

## — 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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### Bacterial Infections

Bacteria are living things that have only one cell. Most bacteria won't hurt you and less than one percent of the different types make people sick. Many bacteria are helpful. By example they help to digest food, destroy disease-causing cells, and give the body needed vitamins. However, infectious bacteria can make you ill by reproducing quickly in your body. Many give off chemicals called toxins, which can damage tissue and make you sick. Examples of several bacteria that cause infections include Streptococcus, Staphylococcus and E. coli. Antibiotics are typically used for treatment.

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Q FEVER IGG PHA...

NEGATIVE

Range: See Comments

#### Q FEVER IGG PHASE I SCR

##### Result Comments

REFERENCE RANGE: NEGATIVE

Q FEVER IGG PHA...

NEGATIVE

Range: See Comments

#### Q FEVER IGG PHASE II SCR

##### Result Comments

REFERENCE RANGE: NEGATIVE

Q FEVER IGM PHA...

NEGATIVE

Range: See Comments

#### Q FEVER IGM PHASE I SCR

##### Result Comments

REFERENCE RANGE: NEGATIVE

Q FEVER IGM PHA...

NEGATIVE

Range: See Comments

## Q FEVER IGM PHASE II SCR

### Result Comments



REFERENCE RANGE: NEGATIVE

Q Fever Antibody testing includes differentiation of antibodies to Phase I and Phase II antigenic variants. *Coxiella burnetii*, which causes Q Fever, undergoes transitions between Phase I and Phase II states. These phases are serologically distinguishable and useful in the serodiagnosis of acute and chronic disease.

In some cases, the ratio of titer of Phase II to Phase I may indicate the stage of the disease.

A ratio of greater than 1 may indicate the acute stage; greater than or equal to 1, granulomatous hepatitis; and less than 1, the chronic stage or endocarditis.

As with other infectious diseases, IgM antibodies are the first to appear. Usually they are detectable for a few weeks or, at the most, for a few months. IgG antibodies appear somewhat later but can persist for years, even for life.

Although single Phase II IgG titers of 1:256 or greater are considered evidence of acute *C. burnetii* disease, the best criterion for a dependable diagnosis is still the demonstration of a fourfold or higher increase in antibody titer between the acute and convalescent serum samples.