

— Infections

Infectious diseases are disorders caused by organisms; such as bacteria, viruses, fungi or parasites. Many organisms live in and on our bodies. They're normally harmless or even helpful, but some organisms under certain conditions may cause disease.

Some infectious diseases can be passed from person to person while some are transmitted via bites from insects or animals. Others are acquired by ingesting contaminated food or water or other exposures in the environment.

Signs and symptoms vary, but often include fever and chills. Mild complaints may respond to home remedies, while some life-threatening infections may require hospitalization.

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Viral Infections

Viruses are capsules with genetic material inside. They are very tiny, much smaller than bacteria. Viruses cause familiar infectious diseases such as the common cold, flu and warts but they can also cause severe illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, smallpox and hemorrhagic fevers. Viruses can invade normal cells and use those cells to multiply and produce other viruses like themselves. This eventually kills the cells, which can cause illness. Viral infections are hard to treat because viruses live inside your body's cells. They are ""protected"" from medicines, which usually move through your bloodstream. Antibiotics do not work for viral infections. However, there are a limited number of antiviral medicines available. Vaccines can help prevent you from getting many viral diseases.

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— VARICELLA ZOST...

(S/CO)

5.08

Range: See Comments

VARICELLA ZOSTER VIRUS ANTIBODY (IGG)

(S/CO)

Result Comments

Signal to Cut-off

S/CO

Interpretation

<1.00

Negative - Antibody not detected

> or = 1.00

Positive - Antibody detected

A positive result indicates that the patient has antibody to VZV but does not differentiate between an active or past infection. The clinical diagnosis must be interpreted in conjunction with the clinical signs and symptoms of the patient. This assay reliably measures immunity due to previous infection but may not be sensitive enough to detect antibodies induced by vaccination. Thus, a negative result in a vaccinated individual does not necessarily indicate susceptibility to VZV infection. A more sensitive test for vaccination-induced immunity is Varicella Zoster Virus Antibody Immunity Screen, ACIF.