responsible authority for personal data is the Karolinska Institute.

You have the right to request all information that is registered about you. You can get an extract of your personal data in the database, once a year at no cost. If any incorrect data about you is identified, the incorrect information should be corrected. If you want a copy of your data in the database, please contact the responsible researcher (see below).

How do I get information about the results of the study?

The study results will be published on the internet, in scientific journals and presented in conjunction with scientific meetings. Only population statistics will be presented and no individual data can be identified. You can, but need not, get access to your individual data. You will get your test results and the interpretation of them via the Hope Corona App.

Insurance and compensation

You have the same insurance against injuries that can occur in this study as with all medical treatment in general care through the Patient Insurance and Pharmaceuticals product liability insurance. No extra compensation is paid in the study as it will not incur any extra costs for you.

Participation is voluntary

Your participation is voluntary and you can choose to withdraw from participation at any time. If you choose not to take part or wish to withdraw from participation, you do not need to explain why, nor will it affect your future care or treatment.

If you wish to withdraw from participation, please contact the person responsible for the study (see below).

Responsible for the study

The Karolinska Institute is responsible for the study.

Contact person: Lars Engstrand, e-mail Lars.Engstrand@ki.se