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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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[Diagnostic Test Accuracy Review]

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2

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ABSTRACT

Background

The diagnostic challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in rapid development of diagnostic test methods for detecting SARS-CoV-2 infection. Serology tests to detect the presence of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 enable detection of past infection and may detect cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection that were missed by earlier diagnostic tests. Understanding the diagnostic accuracy of serology tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection may enable development of effective diagnostic and management pathways, inform public health management decisions and understanding of SARS-CoV-2 epidemiology.

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Objectives

To assess the accuracy of antibody tests, firstly, to determine if a person presenting in the community, or in primary or secondary care has current SARS-CoV-2 infection according to time after onset of infection and, secondly, to determine if a person has previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2. Sources of heterogeneity investigated included: timing of test, test method, SARS-CoV-2 antigen used, test brand, and reference standard for non-SARS-CoV-2 cases.

Search methods

The COVID-19 Open Access Project living evidence database from the University of Bern (which includes daily updates from PubMed and Embase and preprints from medRxiv and bioRxiv) was searched on 30 September 2020. We included additional publications from the Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI-Centre) 'COVID-19: Living map of the evidence' and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health 'NIPH systematic and living map on COVID-19 evidence'. We did not apply language restrictions.

Selection criteria

We included test accuracy studies of any design that evaluated commercially produced serology tests, targeting IgG, IgM, IgA alone, or in combination. Studies must have provided data for sensitivity, that could be allocated to a predefined time period after onset of symptoms, or after a positive RT-PCR test. Small studies with fewer than 25 SARS-CoV-2 infection cases were excluded. We included any reference standard to define the presence or absence of SARS-CoV-2 (including reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction tests (RT-PCR), clinical diagnostic criteria, and pre-pandemic samples).

Data collection and analysis

We use standard screening procedures with three reviewers. Quality assessment (using the QUADAS-2 tool) and numeric study results were extracted independently by two people. Other study characteristics were extracted by one reviewer and checked by a second. We present sensitivity and specificity with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for each test and, for meta-analysis, we fitted univariate random-effects logistic regression models for sensitivity by eligible time period and for specificity by reference standard group. Heterogeneity was investigated by including indicator variables in the random-effects logistic regression models. We tabulated results by test manufacturer and summarised results for tests that were evaluated in 200 or more samples and that met a modification of UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) target performance criteria.

Main results

We included 178 separate studies (described in 177 study reports, with 45 as pre-prints) providing 527 test evaluations. The studies included 64,688 samples including 25,724 from people with confirmed SARS-CoV-2; most compared the accuracy of two or more assays (102/178, 57%). Participants with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection were most commonly hospital inpatients (78/178, 44%), and pre-pandemic samples were used by 45% (81/178) to estimate specificity. Over two-thirds of studies recruited participants based on known SARS-CoV-2 infection status (123/178, 69%). All studies were conducted prior to the introduction of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines and present data for naturally acquired antibody responses. Seventy-nine percent (141/178) of studies reported sensitivity by week after symptom onset and 66% (117/178) for convalescent phase infection. Studies evaluated enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA) (165/527; 31%), chemiluminescent assays (CLIA) (167/527; 32%) or lateral flow assays (LFA) (188/527; 36%).

Risk of bias was high because of participant selection (172, 97%); application and interpretation of the index test (35, 20%); weaknesses in the reference standard (38, 21%); and issues related to participant flow and timing (148, 82%). We judged that there were high concerns about the applicability of the evidence related to participants in 170 (96%) studies, and about the applicability of the reference standard in 162 (91%) studies.

Average sensitivities for current SARS-CoV-2 infection increased by week after onset for all target antibodies. Average sensitivity for the combination of either IgG or IgM was 41.1% in week one (95% CI 38.1 to 44.2; 103 evaluations; 3881 samples, 1593 cases), 74.9% in week two (95% CI 72.4 to 77.3; 96 evaluations, 3948 samples, 2904 cases) and 88.0% by week three after onset of symptoms (95% CI 86.3 to 89.5; 103 evaluations, 2929 samples, 2571 cases). Average sensitivity during the convalescent phase of infection (up to a maximum of 100 days since onset of symptoms, where reported) was 89.8% for IgG (95% CI 88.5 to 90.9; 253 evaluations, 16,846 samples, 14,183 cases), 92.9% for IgG or IgM combined (95% CI 91.0 to 94.4; 108 evaluations, 3571 samples, 3206 cases) and 94.3% for total antibodies (95% CI 92.8 to 95.5; 58 evaluations, 7063 samples, 6652 cases). Average sensitivities for IgM alone followed a similar pattern but were of a lower test accuracy in every time slot.

Average specificities were consistently high and precise, particularly for pre-pandemic samples which provide the least biased estimates of specificity (ranging from 98.6% for IgM to 99.8% for total antibodies).

Subgroup analyses suggested small differences in sensitivity and specificity by test technology however heterogeneity in study results, timing of sample collection, and smaller sample numbers in some groups made comparisons difficult. For IgG, CLIAs were the most sensitive (convalescent-phase infection) and specific (pre-pandemic samples) compared to both ELISAs and LFAs ($P < 0.001$ for differences across test methods). The antigen(s) used (whether from the Spike-protein or nucleocapsid) appeared to have some effect on average sensitivity in the first weeks after onset but there was no clear evidence of an effect during convalescent-phase infection.

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Investigations of test performance by brand showed considerable variation in sensitivity between tests, and in results between studies evaluating the same test. For tests that were evaluated in 200 or more samples, the lower bound of the 95% CI for sensitivity was 90% or more for only a small number of tests (IgG, $n = 5$; IgG or IgM, $n = 1$; total antibodies, $n = 4$). More test brands met the MHRA minimum criteria for specificity of 98% or above (IgG, $n = 16$; IgG or IgM, $n = 5$; total antibodies, $n = 7$). Seven assays met the specified criteria for both sensitivity and specificity.

In a low-prevalence (2%) setting, where antibody testing is used to diagnose COVID-19 in people with symptoms but who have had a negative PCR test, we would anticipate that 1 (1 to 2) case would be missed and 8 (5 to 15) would be falsely positive in 1000 people undergoing IgG or IgM testing in week three after onset of SARS-CoV-2 infection.

In a seroprevalence survey, where prevalence of prior infection is 50%, we would anticipate that 51 (46 to 58) cases would be missed and 6 (5 to 7) would be falsely positive in 1000 people having IgG tests during the convalescent phase (21 to 100 days post-symptom onset or post-positive PCR) of SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Authors' conclusions

Some antibody tests could be a useful diagnostic tool for those in whom molecular- or antigen-based tests have failed to detect the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including in those with ongoing symptoms of acute infection (from week three onwards) or those presenting with post-acute sequelae of COVID-19. However, antibody tests have an increasing likelihood of detecting an immune response to infection as time since onset of infection progresses and have demonstrated adequate performance for detection of prior infection for sero-epidemiological purposes. The applicability of results for detection of vaccination-induced antibodies is uncertain.

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

What is the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests for the detection of infection with the COVID-19 virus?

Background

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus that spreads easily between people in a similar way to the common cold or 'flu'. Most people with COVID-19 have a mild-to-moderate respiratory illness, and some may have no symptoms (asymptomatic infection). Others experience severe symptoms and need specialist treatment and intensive care.

In response to COVID-19 infection, the immune system develops proteins called antibodies that can attack the virus as it circulates in their blood. People who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 also produce these antibodies against the virus. Tests are available to detect antibodies in peoples' blood, which may indicate that they currently have COVID-19 or have had it previously, or it may indicate that they have been vaccinated (although this group was not the focus of this review).

Why are accurate tests important?

Accurate testing allows identification of people who need to isolate themselves to prevent the spread of infection, or who might need treatment for their infection. Failure of diagnostic tests to detect infection with COVID-19 when it is present (a false negative result) may delay treatment and risk further spread of infection to others. Incorrect diagnosis of COVID-19 when it is not present (a false positive result) may lead to unnecessary further testing, treatment, and isolation of the person and close contacts. Accurate identification of people who have previously had COVID-19 is important in measuring disease spread and assessing the success of public health interventions.

To determine the accuracy of an antibody test in identifying COVID-19, test results are compared in people known to have (or have had) COVID-19 and in people known not to have (or have had) COVID-19. The criteria used to determine whether people are known or not known to have COVID-19 is called the 'reference standard'. Many studies use a test called reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) as the reference standard, with samples taken from the nose and throat. Additional tests that can be used include measuring symptoms, like coughing or high temperature, or 'imaging' tests like chest X-rays. People known not to have COVID-19 are sometimes identified from stored blood samples taken before COVID-19 existed, or from patients with symptoms confirmed to be caused by other diseases.

What did the review study?

We wanted to find out whether antibody tests:

- are able to diagnose infection in people with or without symptoms of COVID-19, and
- can be used to find out if someone has already had COVID-19.

The studies we included in our review looked at three types of antibodies. Most commonly, antibody tests measure two types known as IgG and IgM, but some tests only measure a single type of antibody or different combinations of the three types of antibodies (IgA, IgG, IgM).

What did we do?

We looked for studies that measured the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests to detect current or past COVID-19 infection and compared them with reference standard criteria. Since there are many antibody tests available, we included studies assessing any antibody test compared with any reference standard. People could be tested in hospital or in the community. The people tested may have been confirmed to have, or not to have, COVID-19 infection, or they may be suspected of having COVID-19.

Study characteristics

We found 178 relevant studies. Studies took place in Europe (94), Asia (45), North America (35), Australia (2), and South America (2).

Seventy-eight studies included people who were in hospital with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection and 14 studies included people in community settings. Several studies included people from multiple settings (35) or did not report where the participants were recruited from (39).

One hundred and forty-one studies included recent infection cases (mainly week 1 to week 3 after onset of symptoms), and many also included people tested later (from day 21 onwards after infection) (117).

Main results

In participants that had COVID-19 and were tested one week after symptoms developed, antibody tests detected only 27% to 41% of infections. In week 2 after first symptoms, 64% to 79% of infections were detected, rising to 78% to 88% in week 3. Tests that specifically detected IgG or IgM antibodies were the most accurate and, when testing people from 21 days after first symptoms, they detected 93% of people with COVID-19. Tests gave false positive results for 1% of those without COVID-19.

Below we illustrate results for two different scenarios.

If 1000 people were tested for IgG or IgM antibodies during the third week after onset of symptoms and only 20 (2%) of them actually had COVID-19:

- 26 people would test positive. Of these, 8 people (31%) would not have COVID-19 (false positive result).
- 974 people would test negative. Of these, 2 people (0.2%) would actually have COVID-19 (false negative result).

If 1000 people with no symptoms for COVID-19 were tested for IgG antibodies and 500 (50%) of them had previously had COVID-19 infection more than 21 days previously:

- 455 people would test positive. Of these, 6 people (1%) would not have been infected (false positive result).
- 545 people would test negative. Of these, 51 (9%) would actually have had a prior COVID-19 infection (false negative result).

How reliable were the results of the studies of this review?

We have limited confidence in the evidence for several reasons. The number of samples contributed by studies for each week post-symptom onset was often small, and there were sometimes problems with how studies were conducted. Participants included in the studies were often hospital patients who were more likely to have experienced severe symptoms of COVID-19. The accuracy of antibody tests for detecting COVID-19 in these patients may be different from the accuracy of the tests in people with mild or moderate symptoms. It is not possible to identify by how much the test results would differ in other populations.

Who do the results of this review apply to?

A high percentage of participants were in hospital with COVID-19, so were likely to have more severe disease than people with COVID-19 who were not hospitalised. Only a small number of studies assessed these tests in people with no symptoms. The results of the review may therefore be more applicable to those with severe disease than people with mild symptoms.

Studies frequently did not report whether participants had symptoms at the time samples were taken for testing making it difficult to fully separate test results for early-phase infection as opposed to later-phase infections.

The studies in our review assessed several test methods across a global population, therefore it is likely that test results would be similar in most areas of the world.

What are the implications of this review?

The review shows that antibody tests could have a useful role in detecting if someone has had COVID-19, but the timing of test use is important. Some antibody tests may help to confirm COVID-19 infection in people who have had symptoms for more than two weeks but who have been unable to confirm their infection using other methods. This is particularly useful if they are experiencing potentially serious symptoms that may be due to COVID-19 as they may require specific treatment. Antibody tests may also be useful to determine how many

people have had a previous COVID-19 infection. We could not be certain about how well the tests work for people who have milder disease or no symptoms, or for detecting antibodies resulting from vaccination.

How up-to-date is this review?

This review updates our previous review. The evidence is up-to-date to September 2020.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Summary of findings 1. What is the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests, for the diagnosis of current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection?

Question	What is the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests, for the diagnosis of current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection?
Population	Adults or children suspected of current SARS-CoV-2 infection or who may have had prior SARS-CoV-2 infection, including populations undergoing screening for SARS-CoV-2 such as asymptomatic contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases or community-based testing
Index test	Any commercially produced test for detecting antibodies to SARS-CoV-2, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> laboratory-based methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA) chemiluminescent immunoassays (CLIA) other laboratory-based methods, rapid tests using a lateral flow format that can be used at the point-of-care, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> colloidal-gold based immunoassays (CGIA) fluorescent immunoassays (FIA) alternative formats
Target condition	Detection of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> current SARS-CoV-2 infection prior SARS-CoV-2 infection
Reference standard	<p><i>Presence of current infection:</i> RT-PCR alone or combined with clinical diagnosis of COVID-19 based on established guidelines or combinations of clinical features for RT-PCR-negative</p> <p><i>Presence of prior infection:</i> RT-PCR alone</p> <p><i>Absence of infection:</i> pre-pandemic sources of samples for testing, RT-PCR-negative samples from COVID-suspects, from healthy participants or those with pre-existing disease</p>
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary use case for antibody tests is for identification of those with previous infection with SARS-CoV-2 (e.g. for seroprevalence purposes or research). Although studies included in this review were conducted prior to the introduction of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination programmes, antibody tests used for seroprevalence purposes will also identify those with vaccination-induced antibody responses. This review was not able to consider whether antibody test accuracy is the same for detecting antibodies resulting from vaccination. The sensitivity of antibody tests is too low early in disease for use as a primary test of diagnosis, but they may have some diagnostic utility two to three weeks after onset of infection, particularly in those who are RT-PCR-negative.
Limitations in the evidence	
Risk of bias	Participant selection: high risk of bias in 172 studies (99%), primarily because of selection for inclusion based on known disease status (i.e. separate recruitment of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases and non-cases)

	<p>Index test: high risk of bias in 35 studies (22%) because blinded index test interpretation was not implemented or the threshold to define test positivity was determined by analysing the data rather than prespecified</p> <p>Reference standard: high risk of bias in 39 studies (22%) because of inadequate reference standards for confirming absence of infection, e.g. reliance on a single negative RT-PCR result in people with suspected COVID-19, or no RT-PCR testing reported in contemporaneous healthy or other disease non-COVID-19 groups, or because serology results in part determined the presence of infection</p> <p>Flow and timing: high risk of bias in 146 studies (84%) because of different reference standards used to verify presence or absence of infection, some participants with no reference standard, exclusions from analyses, and inclusion of multiple samples per participant</p>			
Concerns about applicability of the evidence	<p>Participants: high concerns in 171 studies (98%) because participants were unlikely to be similar to those in whom the test would be used in clinical practice, e.g. hospitalised confirmed cases of COVID-19 or healthy or other disease non-SARS-CoV-2 groups</p> <p>Index test: no studies rated as high concerns for applicability</p> <p>Reference standard: high concerns in 162 studies (93%), primarily because cases were defined based only on RT-PCR-positive results and did not consider clinically defined cases</p>			
Findings				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">We included 178 studies evaluating 64,688 samples. 25,724 samples were from people with SARS-CoV-2. Seventy-seven studies (43%) evaluated a single-test brand and 103 compared the accuracy of two or more assays, for a total of 527 index test evaluations (counting each test brand once per study). These studies included data on 124 commercial antibody assays.SARS-CoV-2 cases were mainly hospital inpatients (44%) with small numbers from community settings (8%), hospital outpatients (3%), or emergency departments (3%). Almost half of studies recruited cases from multiple settings (20%) or did not clearly report the source of participants (22%). All studies were conducted prior to the availability of vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 and therefore represent antibody response after naturally acquired SARS-CoV-2 infection.Most studies reported data for assays targeting IgG alone, IgM alone, the combination of IgG or IgM antibodies, or total antibodies (including IgA). Test evaluations included ELISA assays (31%), CLIA assays (32%) and lateral flow assays (36%). Many studies only applied tests in laboratory settings on plasma or serum. Nearly all studies sampled cases with and without SARS-CoV-2 infection separately, and methods for selecting participants were not described.The strength of the relationship of sensitivity with time shows exceptionally high levels of statistical significance ($P < 0.0001$), with sensitivity reaching its highest value ($> 90\%$) for all target antibodies apart from IgM in the convalescent phase of infection, or week four onwards. Sensitivity for assays targeting IgM alone was highest (at 78%) in week three (15 to 21 days after onset).Pre-pandemic samples provided the least biased estimate of assay specificity; average specificities were 98.6% or more for all target antibodies.Results according to type of antigen used in the test (nucleocapsid, spike, or both) were variable but suggest any differences in sensitivity by antigen type, especially for IgG, are limited to the first week or two after onset.Some differences in average sensitivities were observed by test technology (marginally higher for CLIA methods), however, heterogeneity in study results, timing of sample collection, and smaller sample numbers in some groups complicates interpretation.Investigations of test performance by brand showed considerable variation in sensitivity between tests, and variability in results between studies evaluating the same test. None of the test brands in our review fully met UK MHRA target performance criteria for sensitivity or specificity.Data for IgA as target antibody are based on smaller numbers of samples but suggest a similar pattern as for other antibodies, with average sensitivity for IgA alone exceeding 80% from week 3 onwards. For asymptomatic participants, a similar effect from time after diagnosis was observed, with lower sensitivity for IgG assays within two weeks of a positive RT-PCR result, increasing by 14 or more days after positive PCR.				
Quantity of evidence	<table><tr><th>Number of studies</th><th>Total participants or samples^a</th><th>Total cases</th></tr></table>	Number of studies	Total participants or samples ^a	Total cases
Number of studies	Total participants or samples ^a	Total cases		

	178	64,688			25,724	
Sensitivity (95% CI)					Specificity (95%CI)	
N evaluations (TP/SARS-CoV-2 cases)					N evaluations (TN/non-SARS-CoV-2 cases)	
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Convalescent	Pre-pandemic	
Assays targeting IgG alone	27.2	64.8	88.1	89.8**	98.9**	
	(24.9, 29.7)	(62.1, 67.4)	(86.6, 89.5)	(88.5, 90.9)	(98.6, 99.1)	
	189 (2177/6679)	202 (5883/9078)	190 (4328/5027)	253 (14,183/16,846)	179 (37,385/38,090)	
Assays targeting IgM alone	29.5	64.6	78.3	71.2	98.6	
	(25.8, 33.6)	(60.3, 68.7)	(74.8, 81.4)	(65.5, 76.2)	(98.0, 99.1)	
	126 (1770/4492)	122 (3715/5577)	118 (2416/3231)	125 (4683/7124)	83 (14,691/15,126)	
Assays targeting either IgG or IgM ^b	41.1	74.9	88.0*	92.9	99.2*	
	(38.1, 44.2)	(72.4, 77.3)	(86.3, 89.5)	(91.0, 94.4)	(98.5, 99.5)	
	103 (1593/3881)	96 (2904/3948)	103 (2571/2929)	108 (3206/3571)	68 (8989/9262)	
Assays targeting total antibodies	37.7	79.4	90.9	94.3	99.8	
	(31.0, 44.9)	(74.0, 83.9)	(87.8, 93.2)	(92.8, 95.5)	(99.6, 99.9)	
	27 (428/1010)	29 (804/1030)	33 (908/1016)	58 (6652/7063)	45 (12,166/12,207)	
Antibody tests for diagnosis of current infection: Numbers applied to a hypothetical cohort of 1000 people, using summary data for the combination of IgG or IgM in week 3 after onset of infection for sensitivity and pre-pandemic samples (denoted using * above)						
Prevalence of current infection	TP (95% CI)	FP (95% CI)	FN (95% CI)	TN (95% CI)	PPV (%)	1-NPV (%)
1%	9 (9, 9)	8 (5, 15)	1 (1, 1)	982 (975, 985)	53	0.1
2%	18 (17, 18)	8 (5, 15)	2 (2, 3)	972 (965, 975)	69	0.2
5%	46 (46, 47)	8 (5, 14)	4 (3, 5)	942 (936, 945)	85	0.6



Antibody tests for diagnosis of prior infection: Numbers applied to a hypothetical cohort of 1000 people, using summary data for IgG alone during the convalescent phase of infection for sensitivity and pre-pandemic samples (denoted using ** above)

Prevalence of prior infection	TP (95% CI)	FP (95% CI)	FN (95% CI)	TN (95% CI)	PPV (%)	1-NPV (%)
20%	180 (177, 182)	9 (7, 11)	20 (18, 23)	791 (789, 793)	95	2.5
50%	449 (443, 455)	6 (5, 7)	51 (46, 58)	494 (493, 496)	99	9.4

*Data applied to hypothetical cohort with current infection. ** Data applied to hypothetical cohort with prior infection.

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassays

CI: confidence interval

CLIA: chemiluminescence immunoassays

ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays

FIA: fluorescence-labelled immunochromatographic assays

FN: false negative

FP: false positive

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

TN: true negative

TP: true positive

^aSamples counted once per study; results per antibody and time period were counted per test evaluated (i.e. could be counted more than once per study)

^bPositive if either IgG- or IgM-positive

BACKGROUND

We are creating and maintaining a suite of living systematic reviews to cover the roles of tests and characteristics in the diagnosis of coronavirus disease (COVID-19). This review summarises evidence of the accuracy of COVID-19 antibody tests; both laboratory-based tests and rapid tests using a lateral flow format.

Target condition being diagnosed

COVID-19 is the disease caused by infection with the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The key target conditions for this suite of reviews are current SARS-CoV-2 infection, current COVID-19 disease, and past SARS-CoV-2 infection. The COVID-19 antibody tests included in this review primarily concern the identification of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, however, we also consider their use for identification of current infection in the immediate days and weeks after onset.

For current infection, the severity of the disease is of importance. SARS-CoV-2 infection can be asymptomatic (no symptoms); mild or moderate (symptoms such as fever, cough, aches, lethargy but without difficulty breathing at rest); severe (symptoms with breathlessness and increased respiratory rate indicative of pneumonia); or critical (requiring respiratory support due to severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) or acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)). People with COVID-19 pneumonia (severe or critical disease) require different patient management, and it is important to be able to identify them. There is no consideration that antibody tests are able to distinguish severity of disease, thus, in this review, we consider their role for detecting SARS-CoV-2 infection of any severity (asymptomatic or symptomatic).

In the context of test evaluation, and throughout this review, we use the term 'reference standard' to denote the best available method (test or tests) for diagnosing the target condition, as opposed to other uses of the term in diagnostic virology (such as reference methods or reference materials). Clinicians typically diagnose current SARS-CoV-2 infection through direct detection of viral nucleic acid in respiratory tract specimens (e.g., nasopharyngeal swabs). The most frequently used tool to do this are nucleic acid amplification-based tests such as reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). The RT-PCR carries a very small risk of false-positive results for infection and a higher risk of false-negative results. False-positive results may result from failures in sampling or laboratory protocols (e.g. mislabelling), contamination during sampling or processing, or low-level reactions during PCR (Healy 2021; Mayers 2020). As for other reviews in this series, we consider the upper bound on the possible false-positive rate of RT-PCR of less than 0.077%. This estimate is based on population prevalence surveys showing RT-PCR positivity rates (comprising both true-positive and false-positive results) of 0.44% (95% credible interval: 0.22% to 0.76%) (August 2020; ONS 2020), and 0.077% (0.065%, 0.092%) (June to July 2020; Riley 2020 React-1 study).

False-negative rates for RT-PCR have been estimated by looking at individuals with symptoms who initially test negative, but positive on a subsequent test. These rates have been estimated to be as high as 20% to 30% in the first week of symptom onset (Arevalo-Rodriguez 2020a; Kucirka 2020; Yang 2020a; Zhao 2020). Including probable SARS-CoV-2 infection cases within the target condition, as defined by internationally recognised clinical guidelines for

diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2, will partially mitigate missed cases due to false-negative RT-PCR results but risk over-classification of COVID-19 when it is not in fact present. Both the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC) have produced case definitions for 'probable cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection' that include RT-PCR-negative cases that display other convincing clinical evidence (Appendix 1). The most recent case definition from the China CDC includes positive antibody tests. Confirming an acute clinical diagnosis using an antibody test requires detectable virus-specific IgM and IgG in serum, or detectable virus-specific IgG, or a 4-fold or greater increase in titration to be observed during convalescence compared with the acute phase. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) guidelines consider the presence of SARS-CoV-2 specific antibodies in serum, plasma, or whole blood to provide supportive rather than confirmatory laboratory evidence of infection (CDC 2021b).

For the presence of both current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection, we require a confirmed positive RT-PCR result or a clearly documented application of clinical guideline-based diagnosis of symptomatic COVID-19 in those who were RT-PCR negative.

For the absence of current SARS-CoV-2, a number of reference standards may be used:

- stored samples obtained prior to the initial spread of SARS-CoV-2 (or 'pre-pandemic' samples); these samples may be from healthy volunteers, or from individuals with other respiratory infections,
- contemporaneous samples from healthy individuals, such as blood donors, or from those with other respiratory infections (preferably with confirmation of the absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR),
- contemporaneous samples obtained from RT-PCR-negative individuals suspected of having COVID-19, usually based on signs and symptoms of infection.

Positive serology results in pre-pandemic samples can be considered as truly false positive, however, for contemporaneous samples from individuals considered not to have SARS-CoV-2 infection, there is a risk that some positive results do indicate a current or previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. Test manufacturers also carry out test evaluations in confounder or cross-reactivity panels of samples from individuals with other types of laboratory-confirmed respiratory infection or with conditions that produce antibodies that might cause false-positive results on a SARS-CoV-2 assay. Although we did not set out to systematically evaluate results in cross-reactivity panels, we have included these results separately where available.

Index test(s)

This review evaluates serology tests to measure antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Antibodies are formed by the body's immune system in response to infections, and can be detected in whole blood, plasma, serum, urine or saliva, although the latter two are not applicable for detection of a response to SARS-CoV-2 infection. The antibodies produced are largely specific to a particular virus, and therefore can be used to differentiate between infections. There are three types of binding antibodies created in response to infection - IgA, IgG, and IgM - these effectively alert the body's immune system to the presence of a foreign pathogen. Neutralising

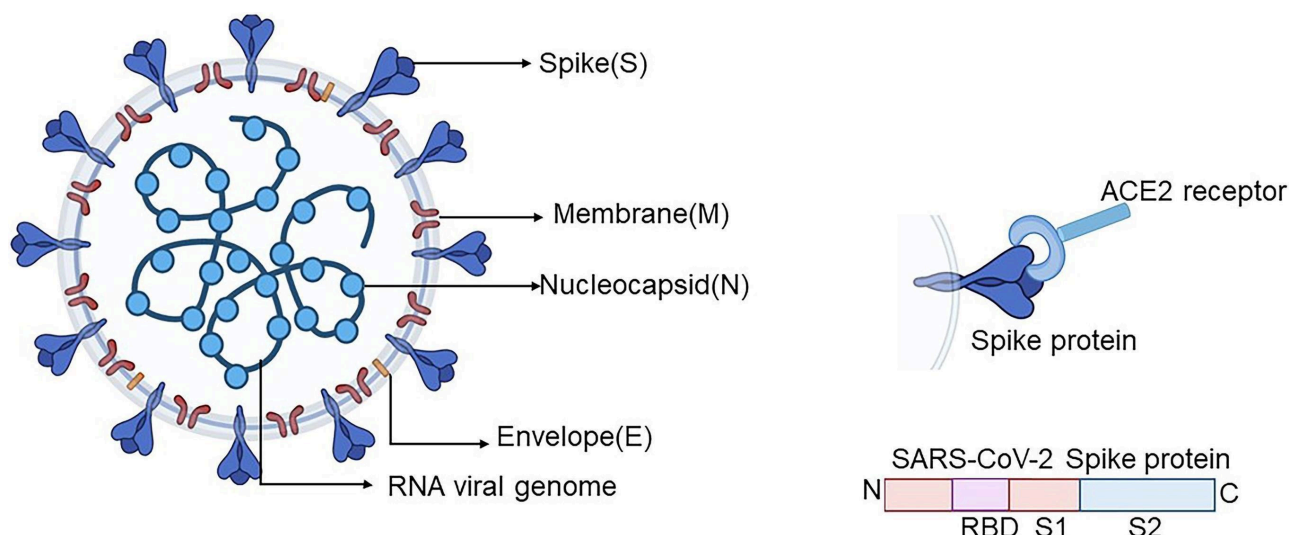
antibodies (or Nabs) are antibodies that act to prevent the virus from further replication; they are less easily measured compared to IgA, IgG or IgM and are not used to diagnose the presence or absence of current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Antibody tests available for laboratory use include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA or EIA) methods, or more advanced chemiluminescence immunoassays (CLIA). These laboratory-based tests require relatively specialised equipment and biosafety procedures but not only detect the presence or absence of antibodies but quantitatively measure antibody levels or titres. Laboratory-independent, point-of-care lateral flow assays for antibody detection use disposable devices, akin to a pregnancy test, that use a minimal amount of blood on a testing strip. Antibody detection is indicated by visible lines appearing on the test strip, or through fluorescence, which can be detected using a reader device. Many of these tests are known as colloidal gold-based immunoassays, as they use SARS-CoV-2 antigen conjugated to gold nanoparticles.

All serological assays use purified SARS-CoV-2 proteins (typically the nucleocapsid 'N'- or spike 'S'-protein, or more specific subunits such as S1, S2 or the receptor binding domain [RBD] on the S1

subunit) to target virus-specific IgA, IgG or IgM (Figure 1). Many tests assess the presence of both IgG and IgM. IgM typically rises quickly with infection and declines soon after an infection is cleared; IgG persists for longer but is reported to wane during the late convalescent period (3 to 6 months post-infection) (ECDC 2021). Alternatively, tests may combine IgA with IgG, or measure all antibodies (IgA, IgG, and IgM). The implications from the choice of antigen or protein used in an assay have become increasingly important with the advent of vaccination and waning natural immunity from prior SARS-CoV-2 infections. Infection-induced antibodies may arise in response to the N- and S- proteins and are therefore potentially detectable by any assay using either of these proteins. Because vaccines are designed to induce antibodies to the spike-protein or RBD, a positive result on an S-based assay (that uses the specific viral protein target that was used in the vaccine) could indicate either prior infection or vaccine-induced antibodies. The US CDC have provided guidelines for interpretation of results, particularly tests for IgG, in vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals according to the antigenic target (CDC 2021b). This review includes studies conducted prior to the introduction of vaccines against COVID-19 and therefore can only consider how well antibody tests are able to detect prior natural infection with SARS-CoV-2.

Figure 1. SARS-CoV-2 diagram



The production and nature of neutralising antibodies is known to be affected by SARS-CoV-2 variants (Greaney 2022), however, the extent to which the development of binding antibodies is affected by variants is as yet unclear (Junker 2022; Yadav 2022). Viral mutations could also lead to changes in viral proteins that may in turn affect the accuracy of serological tests that were developed using viral proteins without those mutations (FDA 2021a). The FDA have not as yet listed any serological assay as being impacted by genetic variation (FDA 2021a).

Following the emergence of COVID-19, there has been prolific industry activity to develop accurate antibody tests. FIND (which is a global non-profit alliance for diagnostics) and the Johns Hopkins Centre for Health Security have maintained online lists of these and other molecular-based tests for SARS-CoV-2. At the time of writing (24 March 2022), FIND listed 298 commercially available antibody tests. Regulatory approval in the European

Union (EU; CE-IVD) had been awarded to 223 on the list, whereas in China only two had been approved, and 37 by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For a period of time (16 March to 11 May 2020), the FDA allowed marketing of antibody tests in the USA without formal regulatory approval, the intention being to allow tests to quickly be made available while the manufacturers prepared their applications for Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA). As a consequence, hundreds of tests were placed on the market, many from manufacturers with no track record in developing in vitro devices and often with insufficient validation. FDA policy changes were soon implemented and, by early July 2020, 56 serological assays had already been added to the FDA's 'do not distribute list'. A comprehensive case study review of the experience in the US and lessons to be learned for future pandemics is provided by West and colleagues (West 2021).

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Clinical pathway

For the first iteration of this review, we considered four possible use cases for antibody tests:

- Diagnosis of acute suspected COVID-19;
- Serial testing to assess immune response in patients with severe disease;
- Identification of prior infection as a possible indicator of immunity to further infection;
- In seroprevalence surveys for public health management purposes.

Based primarily on data from hospital inpatients, we showed that for diagnosis of symptomatic COVID-19, antibody tests had very low sensitivity in the first week following onset of symptoms, rising in the second week, but only exceeding 90% in the third week after onset (Deeks 2020a). For the detection of prior infection, few studies with longer term follow-up were available, however, there was some indication that antibody tests could have a useful role for detecting previous SARS-CoV-2 infection if used 15 days or more after the onset of symptoms (Deeks 2020a).

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, the potential for re-infection and rising vaccination rates necessarily affects the way in which antibody tests might be used. Below we reconsider possible use case scenarios, also taking into consideration an update of the US CDC guidelines for antibody testing which sets out potential indications for antibody testing and interpretation of results in the current landscape (CDC 2021b), however, as previously stated, we are not able to consider how well serology tests can detect vaccination-induced antibodies:

1. Diagnosis of acute COVID-19 (current infection) in those with negative RT-PCR results. The CDC suggest that a positive antibody test at least seven days after the onset of infection could suggest the presence of current SARS-CoV-2 infection *where earlier antibody test results were negative* (CDC 2021b), implying that antibody tests are only useful for diagnosis in individuals with no evidence of prior infection or in those who have not been vaccinated. In vaccinated individuals, an N-based antibody assay could be used to identify the emergence of infection-related antibodies, however, an earlier negative result would be required to confirm the presence of a newly acquired SARS-CoV-2 infection.
2. To assist diagnosis where patients present with a multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS) or other post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (current or previous infection) (CDC 2021b). MIS in children or in adults typically arises within four weeks of a SARS-CoV-2 infection and can occur in individuals who had no obvious signs or symptoms of COVID-19 during the acute phase of infection (CDC 2020a; CDC 2021a). Serologic testing could be used to support the diagnosis of a prior SARS-CoV-2 infection having led to MIS in those with no previous RT-PCR test, with a negative previous RT-PCR test, or in those who are negative on RT-PCR at the time of presentation.
3. For seroprevalence surveys for epidemiological or public health management purposes (previous infection). Understanding the prevalence of detectable antibodies resulting from infection and or vaccination can serve a number of purposes (Bonanni 2021):
 - To retrospectively determine the size of an outbreak,

- To identify how much infection has spread in a population under study, either overall or in specific subgroups, for example by age,
- To estimate the prevalence of mild and asymptomatic infection,
- To inform estimation of infection fatality rates and vaccine effectiveness, and
- To estimate the proportion of the population who may be protected against infection, or at least protected against developing severe COVID-19, in the future.

This information can be used in a number of ways not least to inform public health containment (or alternatively de-escalation) strategies or to identify groups for targeted vaccination policies. Differentiating the prevalence of infection-acquired antibodies from those resulting from vaccination would require the use of both N- and S-based serologic assays. Although rapid tests are used for seroprevalence purposes (e.g. REACT-2 surveys in the UK (Ward 2022)), quantitative serological assays that measure antibody titres are needed to allow antibody kinetics to be examined over time and facilitate understanding of the role of antibodies in immunity from further infection.

Two additional use cases during current infection include:

4. Serial testing for monitoring immune response in patients with severe disease.
5. To select currently infected, seronegative COVID-19 patients who are at high risk of progression to severe COVID-19 for monoclonal antibody treatments such as casirivimab or imdevimab (Agarwal 2020) or bebtelovimab for the Omicron variant (FDA 2022).

Use case 4 is a monitoring rather than diagnostic use case and use case 5 is a stratified medicine scenario. Both use cases would require comparison with a reference standard test of antibody response, rather than evidence of infection; as such these use cases will not be further considered in this review.

Prior test(s)

Prior testing depends on the purpose of the test. Where antibody testing is proposed to assist with acute diagnosis of infection or for diagnosis of longer-term sequelae from COVID-19 (use cases 1 and 2), we anticipate that patients would be symptomatic and most likely have undergone RT-PCR testing and possibly computed tomography (CT) imaging with other laboratory markers used as needed. For the identification of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection (use case 3), individuals may have undergone rapid antigen testing or RT-PCR if symptomatic or if exposure to a confirmed case was suspected. However prior testing will not necessarily influence the likelihood of any subsequent antibody testing.

Alternative test(s)

This review is one of a suite of reviews that cover the range of tests and characteristics being considered in the management of COVID-19 (Deeks 2020b; Leeftang 2021; McInnes 2020), five of which have already been published (Dinnes 2021; Islam 2021; Stegeman 2020; Struyf 2021), including one previous iteration of this review (Deeks 2020a). Full details of the alternative tests and evidence of their accuracy is summarised in these reviews. As we have previously established that antibody tests may only have a role for

diagnosis of acute current infection when other tests are negative or inconclusive, they are not further described here.

Rationale

It is essential to understand the clinical accuracy of tests and diagnostic features to identify the best way they can be used in different settings to develop effective diagnostic and management pathways. The suite of Cochrane's 'living systematic reviews' summarises evidence on the clinical accuracy of different tests and diagnostic features, grouped according to the research questions and settings that we are aware of. Estimates of accuracy from these reviews will help inform diagnosis, screening, isolation, and patient management decisions.

Summary of the previous version of the review

The first iteration of this review (Deeks 2020a) included 57 publications reporting 54 separate study cohorts with 15,976 samples, including 8526 from cases with SARS-CoV-2 infection. Data for 25 commercial tests and 25 inhouse assays were evaluated. Studies were primarily conducted in Asia ($n = 38$, 70%) and over half ($n = 28$, 52%) were only available as preprints. We identified several methodological limitations including use of multi-group designs ($n = 29$, 54%) or inclusion of only SARS-CoV-2 cases ($n = 19$, 35%), lack of blinding of the index test ($n = 49$, 91%) and reference standard ($n = 29$, 54%), differential verification ($n = 22$, 41%), and the lack of clarity about participant numbers, characteristics and study exclusions ($n = 47$, 87%). Most studies ($n = 44$, 81%) only included people hospitalised due to suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

We observed substantial heterogeneity in sensitivities of IgA, IgM and IgG antibodies, or combinations thereof, for results aggregated across different time periods post-symptom onset (range 0% to 100% for all target antibodies). Main results were therefore based on studies that stratified results by time since symptom onset ($n = 38$, 70%); the numbers of individuals contributing data within each study for each time period were small and usually not based on tracking the same groups of patients over time. Pooled results for IgG, IgM, IgA, total antibodies and IgG/IgM all showed low sensitivity during the first week since onset of symptoms (all less than 30.1%), rising in the second week and reaching their highest values in the third week. The combination of IgG/IgM had a sensitivity of 30.1% (95% CI 21.4 to 40.7; 9 evaluations, 259 samples) for 1 to 7 days, 72.2% (95% CI 63.5 to 79.5; 9 evaluations, 608 samples) for 8 to 14 days, and 91.4% (95% CI 87.0 to 94.4; 9 evaluations, 692 samples) for 15 to 21 days. Estimates of accuracy beyond three weeks were based on smaller sample sizes and fewer studies. For 21 to 35 days, pooled sensitivities for IgG/IgM were 96.0% (95% CI 90.6 to 98.3). There were insufficient studies to estimate the sensitivity of tests beyond 35 days post-symptom onset. Summary specificities (provided in 35 studies) exceeded 98% for all target antibodies with confidence intervals no more than two percentage points wide. False-positive results were more common where COVID-19 had been suspected and ruled out, but numbers were small and the difference was within the range expected by chance. Analyses showed small differences in sensitivity between assay type, but methodological concerns and sparse data prevent comparisons between test brands.

The review concluded that antibody tests have no role for the diagnosis of acute COVID-19 in the early weeks after symptom onset but may complement other testing in individuals presenting

later (after 14 days), when RT-PCR tests are negative, or are not done. Antibody tests seemed likely to be useful for detecting previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, however, at that time the duration of antibody rises was unknown, and very little data beyond 35 days post-symptom onset, or from individuals in the community with milder or no symptoms of COVID-19, was identified.

Changes in the evidence base since the previous version

There has been a considerable increase in the number of available evaluations of antibody assays, primarily from symptomatic populations but with some studies including asymptomatic individuals. This iteration of the review restricts study inclusion to evaluations of commercially produced tests and to those reporting sensitivities according to time after onset of infection, primarily defined as time from symptom onset. Results for specificity are presented separately for pre-pandemic and for different groups of contemporaneously collected samples (from either people tested because of suspicion of COVID-19, people with other confirmed respiratory infections or other conditions, or from healthy individuals). The number of test brands with available data has increased as has the amount of data by week after symptom onset (up to day 35). We have also been able to analyse data for those in the convalescent phase of infection (defined as 21 days or more after symptom onset, or 14 days or more after a positive PCR test) and for those reported as asymptomatic at the time of testing. Studies mostly continue to rely on a single RT-PCR result to confirm the presence or absence of infection, however, we have been able to conduct subgroup analyses to investigate the effect of different index test methods (ELISA, CLIA or lateral flow assay) and antigens used for both sensitivity and specificity. Results by test brand in convalescent individuals are considered according to the UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) target product profiles for COVID-19 diagnostics (i.e. acceptable performance criterion of sensitivity $\geq 98\%$ and specificity $\geq 98\%$ (MHRA 2021b) as a benchmark against which to consider test performance.

The volume of literature on the accuracy of antibody tests has increased substantially since the last iteration of this review. This has allowed us to generate more precise estimates of accuracy for specific diagnostic test applications and stratified by important clinical subgroups. However, antibody tests have not had the widespread use that was predicted at the beginning of the pandemic. Although antibody tests are potentially useful for certain use cases as defined in the Clinical Pathway, we do not currently have any plans to further update this review. Vaccination for SARS-CoV-2 infection was introduced shortly following the search cut-off of this review. This review therefore provides a summary of diagnostic test accuracy for antibody tests for naturally-acquired SARS-CoV-2 infection.

This review follows a generic protocol that covers six Cochrane COVID-19 diagnostic test accuracy reviews (Deeks 2020b). The 'Background', 'Objectives' and 'Methods' sections of this review therefore use some text that was originally published in the protocol (Deeks 2020b), in the previous iteration of this review (Deeks 2020a) and text that overlaps some of our other reviews (Dinnes 2021; Struyf 2021).

OBJECTIVES

To assess the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests to determine if a person presenting in the community or in primary or secondary care has current SARS-CoV-2 infection according to time after onset of infection.

To assess the diagnostic accuracy of antibody tests to determine if a person has previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2.

Secondary objectives

Where data were available, we investigated the accuracy (either by stratified analysis or meta-regression) according to:

- time after onset of symptoms in periods of one week for the first five weeks, and for prior infection or convalescent phase from 21 days after onset of symptoms;
- test method (ELISA, CLIA, LFA);
- SARS-CoV-2 antigen used (N-based, S-based, total antibodies);
- test brand;
- reference standard for non-SARS-CoV-2 cases (pre-pandemic versus contemporaneous controls with or without the use of RT-PCR to confirm absence of infection).

We had planned to investigate the effect of both study design and setting for recruitment of cases, however, the majority of studies used two-or multi-group designs and primarily included hospital inpatients or did not report the source of RT-PCR-positive samples, precluding the conduct of this planned analysis.

METHODS

Criteria for considering studies for this review

Types of studies

We applied broad eligibility criteria in order to include all patient groups and all variations of a test (that is, if the patient population was unclear, we included the study).

We included studies of all designs that produced estimates of test accuracy or provided data from which estimates could be computed, including the following.

- Studies restricted to participants confirmed to have (or to have had) the target condition (to estimate sensitivity)
- Single-group studies, which recruited participants before disease status had been ascertained
- Multi-group studies, where people with and without the target condition were recruited separately (often referred to as two-gate or diagnostic case-control studies)
- Studies based on either patients or samples

We excluded studies from which we could not extract data to compute sensitivity (i.e. studies reporting data to allow calculation only of specificity were excluded). All studies had to provide data for sensitivity that could be allocated to a predefined time slot after onset of symptoms, or after a positive RT-PCR test (see [Data extraction and management](#)).

We excluded small studies with fewer than 25 samples from those with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 (irrespective of the number of samples from non-SARS-CoV-2 cases, for studies with both diseased and

non-diseased participants). For studies with more than 25 samples from those with SARS-CoV-2 but fewer than 25 samples from non-SARS-CoV-2 cases, only the sensitivity estimates were eligible. Although the size threshold of 25 is arbitrary, our requirement for studies to present results according to time after onset of infection means that smaller studies could frequently contribute only very small numbers of samples to any eligible time period, leading to unreliable estimates of sensitivity. Our sample size threshold aims to reduce this, however, some studies with smaller total numbers of samples do contribute < 25 samples to any one time period after symptom onset.

We included studies reported in published articles and as preprints.

Participants

We included studies recruiting people presenting with suspicion of current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection or those recruiting populations where tests were used to screen for disease (for example, contact tracing or community screening).

We also included studies that recruited people either known to have SARS-CoV-2 infection or known not to have SARS-CoV-2 infection (multi-group studies).

Index tests

For this version of the review, we included studies evaluating any commercially produced test for detecting antibodies to SARS-CoV-2, including laboratory-based methods and tests designed to be used at point-of-care. Test methods include the following:

Laboratory-based:

- Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA);
- Chemiluminescence immunoassays (CLIA).

Rapid tests:

- Lateral flow assays, including both colloidal gold or fluorescence-labelled immunochromatographic assays (CGIA or FIA)

Studies evaluating inhouse assays or 'laboratory-developed tests' were excluded.

Target conditions

The target conditions were the identification of:

- current SARS-CoV-2 infection (symptomatic for COVID-19);
- previous SARS-CoV-2 infection (in convalescent [post-symptomatic] or asymptomatic cases).

Reference standards

We anticipated that studies would use a range of reference standards to define both the presence and absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection, as set out under [Target conditions](#).

For the presence of SARS-CoV-2, we accepted positive nucleic acid amplification test results (e.g. RT-PCR) or a clinical guideline-based diagnosis of COVID-19 for those who were RT-PCR-negative but had high clinical suspicion.

For the absence of SARS-CoV-2 we included:

- ‘Pre-pandemic’ stored samples obtained prior to the initial spread of SARS-CoV-2;
- Contemporaneous samples from healthy individuals, such as blood donors, or from those with other confirmed respiratory infections, with or without confirmation of absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR;
- Contemporaneous samples obtained from RT-PCR-negative individuals suspected of having COVID-19.

Studies using serology-based reference standards such as ELISA (for example, to evaluate the performance of rapid antibody tests) were not eligible for inclusion because these studies can only consider how well included tests estimate antibody response and are likely to overestimate accuracy for diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2.

For the Quality Assessment tool for Diagnostic Accuracy Studies (QUADAS-2; [Whiting 2011](#)), we categorised each method of defining the presence of SARS-CoV-2 according to the risk of bias (the chances that it would misclassify participants as not having SARS-CoV-2) and whether it defined SARS-CoV-2 in an appropriate way that reflected cases encountered in practice. Likewise, we considered the risk of bias in definitions of the absence of infection, and whether the definition reflected those who, in practice, would be tested.

Search methods for identification of studies

Electronic searches

The previous iteration of this review included records from electronic searches up to 27 April 2020 ([Deeks 2020a](#)). This section documents additional searches undertaken for the current iteration of this living review (first update version) up to 30 September 2020. All included studies were identified on or before 30 September 2020. Where studies originally identified as preprints were subsequently published, both publications were included in the reference list and, in some cases, may have a study ID of 2021.

COVID-19 Open Access Project living evidence database from the University of Bern

We used the COVID-19 Open Access Project living evidence database from the University of Bern (www.ispm.unibe.ch) (last feed obtained for this review on 30 September 2020) ([COVID-19 Open Access Project 2021](#)). The database was constructed from daily (Monday to Friday) systematic searches of Embase via OVID, MEDLINE via PubMed, bioRxiv and medRxiv. The strategies as described on the ISPM website are described here (<https://ispmbern.github.io/covid-19/living-review/collectingdata.html>). See Appendix 2.

Due to the increased volume of literature since 25 May 2020, we have used artificial intelligence text analysis to retrieve more relevant records from the COVID-19 Open Access Project living evidence database; prior to that date all records retrieved were screened manually. We used three iterations of manual screening for any one of the first set of COVID-19 DTA (diagnostic test accuracy) reviews from the period up to 25 May 2020 (title and abstract screening, followed by full-text review) to build and test a generic classifier that would identify records more likely to report test accuracy data based on their title and abstract information (see Appendix 3 for further details). All references from the COVID-19 Open Access Project living evidence database from 25 May 2020 onwards were run against the classifier and references labelled as

potentially relevant by the classifier were then screened manually and tagged according to the COVID-19 DTA review(s) to which they related.

Other electronic sources

We checked our search results against two additional repositories of COVID-19 publications up to 30 September 2020:

- the Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI-Centre) ‘COVID-19: Living map of the evidence’ (eppi.ioe.ac.uk/COVID19_MAP/covid_map_v4.html);
- the Norwegian Institute of Public Health’ NIPH systematic and living map on COVID-19 evidence’ (www.norgesk.no/forskningskart/NIPH_diagnosisMap.html).

Both repositories allow their contents to be filtered according to studies potentially relating to diagnosis, and both agreed to provide us with updates of new diagnosis studies.

Searching other resources

We did not perform additional searches in other resources.

We did not apply any language restrictions.

Data collection and analysis

Selection of studies

A team of experienced systematic review authors from the University of Birmingham screened the titles and abstracts of all records retrieved from the literature searches following the application of artificial intelligence text analysis (described in [Electronic searches](#)). Two review authors independently screened titles and abstracts in [Covidence](#). A third senior review author resolved any disagreements. Potentially relevant publications were obtained and independently assessed in [Covidence](#) by two review authors. Disagreements were resolved through consensus, with the inclusion of a third, senior reviewer if required. Records that were excluded at full-text stage were documented, including the reasons for their exclusion.

Up to 30 September 2020, screening was conducted across all Cochrane COVID-19 DTA biomarker reviews (molecular, antigen or antibody tests), using tagging of records according to the review(s) for which they might be eligible.

Data extraction and management

One review author carried out data extraction, which was checked by a second review author. Items that we extracted are listed in Appendix 4.

Both review authors independently performed data extraction of 2 x 2 contingency tables of the number of true positives, false positives, false negatives, and true negatives. They resolved disagreements by discussion.

Where possible, we extracted 2 x 2 tables according to time since onset of symptoms. In order to examine test sensitivity in the immediate period after onset of infection, we predefined groups of interest by week for the first five weeks after onset of symptoms (‘week 1’ being day 1-7, ‘week 2’ day 8-14, ‘week 3’ day 15-21, ‘week 4’ day 22-28, and ‘week 5’ day 29-35 post-symptom onset). Where the data presented did not exactly match these categorisations,

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

we entered data in the time group that had the greatest overlap with our groupings, for example, day 1-10 would be included as 'week 1' and day 11-20 as 'week 3'. We also extracted data for a broader category of *convalescent* phase of infection. We defined 'convalescent data' as samples collected 21 days or more from onset of symptoms or 14 days or more after a positive PCR result that did not fit into our criteria for 'week 4' or 'week 5', i.e. the time interval was longer than 10 days (e.g. studies providing data for samples collected between 21 and 40 days after onset of symptoms would be categorised as 'convalescent'). Studies presenting data from up to three days prior to these thresholds (e.g. day 18 onwards) were also grouped as 'convalescent', as were studies reporting any data with a starting point any time after these thresholds (e.g. data from 28, 35 or 50 days after a positive PCR result were all considered as convalescent). There was no overlap in data categorised as 'week 4' or 'week 5' after onset of symptoms and data categorised as 'convalescent data'.

Where possible, we separately extracted data related to each type of antibody (IgA, IgG and IgM, respectively), or combinations thereof (IgG or IgM, IgA or IgM, IgA or IgG, where a positive test result is defined as either or both antibodies detected). We also extracted data on total antibodies, where this was reported.

We encourage study authors to contact us regarding missing details on the included studies (covidtda@contacts.bham.ac.uk).

Assessment of methodological quality

Two review authors independently assessed risk of bias and applicability concerns using the QUADAS-2 checklist tailored to this review (Appendix 5; [Whiting 2011](#)). The two review authors resolved any disagreements by discussion or sought advice from a third, senior review author.

Ideally, studies should prospectively recruit a representative sample of participants presenting with signs and symptoms of COVID-19, either in community or primary care settings or in a hospital setting, and they should clearly record the time of testing after the onset of symptoms. Studies should perform antibody tests in their intended use setting, using appropriate sample types as described in the 'Instructions for use' sheet (e.g. finger prick blood for tests being evaluated for use as point-of-care tests), and tests should be performed by relevant personnel (e.g. healthcare workers), and should be interpreted blinded to the final diagnosis (COVID-19 or not). Serology samples should be taken at time points that reflect the intended use (either whilst symptomatic for diagnosis of infection, or during a convalescent period (after resolution of symptoms) for diagnosis of previous infection). The reference standard diagnosis should be blinded to the result of the antibody test and should not incorporate the result of the index test or any other serology test. If the reference standard includes clinical diagnosis of COVID-19, then established criteria should be used. Studies including samples from participants known not to have COVID-19 should use pre-pandemic sources, contemporaneous samples from asymptomatic contacts or people with no clinical suspicion of COVID-19 with at least one RT-PCR-negative test result, or contemporaneous samples from those suspected of COVID-19 based on signs or symptoms with at least two RT-PCR-negative tests. Data should be reported for all study participants (flow and timing domain), including those where the result of the antibody test was inconclusive, or participants in whom the final diagnosis of COVID-19 was uncertain, and any delay between application of

the index test and reference standard that could introduce bias (for example, because of changing disease status between time points) should be considered. If studies obtained multiple samples for testing over time from the same study participants, then they should disaggregate results by time post-symptom onset.

Statistical analysis and data synthesis

The first iteration of this review clearly demonstrated the strong relationship of sensitivity with time, particularly in the first weeks after onset of infection. For this updated review, we do not present 'overall' estimates of sensitivity across all time periods but instead present results by target antibody or combination of antibodies by week after onset of symptoms (up to five weeks, where reported), and, for the first time were able to compute average estimates of sensitivity by target antibody for participants who are more likely to have reached a convalescent phase of infection (i.e. > 21 days after onset of symptoms), and for those who were reported as asymptomatic at the time of infection. The cut-off of 21 days should be taken as only indicative of test accuracy for detection of prior infection, as some participants in the included studies would have been hospitalised for prolonged periods and are likely to reflect those with more severe and long-lasting symptoms.

We grouped data by study and antibody test so that studies that evaluated multiple index tests in the same participants were included multiple times. We present estimates of sensitivity and specificity for each antibody (or combination of antibodies) using paired forest plots, and also summarised them in tables as appropriate.

For analysis purposes, unlike in most diagnostic test accuracy (DTA) reviews, we considered estimates of sensitivity and specificity separately because many of the included studies presented only estimates of sensitivity. Estimates of specificity were typically exceptionally high, thus the correlation between sensitivity and specificity across studies was unlikely to be high ([Macaskill 2010](#); [Takwoingi 2017](#)).

Where we were able to perform meta-analysis, we fitted random-effects logistic regression models separately for sensitivity and specificity using the `melogit` command in *Stata* v17.0 (*Stata*). In a small number of instances, the random-effects logistic regression analyses failed to converge (mostly this was where individual studies had specificities of 100%), and we have instead computed estimates and confidence intervals by summing the counts of true positive, false positive, false negative and true negative across 2 x 2 tables. These analyses are clearly marked in the tables. We present all estimates with 95% confidence intervals. Where sensitivity or specificity was calculated directly or by summing across the 2 x 2 tables, exact (Clopper-Pearson) 95% binomial confidence intervals (CI) were presented.

Investigations of heterogeneity

We investigated sources of heterogeneity in two ways. First, for analysis of sensitivity for time since onset of symptoms, we extracted data by week and extended the random-effects logistic regression model to include indicator variables for each week. Because of a strong relationship between time since onset of symptoms and sensitivity found in the previous version of this review ([Deeks 2020a](#)) and also in this version, we elected to fit all subsequent models for investigation of heterogeneity in sensitivity separately for each week. Note that the convalescent-phase data

were not included in this model and were considered separately. We excluded studies for which stratified data were not available at this stage.

The random-effects logistic regression for specificity was also extended to include indicator variables for the type of reference standard and source of participants who did not have COVID-19. Because we anticipated a strong relationship between reference standard type and specificity, it was decided to fit subsequent models for investigation of heterogeneity in specificity separately for each reference standard type. Note that the cross-reactivity/confounder panel data was not included in this model and was considered separately.

We investigated heterogeneity related to test technology and antigen by including indicator variables in the random-effects logistic regression model for each of these covariates separately. Categories such as 'other' or 'unclear' were not included as indicator variables since it is not logical to make comparisons to an unknown category. Sensitivities and specificities in this case were pooled by relevant subgroups. Models with and without a covariate were compared using likelihood ratio tests to obtain P values. We present estimates from these models by test technology or antigen for sensitivity during the convalescent phase of infection and for each week up to the third week since onset of symptoms. We did not fit models to compare sensitivities/specificities by test brand due to the small number of studies available.

Sensitivity analyses

We planned to undertake sensitivity analyses by excluding:

- Unpublished studies;
- Studies identified only from industry 'Instructions for use' documentation;
- Studies using sample banks or spiked or contrived samples;
- Studies with inadequate reference standards, for example, lack of a clear definition of clinical criteria used to diagnose the presence of COVID-19.

For previous infection, we also planned to assess increasing lengths of time since symptoms cleared.

In this version of the review, we did not undertake any of these analyses because we did not include any unpublished studies, company documents, and no study used spiked samples. We investigated differences in reference standards used and time after onset of symptoms as part of the primary analyses.

Assessment of reporting bias

We made no formal assessment of reporting bias.

Summary of findings

We summarised key findings in a '[Summary of findings 1](#)' table indicating the strength of evidence for each test and findings.

Updating

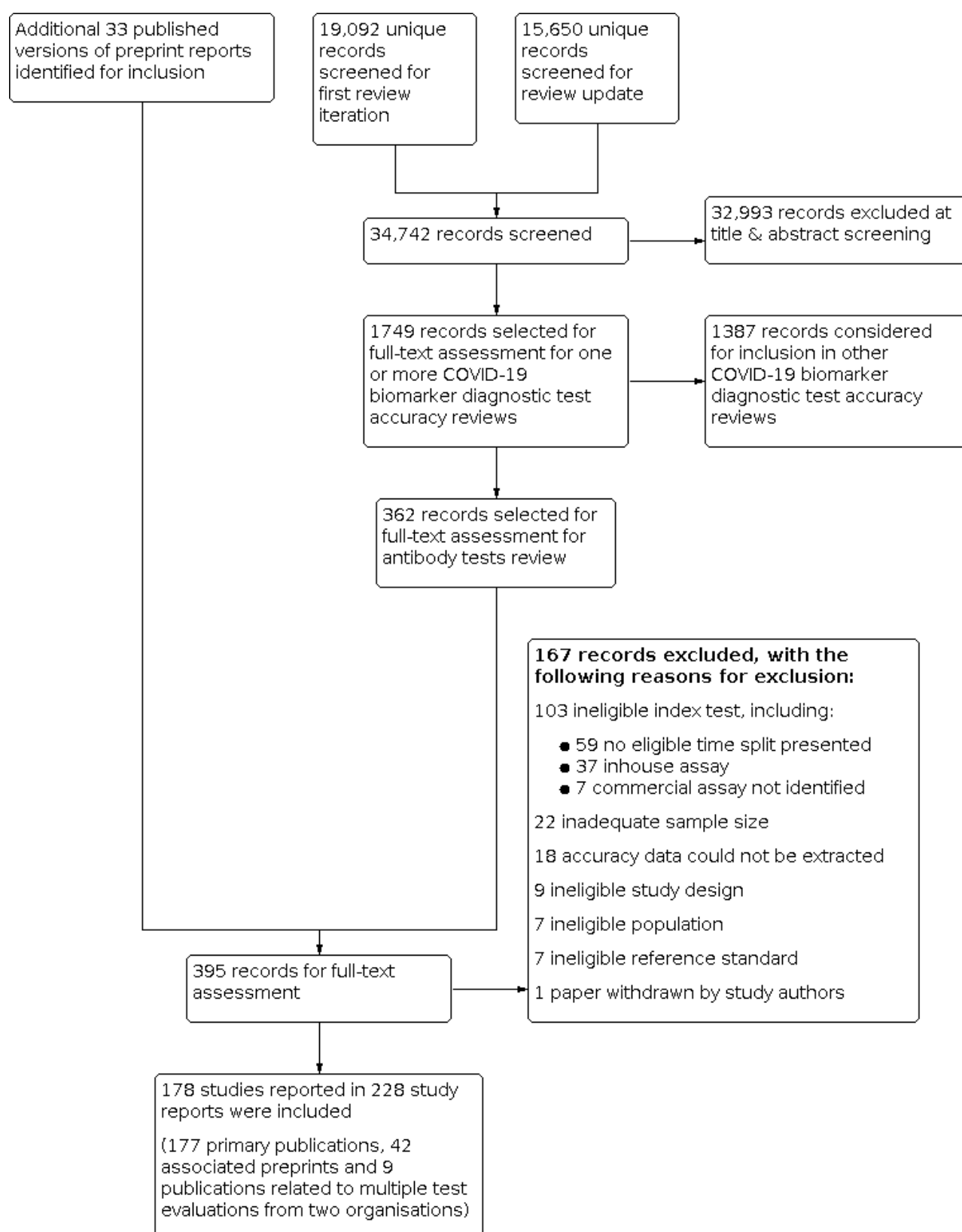
We are aware that additional potentially eligible studies have been published since the search date of 30 September 2020, however, because tests for diagnosis of the presence of current SARS-CoV-2 infection have a much higher priority for pandemic management, this review has not been prioritised for a further update in the immediate future. Although it is likely that more recently published studies will be relevant to the use cases we have explored, we would not expect significant changes to our conclusions.

RESULTS

Results of the search

We screened 37,742 unique references (published or preprints) for inclusion in the complete suite of reviews to assist in the diagnosis of COVID-19 ([Deeks 2020b](#); [McInnes 2020](#)). Of 1749 records selected for further assessment for inclusion in any of the six reviews, we assessed 362 full-text reports for inclusion in this review. We also identified a further 33 published versions of preprint reports, taking the total number of full-text publications reviewed to 395. See [Figure 2](#) for the PRISMA flow diagram of search and eligibility results ([McInnes 2018](#); [Moher 2009](#)).

Figure 2. Study flow diagram



We included 177 primary study reports and 51 secondary publications, to make a total of 228 study reports included in

this review (42 studies had both preprint and published versions and two organisations conducted multiple test evaluations with

separate reports that were included as two primary reports and 9 additional related publications). We excluded 167 publications. Exclusions were mainly related to the index test ($n = 108$, including 59 that did not present serology results in an eligible time split, 37 that evaluated an inhouse instead of a commercial assay, and 7 that did not identify the assay being evaluated), because the sample size was inadequate ($n < 25$) ($n = 22$), or because we were unable to extract accuracy data from the study report (e.g. antibody levels over time were presented with no underlying numbers at given time points) ($n = 18$). The reasons for exclusion of all 167 publications are provided in the [Characteristics of excluded studies](#).

We contacted the authors of 25 study reports for further information ([Chaudhuri 2020 \[A\]](#); [Conklin 2020 \[A\]](#); [Decru 2020 \[A\]](#); [Dortet 2021 \[A\]](#); [GeurtsvanKessel 2020 \[A\]](#); [Harritshoej 2021 \[A\]](#); [Huang 2020a](#); [Huang 2020b](#); [Jung 2020a](#); [Korte 2021 \[A\]](#); [Krishnamurthy 2020](#); [Liu 2021](#); [MacMullan 2020 \[A\]](#); [Manalac 2020 \[A\]](#); [Merrill 2020 \[A\]](#); [Naaber 2020 \[A\]](#); [Paiva 2021 \[A\]](#); [Patel 2020](#); [Prazuck 2020 \[A\]](#); [Rudolf 2020 \[A\]](#); [Ruetalo 2020 \[A\]](#); [Schnurra 2020 \[A\]](#); [Sun 2020](#); [Valdivia 2020 \[A\]](#); [Weidner 2020 \[A\]](#)) and received replies and the requested information with five exceptions ([Huang 2020a](#); [Krishnamurthy 2020](#); [Merrill 2020 \[A\]](#); [Sun 2020](#); [Valdivia 2020 \[A\]](#)).

The 177 primary study reports relate to 178 separate studies providing 527 test evaluations. Of the 177 study reports, 23 studies were available only as preprints. Please note when naming studies, we use the letters (a) and (b) in lower case letters and brackets at the end of the publication year (2020(a), 2020(b)) to indicate multiple studies from the same publication, and the letters [A], [B], [C] etc. in square brackets to indicate data on different tests evaluated in the same study.

Description of included studies

The 178 studies include a total of 64,688 samples with 25,724 samples from cases of SARS-CoV-2. These calculations are based on the total number of either samples or participants as reported in the original study reports and not on accuracy data extracted for any particular eligible time slot. Because studies did not consistently report the number of participants who provided samples for analysis, in this review, we frequently refer to the number of samples as opposed to participants.

Summary study characteristics are presented in [Table 1](#) with further details of study design and index test details in Appendix 6 and Appendix 7. The median sample size across the 178 included studies is 185 (interquartile range [IQR] 92 to 386) and the median number of samples from people with SARS-CoV-2 is 94 (IQR 47 to 168). The majority ($n = 94$) of studies were conducted in Europe, 45 in Asia (including 26 from China), 35 in North America, two in Australia, and two in South America.

Participant characteristics

In almost half of studies ($n = 78$; 44%), cases with SARS-CoV-2 were hospital inpatients, 14 studies included cases from community settings (8%), and small numbers of studies included hospital outpatients ($n = 5$; 3%), patients from emergency departments ($n = 6$; 3%) or quarantine settings ($n = 1$; 1%) ([Table 1](#)). The remaining studies recruited participants from multiple settings ($n = 35$; 20%) or did not clearly report the participant source ($n = 39$; 22%). All studies were identified before the introduction of vaccination for SARS-

CoV-2 infection, therefore, none of the participants had developed antibodies as a result of vaccination.

One hundred and forty-one studies reported data for cases by week and 117 included cases of convalescent-phase infection. Fourteen studies included cases of asymptomatic infection. The age of included cases ranged between 1 and 102 years (reported in 121 studies). The mean or median age ranged from 32 to 82 years (reported in 85 studies), and 20% to 100% of participants were male (reported in 93 studies). Full details are in the [Characteristics of included studies](#) table.

Study designs

Only six studies used a single group or 'single gate' design, whereby participants were included regardless of SARS-CoV-2 status. The majority of studies ($n = 123$; 69%) used a two- or multi-group design with separate selection of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases and healthy participants or participants with another disease or infection other than SARS-CoV-2. A single group of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases was included in 48 studies (27%), thus only allowing estimation of sensitivity and, in one, we were unable to determine the study design used.

Index tests

In total, the 178 studies reported on a total of 527 index test evaluations (counting each test brand once per study). Seventy-six studies (43%) evaluated a single test brand and 102 compared the accuracy of two or more assays.

Studies evaluated ELISA ($n = 165$ evaluations; 31%), CLIA ($n = 167$; 32%) and lateral flow assays (LFAs, $n = 188$; 36%), including nine evaluations of fluorescent immunoassays (FIAs), 136 evaluations of colloidal gold-based immunoassays (CGIAs), and 43 where the assay format could not be determined either from the primary study report or the manufacturer's product insert. The combined 332 laboratory-based evaluations (ELISA and CLIAs) included 59 different tests produced by 41 different commercial companies. The 188 LFA-based evaluations included 102 different tests produced by 89 different commercial companies (five were FIAs, 60 were CGIAs and, for 37 assays, the format could not be determined). One study evaluated an LFA produced by Hangzhou with unlabelled packaging ([Doherty Institute 2020 \[B\]](#)), and one study evaluated an LFA with no known manufacturer ([Conklin 2020 \[H\]](#)).

Reference standards

One hundred and sixty-two of 178 studies (91%) defined the presence of infection based on a positive RT-PCR test, seven (4%) used the China CDC criteria including RT-PCR negatives, and five used other clinical criteria. In the five remaining studies, the reference standard used other criteria (1%), was mixed (1%) or was not clearly defined (1%).

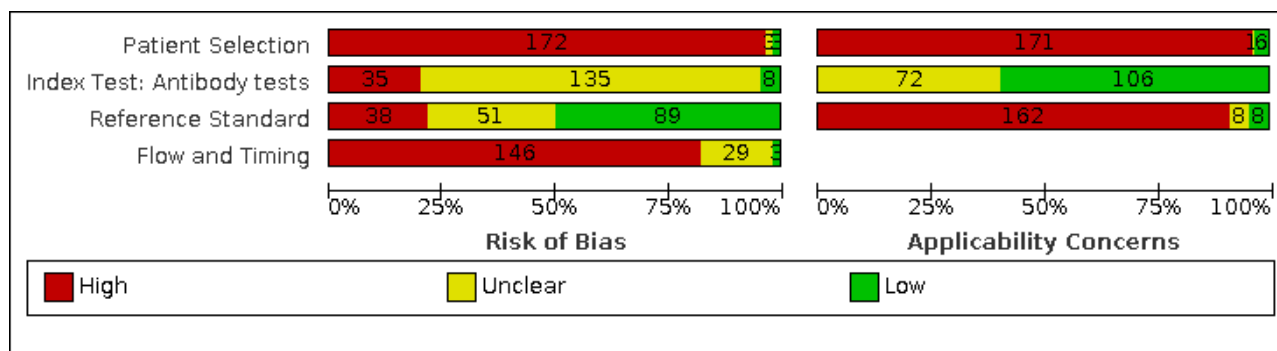
Data from the 130 studies reporting specificity data was extracted as 180 separate control groups (i.e. 50 studies reported more than one source of controls). Pre-pandemic sources were used for 81 control groups (45%), and contemporaneous participants in 51 (28%). The contemporaneous control groups included participants suspected of having COVID-19 but found to be RT-PCR-negative ($n = 21$; 12%), or healthy participants or those with other respiratory infections either RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 ($n = 16$; 9%), or with no RT-PCR reported ($n = 14$; 8%). Thirty-one studies

(17%) reported results for deliberately assembled confounder or cross-reactivity panels (including from pre-pandemic and contemporaneous sources), and 17 (9%) reported results in groups defined using multiple reference standards.

Methodological quality of included studies

We report the overall methodological quality assessed using the QUADAS-2 tool for all included studies ($n = 178$) in [Figure 3](#) (Whiting 2011). See Appendix 8 for study-level ratings by quality.

Figure 3. Risk of bias and applicability concerns graph: review authors' judgements about each domain presented as percentages across included studies



Overall, we judged risk of bias to be high in 172 (97%) studies concerning how participants were selected, 35 (20%) related to application of the index test, 38 (21%) through concerns about the reference standard and 146 (82%) for issues related to participant flow and timing. No study had low risk in all four domains. We judged that there were high concerns about the applicability of the evidence related to participants in 170 (96%) studies, and about the applicability of the reference standard in 162 (91%) studies. Explanations of how we have reached these judgements are given below and in the [Characteristics of included studies](#) table.

Participant selection

For participant selection, we judged three studies to be at low risk of bias and three to be of unclear risk. For the remaining 172 (97%) studies, we found high risk of bias because of non-random or non-consecutive sampling ($n = 6$), separate recruitment of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases and non-cases ($n = 123$), inclusion of only confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases ($n = 48$), inappropriate exclusions ($n = 4$), or inappropriate inclusions ($n = 61$). Numbers per group are not mutually exclusive.

We had high concerns about the applicability of the selection of participants in 171 studies (96%), meaning that the participants who were recruited were unlikely to be similar to those in whom the test would be used in clinical practice. This was frequently because studies only recruited hospitalised, confirmed cases of COVID-19, often with severe symptoms or recruited healthy or other disease non-COVID-19 groups.

Index tests

Thirty-five studies had high risk of bias for the index test domain because they explicitly reported that they had undertaken the index test with knowledge of whether individuals did or did not have COVID-19, i.e. blinding was not implemented ($n = 27$), the threshold to define test positivity was determined by analysing the data, rather than it being predetermined ($n = 6$), or for both reasons ($n = 2$). In 135 studies, the risk of bias could not be judged; this was because blinding of the index test interpretation was not clearly reported ($n = 132$) and/or the threshold prespecification

was not reported ($n = 15$). We judged only eight studies to have implemented the index test in a way that protected against the risk of bias.

In 106 studies (60%), we judged the test to be implemented as it would be in practice and, in 72, the applicability of the test application and interpretation could not be judged, either because of the use of mixed-sample types or insufficient information was provided about the test operator and interpretation.

Reference standards

We judged 89 studies (50%) to have used an appropriate reference standard and implemented it in ways that prevented bias. In 38 studies, there was a risk of misclassification, as they had used a single, negative RT-PCR result to define the absence of disease in people with suspected COVID-19, did not report any RT-PCR testing to confirm COVID-19 status for contemporaneous healthy or other disease non-COVID-19 groups, or used serology results in part to determine the reference standard diagnosis, thus risking incorporation bias. We judged 51 studies as having unclear risk of bias because of unclear descriptions of the reference standards used (e.g. unclear description of the time period during which samples for non-COVID cases were obtained; $n = 32$), insufficient information about blinding of the reference standard interpretation to the index test ($n = 24$), or possible incorporation of the index test result in the reference standard diagnosis ($n = 3$); these numbers are not mutually exclusive.

We had high concerns about the applicability of the reference standard used to define the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in 162 studies (91%), primarily because cases were defined based only on RT-PCR-positive results and did not consider clinically defined cases. Eight studies (4%) reported inadequate detail to assess the applicability of the reference standard and, in only the remaining eight studies, the reference standard was considered to be equivalent to WHO or China CDC definitions of COVID-19, and therefore of low concern.

Flow and timing

One hundred and forty-six (82%) studies were at high risk of bias due to using different reference standards to verify the presence

and absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection ($n = 105$), not all participants receiving a reference standard test ($n = 48$), participants being excluded from the analysis ($n = 47$), or the inclusion of multiple samples per participant ($n = 64$). In 136 (76%) of these studies, we could not make judgements on one or more of these issues, primarily due to lack of clarity around participant inclusion and exclusion from analyses. Three studies were judged as being at low risk of bias for this domain and, in 29 (16%), there was inadequate detail to rule out these risks of bias.

Findings

The 178 included studies reported 527 test evaluations, with up to a maximum of 16 different tests evaluated using the same samples within a single study (Table 1). To incorporate all results from all tests, we have treated results from different tests within a study as separate data points. This leads to individual samples being included multiple times in some analyses. The numbers of

true positives, false positives, COVID-19 samples and non-COVID samples are based on test result counts.

Below we present detailed results for the most commonly reported target antibodies (IgM, IgG, the combination of IgM or IgG, or total antibodies) for sensitivity by week after symptom onset (Table 2), for convalescent-phase infection (Table 3) and for asymptomatic infection (Table 4), and for specificity by reference standard for non-SARS-CoV-2 cases (Table 5). Forest plots of summary results for sensitivity and specificity are given in Figure 4 and Figure 5. Forest plots of individual study results by target antibody and by time after symptom onset are given in Appendix 9 (sensitivity by week after symptom onset), Appendix 10 (sensitivity for convalescent-phase infection), Appendix 11 (sensitivity for asymptomatic infection), and for specificity by reference standard in Appendix 12. Results of analyses of specificity in cross-reactivity/confounder panels are reported in Appendix 13.

Figure 4. Summary forest plot of average sensitivities by time after symptom onset

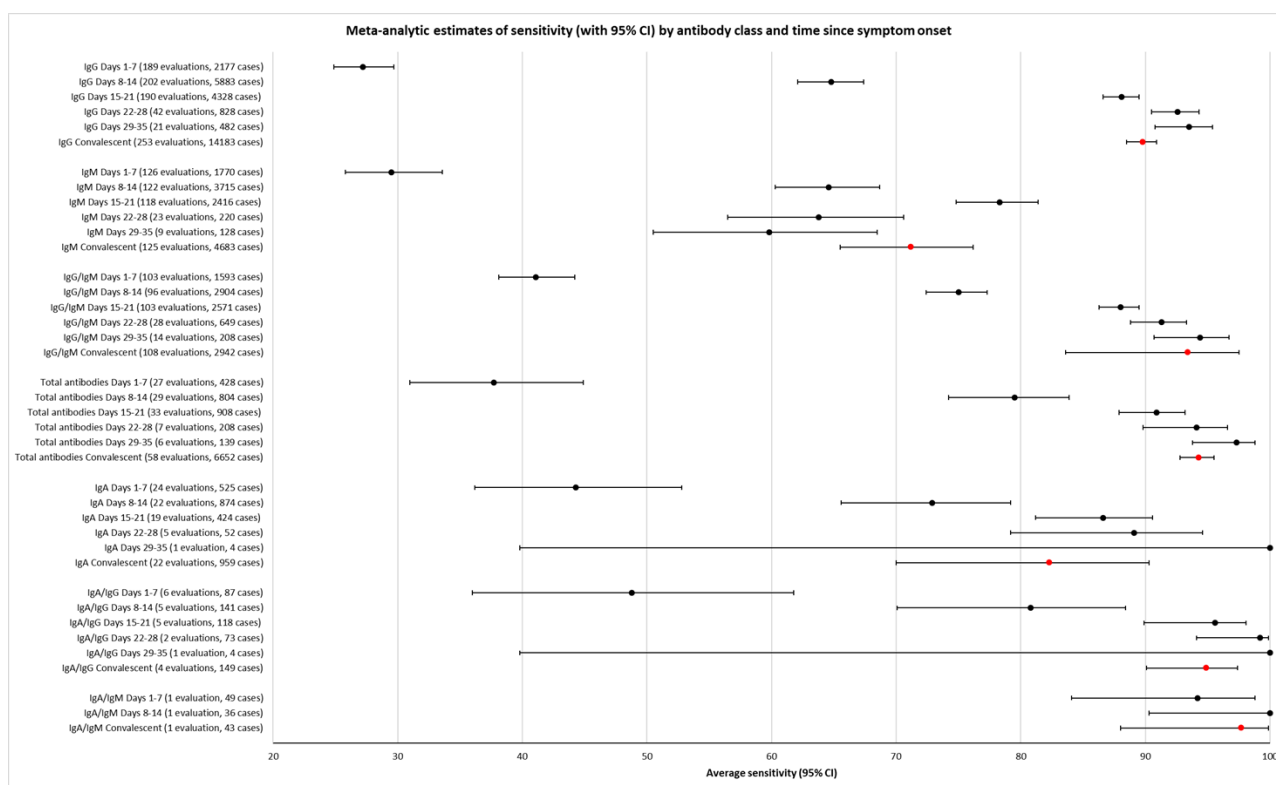
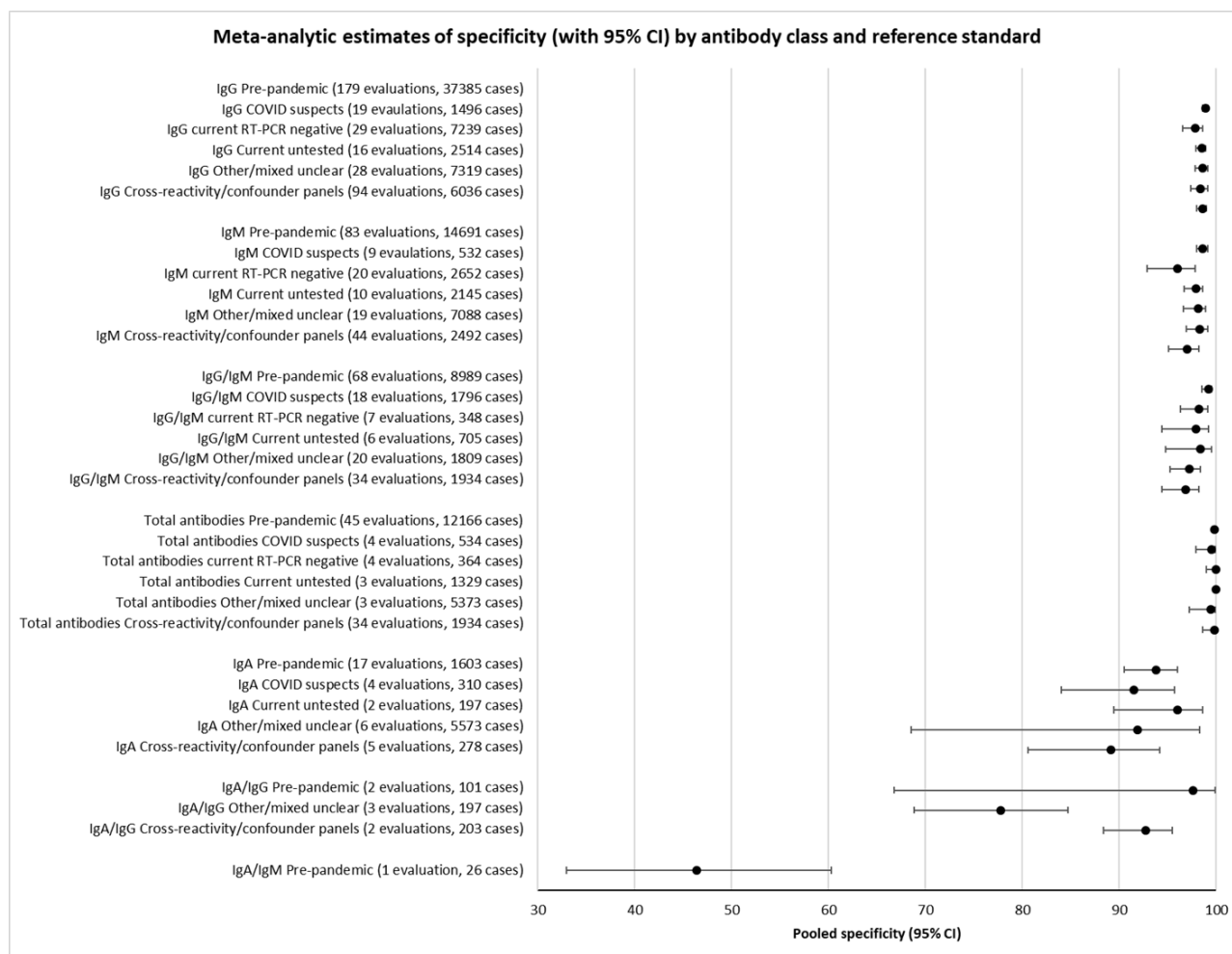


Figure 5. Summary forest plot of average specificities by reference standard for defining absence of COVID-19 infection

Forest plots of individual study data for IgA alone or combined with IgG or IgM are provided in Appendix 14, with results of analyses briefly described below and tabulated in Appendix 15 (sensitivity) and Appendix 16 (specificity).

Results of heterogeneity investigations for IgG, IgM or total antibodies are tabulated in Table 3 for sensitivity during convalescent-phase infection, Table 6 for specificity, and in Table 7 and Table 8 for sensitivity by week after onset.

Results of primary analyses

Sensitivity by week after onset of symptoms

Table 2 and Figure 4 present results of meta-analyses of sensitivity by week after onset of symptoms. The number of evaluations (and of samples) for the first three weeks after onset of symptoms ranged from 189 to 202 evaluations (5027 to 9078 samples) for IgG, 118 to 126 evaluations (3231 to 5577 samples) for IgM, 96 to 103 evaluations (2929 to 3948 samples) for the combination of IgG or IgM, and 28 to 33 evaluations (1016 to 1071 samples) for total antibodies detection. The number of evaluations contributing to average sensitivity calculations for week 4 and week 5 after onset of symptoms were considerably lower but are nevertheless based

on a relatively large number of samples (from 297 to 940 samples in week 4 and 179 to 531 samples in week 5).

The forest plots of individual study data by week (Appendix 9) show considerable heterogeneity between studies in the first two weeks after onset, particularly for IgG but also for IgM, which substantially reduces by week three. Results for the combination of IgG or IgM and for total antibodies for detection of SARS-CoV-2 show similarly high levels of heterogeneity in the first week after onset, reducing slightly by week two and with much more consistent results between studies by week three. The strength of the relationship of sensitivity with time shows exceptionally high levels of statistical significance ($P < 0.0001$).

The results for IgG, IgG or IgM, and total antibodies showed the same general pattern over the first five weeks, with low sensitivity for detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection when tests were used in the first week since onset of symptoms, rising in the second and third week, and reaching their highest values in the fifth week (the latter values based on relatively less data).

For IgG, average sensitivities across the five weeks were 27.2% (95% CI 24.9 to 29.7; week 1), 64.8% (95% CI 62.1 to 67.4; week 2), 88.1%

(95% CI 86.6 to 89.5; week 3), 92.6% (95% CI 90.5 to 94.3; week 4), and 93.5% (95% CI 90.8 to 95.4; week 5).

For IgG or IgM combined, average sensitivities were 41.1% (95% CI 38.1 to 44.2; week 1), 74.9% (95% CI 72.4 to 77.3; week 2), 88.0% (95% CI 86.3 to 89.5; week 3), 91.3% (95% CI 88.8 to 93.3; week 4), and 94.4% (95% CI 90.7 to 96.7; week 5).

For total antibodies, average sensitivities were 37.7% (95% CI 31.0 to 44.9; week 1), 79.4% (95% CI 74.0 to 83.9; week 2), 90.9% (95% CI 87.8 to 93.2; week 3), 94.1% (95% CI 89.8 to 96.6; week 4), and 97.3% (93.8 to 98.8; week 5). Average sensitivities for total antibodies for detecting infection were similar to those for the IgG or IgM combination (Table 2; Figure 4).

The results for IgM alone confirm the expected pattern over the five-week period, with lower sensitivity when tests were used in the first week since symptom onset, reaching their highest value in the third week, and then declining in the fourth and fifth week after onset (Figure 4). For IgM, average sensitivities across the five weeks were 29.5% (95% CI 25.8 to 33.6; week 1), 64.6% (95% CI 60.3 to 68.7; week 2), 78.3% (95% CI 74.8 to 81.4; week 3), 63.8% (95% CI 56.5 to 70.6; week 4), and 59.8% (95% CI 50.5 to 68.5; week 5) (Table 2).

Sensitivity for convalescent phase of infection

Table 3 and Figure 4 present results of meta-analyses of sensitivity for each target antibody for samples obtained during the convalescent period after infection (from day 21 after symptom onset, see [Data extraction and management](#) for detailed definition). The data contributing to these analyses do not overlap with those for the analyses by week after symptom onset. The forest plots of individual study data by target antibody show considerable heterogeneity between studies, particularly for IgM (Appendix 10).

Average sensitivities per target antibody were very much line with those reported for week three after onset of infection: 89.8% for IgG (95% CI 88.5 to 90.9; based on 253 evaluations and 16,846 samples), 71.2% for IgM (95% CI 65.5 to 76.2; 125 evaluations comprising 7124 samples), 92.9% for IgG or IgM combined (95% CI 91.0 to 94.4; 108 evaluations comprising 3571 samples) and 94.3% for total antibodies (95% CI 92.8 to 95.5; 58 evaluations comprising 7063 samples).

Sensitivity for IgA alone or combined with other antibodies

Fewer evaluations of IgA-based assays were identified, particularly for IgA combined with IgM or IgG (Appendix 14; Appendix 15). For IgA alone, average sensitivities were higher than those calculated for either IgG or IgM alone in weeks one and two after onset of symptoms, but similar to those for IgG or IgM combined: 44.3% in week one (95% CI 36.22 to 52.8; 24 evaluations, comprising 1079 samples), 72.9% in week 2 (95% CI 65.6 to 79.2; 22 evaluations, 1181 samples). By week three after onset of symptoms, IgA sensitivity was in the range of that observed for IgG alone or for IgG or IgM combined: 86.6% in week 3 (95% CI 81.2 to 90.6; 19 evaluations, 501 samples) and 82.3% for convalescent-phase infection (95% CI 70.0 to 90.3; 22 evaluations, 1257 samples). Results for IgA were primarily driven by data for a single test as discussed below (Appendix 14).

Sensitivity for asymptomatic infection

Very small numbers of samples (fewer than 208 samples from cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection for all evaluated time points and antibody

targets) were obtained from participants reported as asymptomatic at the time of SARS-CoV-2 infection, and it is not possible to make clear statements about assay sensitivities in this group (Table 4; Appendix 11).

Specificity by reference standard for non-SARS-CoV-2 cases

We estimated antibody test specificity from 180 non-COVID-19 control groups reported in 130 studies. Average specificity was calculated separately for each prespecified control group according to the reference standard used to define the absence of SARS-CoV-2. The forest plots of individual study data (Appendix 12) show consistently low heterogeneity in study estimates of specificity across studies (with a very small number of outliers), target antibodies and all control groups apart from the cross-reactivity/confounder panel data.

Pre-pandemic

The majority of studies used samples obtained during the pre-pandemic period to estimate assay specificity; these data arguably reflect the true specificity of the tests because the possibility of false-positive results from undiagnosed SARS-CoV-2 infection is removed. Results of the meta-analyses for pre-pandemic samples show specificity exceeding 98% for all antibody types, with precise estimates (confidence intervals up to 1.1 percentage points wide) (Table 5; Figure 5).

Average specificities per target antibody were: 98.9% for IgG (95% CI 98.6% to 99.1%; based on 179 evaluations and 38,090 samples), 98.6% for IgM (95% CI 98.0 to 99.1; 83 evaluations, 15,126 samples), 99.2% for the combination of IgG or IgM (95% CI 98.5 to 99.5; 68 evaluations, 9262 samples) and 99.8% for total antibodies (95% CI 99.6 to 99.9; 45 evaluations, 12,207 samples).

Specificity for IgA assays was consistently lower than for other target antibodies, e.g. summary specificity in pre-pandemic samples for IgA alone was 93.8% (95% CI 90.5 to 96.0; 17 evaluations, 1711 samples) (Appendix 16).

We anticipated that specificities based on samples obtained during the time period of the pandemic might show higher false-positive rates, however, this was not consistently reflected in the data despite the high numbers of samples (Table 5). Average specificities calculated for all reference standard groups apart from the 'suspected of COVID-19' RT-PCR-negative group were broadly consistent with those for pre-pandemic samples (differences in specificity less than 1%) (Table 5). The forest plots of individual data (Appendix 12) suggested greater heterogeneity in specificities in each group of contemporaneously collected samples compared to pre-pandemic sources.

RT-PCR-negative

Results of meta-analyses for antibody-test specificity for the RT-PCR-negative COVID-19 suspect group suggested marginally lower average specificities (differences of between 0.7% and 2.6%) for IgG alone (97.8%, 95% CI 96.5 to 98.6; 19 evaluations, 1569 samples) and for IgM alone (96.0%, 95% CI 92.9 to 97.8; 9 evaluations, 597 samples). Although the number of samples contributing to these analyses was much lower than for the pre-pandemic group, the confidence intervals for both estimates did not overlap those for the pre-pandemic estimates (Table 5; Figure 5).

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Cross-reactivity/confounder

Results for antibody test specificity for the cross-reactivity/confounder group showed broadly similar results for IgG and for total antibodies (Appendix 13), however, average estimates for IgM alone (97.0%, 95% CI 95.1 to 98.2; 44 evaluations, 2625 samples) and for IgG or IgM combined (96.8%, 95% CI 94.4 to 98.2; 36 evaluations, 2175 samples) were lower than those calculated for the pre-pandemic group.

Heterogeneity investigations

Heterogeneity investigations focused primarily on identifying any effects from test technology, antigen used and test brand. For ease of presentation, we focused on results for sensitivity based on convalescent-phase data (Table 3) and for specificity we primarily focused on results using pre-pandemic samples (Table 6 and Table 9). Forest plots of individual study data are organised by test method to facilitate visual comparisons (Appendix 10; Appendix 12). Results for sensitivity using data by week after symptom onset are presented in Table 7 and Table 8.

Sensitivity by technology (test method)

We investigated the heterogeneity in sensitivity estimates according to three main types of test technology: two laboratory-based methods (ELISA and CLIA) and lateral flow devices (grouping CGIAs and FIAs together). Table 3 shows that most of available data for laboratory-based assays is for IgG alone (77 evaluations comprising 5888 samples for ELISA and 76 evaluations comprising 5135 samples for CLIAs) or for total antibody assays (10 evaluations with 1729 samples for ELISA and 47 evaluations with 5315 samples for CLIA). IgM alone or the combination of IgG or IgM for detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection was evaluated in between four and 18 evaluations with 71 to 1138 samples for laboratory-based assays. In contrast, lateral flow devices primarily targeted IgM or IgG either alone or in combination (between 88 and 96 evaluations with 3288 to 5734 samples), and none targeted total antibodies (i.e. the combination of IgG, IgM or IgA) during the convalescent phase of infection. Table 3 suggests a trend towards higher sensitivities for laboratory-based assays (particularly CLIAs) compared to rapid lateral flow-based tests, however, small sample numbers in some groups are likely to have affected the ability of the model to identify true differences between test methods.

For IgG alone, the average sensitivity for CLIAs for detecting SARS-CoV-2 infection was 92.4% (95% CI 90.6 to 93.9; 76 evaluations, 5135 samples), 89.4% for ELISA-based assays (95% CI 87.0 to 91.3; 77 evaluations, 5888 samples), and 86.9% for lateral flow assays (95% CI 84.4 to 89.1; 96 evaluations, 5734 samples) ($P = 0.0008$ for the difference in sensitivity) (Table 3).

A similar magnitude of differences in average sensitivities for IgM was observed but with greater heterogeneity in individual study results and smaller numbers of samples for the laboratory-based assays (Table 3): average sensitivities were 76.2% for CLIAs (95% CI 61.2 to 86.7; 17 evaluations, 678 samples), 72.4% for ELISAs (95% CI 56.8 to 83.9; 18 evaluations, 1138 samples) and 69.9% for lateral flow assays (95% CI 62.9 to 76.0; 88 evaluations, 5250 samples) ($P = 0.70$ for the difference in sensitivity).

For total antibodies, ELISA- and CLIA-based assays appear to perform similarly with average sensitivities 95.2% (95% CI 91.5 to

97.3; 10 evaluations, 1729 samples) and 94.0% (95% CI 92.3 to 95.4; 47 evaluations, 5315 samples).

A similar pattern of results was observed for investigations of the effect of test method by week after symptom onset (Table 7).

Specificity by technology (test method)

For both IgG alone and for IgM alone, results for the pre-pandemic group suggested that test technology had only a marginal effect on average specificities (differences within 1.1 percentage points) (Table 6). Larger differences were observed for average specificities based on contemporaneously collected samples; between 1.0 to 7.0 percentage points differences for IgG and 2.0 to 17.0 percentage points differences for IgM, and the biggest differences observed in the 'suspected of COVID-19' group and the lowest average specificities for lateral flow-based tests compared to the two laboratory-based methods. The observed differences are likely to be influenced by the number of available evaluations and samples between groups.

For IgG alone, CLIAs had the highest average specificities across all groups apart from the 'current untested' group (Table 6). Average specificity for CLIAs using pre-pandemic samples was 99.5% (95% CI 99.2 to 99.7; 55 evaluations, 16,545 samples), compared to 98.4% for ELISAs (95% CI 97.7, 98.9; 55 evaluations, 10,336 samples) and 98.7% for LFAs (95% CI 98.2, 99.1; 68 evaluations, 10,889 samples); $P < 0.001$ for the difference between test methods.

For IgM alone, ELISAs had the highest average specificities across the most of the reference standard groups (Table 6), however, very small numbers of evaluations and samples were available for some groups. Using pre-pandemic samples, average specificity for CLIAs was 99.2% (95% CI 97.7, 99.7; 10 evaluations, 4298 samples), 98.1% for ELISAs (95% CI 95.7 to 99.2; 14 evaluations, 2840 samples) and 98.3% for LFAs (95% CI 97.3 to 98.9; 58 evaluations, 7668 samples); $P = 0.41$ for the difference between test methods.

For the combination of IgM or IgG, the number of evaluations and samples per test technology was smaller and it was not possible to identify clear patterns in results between reference groups (Table 6). Average specificities for pre-pandemic samples were: 99.2% for ELISAs (95% CI 95.9 to 99.9; 6 evaluations, 1294 samples), 100% for CLIA in a single evaluation (95% CI 91.2 to 100; 40 samples), and 98.5% for lateral flow-based assays (95% CI 97.4 to 99.2; 60 evaluations, 7428 samples); $P = 0.40$ for the difference between test methods.

For total antibody assays, no clear differences in specificity by test technology were identified (Table 6). For pre-pandemic samples, average specificities were: 99.6% for ELISA (95% CI 98.7 to 99.9; 8 evaluations, 2020 samples) and 99.9% for CLIA (95% CI 99.7 to 99.9; 36 evaluations, 9931 samples).

Sensitivity by antigen

Analyses by type of antigen (Spike-protein [S-based], nucleoprotein [N-based] or both [N- and S-based]) suggested no clear differences in average sensitivities between assays targeting IgG alone, IgG or IgM combined, or total antibodies for samples collected during the convalescent phase of infection (Table 3). For example, for IgG alone, the sensitivity of N-based assays was 89.7% (95% CI 87.3 to 91.7; 74 evaluations, 5308 samples), for S-based assays 90.4% (95% CI 88.4 to 92.0; 95 evaluations, 6403 samples), and for assays using

both N- and S-based antigens 90.1% (95% CI 87.2% to 92.3%; 54 evaluations, 3657 samples) ($P = 0.88$ for difference between groups; [Table 3](#)). The same pattern was observed for IgG or IgM, combined and for total antibody assays.

For IgM alone, there was a suggestion of higher average sensitivity for S-based assays using convalescent data compared to the other groups although the difference was within that which could be expected by chance ($P = 0.20$). Average sensitivity for S-based assays was 77.9% (95% CI 65.7 to 86.6; 24 evaluations, 1465 samples) compared to 65.4% for N-based (95% CI 50.7 to 77.7; 25 evaluations, 1297 samples), and 64.6% (95% CI 54.5 to 73.6; 50 evaluations, 3137 samples) ([Table 3](#)).

A further specified sensitivity analysis of S-based assays according to the use of the S1 subunit or RBD did not identify any clear patterns in sensitivity ([Table 3](#)). This analysis was not repeated for results by week after onset of symptoms.

Results by week after onset of symptoms suggested a possible effect on IgG assay sensitivity according to the antigen used ([Table 8](#)). For example, in week two after onset, average sensitivity for assays using N- and S-based antigens was 76.7% (95% CI 72.1 to 80.8; 47 evaluations, 2272 samples) compared to 66.7% for N-based (95% CI 61.9 to 71.1; 61 evaluations, 2688 samples), and 59.8% for S-based assays (95% CI 54.9 to 64.5; 65 evaluations 3222 samples) ($P < 0.001$). The differences in average sensitivities was less in week three after onset: sensitivity 85.4% for S-based assays (95% CI 82.2 to 88.2%; 65 evaluations, 1717 samples), 91.2% for N-based assays (95% CI 88.5 to 93.2; 53 evaluations, 1307 samples), and 89.2% for N- and S-based assays (95% CI 86.0% to 91.8%; 40 evaluations, 1323 samples) ($P = 0.01$; [Table 8](#)).

For IgM alone, assays that used the Spike-protein were on average more sensitive than those incorporating the nucleoprotein in each of the first three weeks after onset of symptoms; for example, in week 2 after onset, average sensitivity was 78.2% for S-based assays (95% CI 67.7 to 86.1; based on 21 evaluations comprising 1116 samples), compared to 57.8% for N-based assays (95% CI 47.5 to 67.5; 33 evaluations, 1607 samples), and 66.3% (95% CI 57.3, 74.2; 41 evaluations, 2060 samples) for N- and S-based assays ($P = 0.02$; [Table 8](#)).

For the combination of IgG or IgM, and for total antibodies, fewer and smaller differences in average sensitivity by antigen type were observed ([Table 8](#)).

Specificity by antigen

Type of antigen used in the antibody assays did not have a strong effect on average specificities for either IgG alone or for IgM alone ([Table 9](#)).

For pre-pandemic samples, average specificities for IgG alone were 99.1% for N-based tests (95% CI 98.7 to 99.4; 55 evaluations, 14,159 samples) and 98.9% for S-based tests (95% CI 98.4 to 99.2; 66 evaluations, 14,615 samples). Results for assays using both N and S antigens were also slightly lower than those for N-based tests: average specificity 99.0% (95% CI 98.4 to 99.4; 37 evaluations, 7449 samples). A generally similar pattern was seen across the other reference standard groups ([Table 9](#)).

For IgM alone, average specificities using pre-pandemic samples were: 98.4% for N-based tests (95% CI 96.9 to 99.2; 22 evaluations,

5674 samples), 98.3% for S-based tests (95% CI 96.3 to 99.2; 16 evaluations, 2870 samples), and 98.9% (95% CI 97.8 to 99.5; 28 evaluations, 5114 samples) for assays using both N and S antigens. Some differences in average specificities by antigen type were observed for the other reference standard groups, however, fewer evaluations and samples in some groups are likely to have contributed to observed differences ([Table 9](#)).

No differences in average specificities by antigen were identified for assays detecting IgG or IgM, or total antibodies using pre-pandemic samples ([Table 9](#)). Some differences were noted for IgG or IgM assays for other reference standard groups; however, again, fewer evaluations and samples in some groups are likely to have contributed to observed differences.

Sensitivity and specificity by test brand

We identified 112 test brands with data for the sensitivity of IgG, IgM, or IgG or IgM combined (79 lateral flow assays, 17 ELISAs, 12 CLIAs, and 4 other laboratory-based tests), and 12 test brands with data for the sensitivity of total antibody detection (3 ELISAs, eight CLIAs, and 1 other laboratory-based assay) for detection of prior SARS-CoV-2 during the convalescent phase of infection. Because of the large number of test brands, we have tabulated results for sensitivity and specificity for every test brand according to test technology and timing of testing for sensitivity in Appendices, as described below. Results of meta-analyses are reported where possible, and results of individual studies used for brands with only one available evaluation. Caution is required in the interpretation of these data as many are based only on single studies with small sample sizes. We present confidence intervals to quantify the uncertainty in the estimates. Note that although in this section we present summary estimates for sensitivity and/or specificity, we frequently observed considerable heterogeneity between studies.

Forest plots of individual study results by target antibody and time after onset (for sensitivity) and by reference group (for specificity) are presented in Appendices organised by test method (laboratory-based followed by lateral flow-based tests), and then in alphabetical order by manufacturer. Refer to Appendix 9 for forest plots of sensitivity by week after onset, Appendix 10 for sensitivity for convalescent-phase infection, and Appendix 12 for specificity by reference group.

Results by test brand (either based on meta-analysis or for individual studies if only one per study per brand) are also reported in Appendices. Sensitivities during the convalescent phase are reported in Appendix 17 (for IgG, IgM and IgG or IgM) and Appendix 18 (total antibodies), and specificities in pre-pandemic samples are reported in Appendix 19 (for IgG, IgM and IgG or IgM) and Appendix 20 (total antibodies; also reports data for other reference groups). Sensitivities by test brand by week after onset (weeks 1 to week 3) are reported in Appendix 21 (IgG alone), Appendix 22 (IgG or IgM), Appendix 23 (total antibodies) and Appendix 24 (IgM). Specificities by test brand for additional reference groups (not pre-pandemic) are reported in Appendix 25 (IgG alone), Appendix 26 (IgG or IgM), and Appendix 27 (IgM). Sensitivities and specificities by test brand for IgA alone or combined with other target antibodies are given in Appendix 28 and Appendix 29.

We have used UK MHRA minimum performance targets for IgG and total antibody assays as set out in target product profiles (TPPs) that cover point of care ([MHRA 2021a](#)) and laboratory-

based enzyme-immunoassays (MHRA 2021b) to aid interpretation of data. The TPPs recommend that both clinical sensitivity and specificity should be at least 98% (with 95% CIs 96% to 100%), each based on testing at least 200 samples (collected 20 days or more after the appearance of first symptoms for sensitivity and based on pre-pandemic samples collected at least 6 months before the known appearance of the virus for specificity). Because the 98% sensitivity target is very high and unlikely to be achievable for many tests unless evaluated against a serological reference standard, we instead highlight test brands for which the lower bound of the 95% CI for sensitivity is 90% or more. We have also extended these criteria to include results for the combination of IgG or IgM as well as for IgG alone and for total antibody detection. Results for test brands that meet these pre-set criteria for *either* acceptable sensitivity or specificity (or both) are reported in Table 10 along with their respective sensitivities or specificities, even if these did not meet the pre-set criteria.

IgG alone by test brand: sensitivity during convalescent phase of infection and specificity in pre-pandemic samples

Data for the sensitivity of IgG alone was reported for 96 test brands, with sensitivities or summary sensitivities ranging from 25% to 100% (Appendix 17) (see Appendix 9 for plots of individual study results). Two-thirds of assays (63/96) were evaluated in a single study, and sensitivity estimates were based on more than 100 samples for only around a third (35/96), and on more than 200 samples for only 21% (20/96) of assays (Appendix 17). Specificities for IgG alone were reported for 72 test brands using pre-pandemic samples and ranged from 75% to 100% (Appendix 19). Almost three-quarters (52/72) were evaluated in a single study, and specificity estimates were based on more than 200 samples for only 31 assays (43%). Results by individual study are reported in Appendix 12).

Using MHRA minimum performance standards, the point estimate for sensitivity met or exceeded the 98% target for sensitivity based on more than 200 samples for only one assay (Table 10); 99.3% (95% CI 97.4% to 99.9%) for the Autobio Diagnostics CLIA Microparticles (1 evaluation, 273 COVID-19 samples). No specificity estimate based on pre-pandemic samples was available for this assay. For a further four assays, the lower bound of the 95% CI around the sensitivity estimate was 90% or more (the Qingdao HIGHTOP and Sure Biotech LFAs, and the Abbott Architect CLIA and Shenzhen YHLO Biotech iFlash CLIA assay); sensitivities ranged from 92.5% to 97.0% (Table 10).

A total of 18 assays met MHRA minimum standards for specificity in pre-pandemic samples, including two of the four assays (both CLIAs) meeting our pre-set criteria for sensitivity. Summary specificities were 99.7% for Abbott Architect (95% CI 99.5 to 99.8; 24 evaluations, 7483 samples) and 99.4% for Shenzhen YHLO Biotech iFlash (95% CI 98.4 to 99.8; 2 evaluations, 661 samples) (Table 10). Of the remaining 16 assays meeting minimum standards for specificity, sensitivities for convalescent-phase infection were based on at least 100 samples (and therefore are more reliable) for only 11 assays; these included four LFAs, three ELISAs and four CLIAs. Sensitivities ranged from 47.5% (95% CI 44.6 to 50.5) for the Eagle Biosciences COVID-19 IgG Quantitative ELISA (1 evaluation, 1134 samples) to 94.4% (95% CI 88.1 to 97.5) for the bioMerieux Vidas LFA (2 evaluations, 107 samples); point estimates for sensitivity exceeded 90% for a total of four assays (Table 10).

IgG or IgM by test brand: sensitivity during convalescent phase of infection and specificity in pre-pandemic samples

Data for the sensitivity of IgG or IgM combined was reported for 73 test brands, with sensitivities ranging from 57.5% to 100% (Appendix 19). Three-quarters of assays (54/73) were evaluated in a single study, and sensitivity estimates were based on more than 100 samples for only 9 assays (12%), and on more than 200 samples for only two assays (3%). The vast majority of assays (85%) were rapid point-of-care rather than laboratory-based tests. Specificities for IgG or IgM were reported for 44 test brands using pre-pandemic samples, with specificities ranging from 65% to 100% (Appendix 18). Almost three-quarters (31/44) of test brands were evaluated in a single study, and specificity estimates were based on more than 200 samples for only 12 assays (28%).

Only one assay met our prespecified criteria for sensitivity (Table 10); the average sensitivity for the SureScreen Diagnostics Rapid test was 96.5% (95% CI 93.4%, 98.2%, based on three evaluations with 257 samples).

A total of five assays met MHRA minimum standards for specificity in pre-pandemic samples, including the SureScreen LFA (average specificity 99.4%, 95% CI 98.2 to 99.8; 2 evaluations, 500 samples). Of the remaining four assays, only one had the sensitivity estimate based on more than 100 convalescent samples (Table 10). Average sensitivity for the Guangzhou Wondfo LFA was 85.1%; the 95% CI reflecting the small number of samples for this assay (95% CI 69.0 to 93.6; 6 evaluations, 265 samples) (Appendix 10), with average specificity of 99.8% (95% CI 98.8 to 100; 4 evaluations, 1648 samples).

Total antibodies by test brand: sensitivity during convalescent phase of infection and specificity in pre-pandemic samples

Data for the sensitivity of total antibody detection was reported for 12 test brands, all of which were laboratory-based assays; sensitivities ranged from 81.0% to 100% (Appendix 20), but only five assays were evaluated in more than 100 samples and four in more than 200 samples (Appendix 10). Specificities for total antibodies were reported for eight test brands using pre-pandemic samples, with specificities ranging from 82% to 100% (Appendix 20). All but one assay was evaluated in more than 200 samples (Appendix 12).

Four assays met our prespecified criteria for sensitivity (Table 10). Average sensitivities ranged from 93.4% (95% CI 91.1% to 95.1%) for Roche Diagnostics Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Total Ab CLIA (34 evaluations, 3916 samples) to 96.7% (95% CI 94.2 to 98.1) for Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay (7 evaluations, 1009 cases).

All seven assays evaluated in 200 or more samples met MHRA minimum standards for specificity. Average specificities for the test brands meeting our pre-set criteria for sensitivity ranged between 99.5% (95% CI 99.0 to 99.7) for the Beijing Wantai Total-Ab ELISA (8 evaluations, 2020 samples) and 99.9% (95% CI 99.3 to 100) for the Siemens Atellica Total-Ab CLIA (6 evaluations, 2439 samples).

Of the remaining three, only one had sensitivity estimates for convalescent-phase infection based on at least 100 samples (Table 10). Specificity for the Siemens Vista Total-Ab assay was 100% (95% CI 99.4 to 100; 1 evaluation, 596 samples) and sensitivity was 81.0% (95% CI 72.7 to 87.7; 1 evaluation, 116 samples).

IgM by test brand: sensitivity during convalescent phase of infection and specificity in pre-pandemic samples

The sensitivity of IgM detection was reported for 80 assays during the convalescent phase of infection including 23 assays with 100 or more samples and 12 with 200 or more samples (9 LFAs, 1 ELISA and 1 CLIA assay (Appendix 10)). The specificity of IgM in pre-pandemic samples was available for 59 assays, 38 evaluated in 100 or more samples and 23 in 200 or more samples (Appendix 12).

Of those 12 assays with at least 200 samples, sensitivities ranged from 27.3% to 90.6%. We did not apply MHRA TPP criteria to IgM assays, however, the point estimate for sensitivity for three LFAs exceeded 80% (assays from MEDSan, NTBIO Diagnostics and Xiamen Biotime) and for two LFA assays exceeded 90% (Appendix 24):

- average sensitivity 90.2% (95% CI 85.7 to 93.4; 2 evaluations, 235 samples) for the Sure Biotech rapid test;
- sensitivity 90.6% (95% CI 86.0 to 94.1; 1 evaluation, 224 samples) for the bioMerieux Vidas LFA.

Specificities in pre-pandemic samples for these five assays exceeded 99% for two assays (Sure Biotech and BioMerieux LFAs) and ranged between 94.4% and 96.8% for the other three (Appendix 27).

Direct comparisons of test brands in convalescent-phase infection: IgG, IgG or IgM, or total antibodies

A total of 67 studies reported the comparison of two or more test brands targeting IgG alone, IgG or IgM combined or total antibodies during convalescent infection. Of these, only 13 studies included at least 100 samples per test brand (Table 11). Two studies compared LFAs only (Flower 2020 [A]; Rudolf 2020 [A]), 10 studies compared laboratory-based tests (Chaudhuri 2020 [A]; DomBourian 2020 [A]; Gudbjartsson 2020 [A]; Harritshoej 2021 [A]; Horber 2020 [A]; Kaltenbach 2020 [A]; Korte 2021 [A]; MacMullan 2020 [A]; NSAE 2020 [A]; Patel 2020), and one included both LFAs and laboratory-based tests (Weidner 2020 [A]). Although essentially reporting direct comparisons of tests, some studies reported different sample numbers per assays, either because of insufficient sample numbers to conduct all tests, variation in test failures between brands, or because some assays were taken forward for further evaluation on more samples based on preliminary results.

Table 11 shows variations in sensitivity of LFAs between 4.1 and 40.6 percentage points and in sensitivity of laboratory-based tests between 4.9 to 46.6 percentage points. It is likely that a combination of test method and antigen contributed to observed variations, but it is not possible to disentangle any effect because of small numbers of studies.

Sensitivity by test brand – week 1 to week 3 after onset of symptoms

In this section, we consider the evidence for individual test brands by week after onset of symptoms, with a particular focus on those with 200 or more samples in a particular time period (Appendix 21 (IgG alone), Appendix 22 (IgG or IgM), Appendix 23 (total antibodies) and Appendix 24 (IgM)).

During week one after onset of symptoms, heterogeneity in results and average sensitivities below 50% were observed for almost all test brands and target antibodies. One assay (a protein microarray from Vibrant America) outperformed the rest (sensitivity for IgG

alone 93% and for IgM alone 97.6%), however, this assay was evaluated in only a single study with limited information about study participants and tests performed by the company, so it is not clear whether results will be reproducible.

In week two after onset, excluding the Vibrant America assay (which demonstrated 100% sensitivity for both IgG alone and IgM alone), 21 assays were evaluated in 200 or more samples (11 for IgG alone, 4 IgM alone, 4 for IgG or IgM combined and 2 for total antibody detection). Considerable variability in results remained, particularly for the detection of IgG alone (average sensitivities ranged from 54.4% [EUROIMMUN ELISA; 32 evaluations, 1407 samples] to 78.8% [Epitope EDI ELISA, 11 evaluations, 455 samples]) and for IgM alone (average sensitivity from 58.3% [Epitope EDI ELISA; 7 evaluations, 381 samples] to 80.4% [Wantai ELISA; 4 evaluations, 315 samples]). The best performing rapid tests for IgM alone were from NG Biotech (78.6% sensitivity, 219 samples) and the Hangzhou RightSign assay (77.5% sensitivity, 218 samples). More consistent results were observed for tests detecting IgG or IgM combined; average sensitivities ranged between 73.9% (Guangzhou Wondfo LFA; 6 evaluations, 245 samples) and 85.0% (Zhejiang Orient-Gene Biotech LFA; 5 evaluations, 195 samples). Two total antibody assays with results in more than 200 samples reported average sensitivities of 72.0% (Roche Elecsys CLIA; 16 evaluations, 544 samples) and 88.5% (Beijing Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay; 8 evaluations, 342 samples).

For week three after onset of symptoms, five laboratory-based assays for IgG detection had data based on 200 or more samples. More consistent results were observed with average sensitivities ranging from 81.8% (95% CI 70.3% to 89.5%; 10 evaluations, 303 samples) for the Diasorin LIAISON CLIA to 95.9% (95% CI 92.2% to 97.8%; 2 evaluations, 217 samples) for the Bioscience Co (Chongqing) CLIA. The latter brand was also the only one with results for IgM in more than 200 samples; average sensitivity was 76.2% (95% CI 60.4% to 87.0%; 2 evaluations, 217 samples). None of the test brands had data based on more than 200 samples for IgG or IgM combined, but two had average sensitivities for total antibodies of 89.8 (95% CI 85.3 to 93.1) (Roche Elecsys CLIA; 18 evaluations, 529 samples), and 96.4 (95% CI 89.9 to 98.8) (Wantai ELISA Total-Ab; 6 evaluations, 198 samples).

Specificity by test brand – other reference groups

For IgG alone, the specificity of 38 assays was evaluated only in pre-pandemic samples; 80 assays had data from other reference groups, of which only 12 were evaluated in more than 200 non-COVID-19 samples (Appendix 25). Nine of the 12 assays also had specificity estimates based on more than 200 pre-pandemic samples, including: LFAs from BioMerieux, VivaChek Biotech, and SD Biosensor; the EUROMIMMUN IgG ELISA; CLIA from Abbott Diagnostics (using either Alinity or Architect platforms), DiaSorin, SNIBE, and Shenzhen YHLO.

The three remaining assays with specificity data based on at least 200 samples from non-pre-pandemic reference groups included the:

- Beijing Diagreat LFA; specificity 95.5% (95% CI 93.5% to 97.0%, based on one evaluation and 600 samples), and
- Zhuhai Livzon IgG ELISA; specificity 99.1% (95% CI 96.4% to 99.8%, two evaluations and 220 samples).

Both were evaluated in contemporaneously collected samples from healthy or other disease controls (no RT-PCR reported).

The third assay was evaluated in non-COVID-19 samples collected from multiple sources:

- Vibrant America - Vibrant COVID-19 Ab, specificity 99.8% (95% CI 99.6% to 99.9%, 1 evaluation with 5262 samples).

For total antibodies, the specificity of three assays was evaluated only in pre-pandemic samples; eight assays had data from other reference groups, of which only two had specificity estimates on at least 200 samples (Appendix 20). The Xiamen Wantai total ab CLIA was evaluated in 234 samples in a single evaluation; specificity was 98.7% (95% CI 96.3% to 99.7%). Specificity reported for the total antibodies for the Vibrant America assay was the same as for IgG alone; 99.8% (95% CI 99.6% to 99.9%) in 5262 samples.

Data for specificity based on other reference groups by test brand for IgG or IgM combined and for IgM alone are reported in Appendix 26 and Appendix 27. Only a small number of assays had any data based on 200 or more samples (three for IgG or IgM, combined and 10 for IgM alone).

IgA alone or combined with IgM or IgG by test brand: sensitivity and specificity

Data for IgA alone or combined with IgM or IgG was primarily driven by the EUROIMMUN IgA ELISA (Appendix 28 and Appendix 29). Insufficient data were available to make any meaningful comparison between tests.

DISCUSSION

This is the updated version of a Cochrane living review summarising the accuracy of antibody tests for detecting current or previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. This version of the review is based on published studies or studies available as preprints up until 30 September 2020. The speed of development and publication of studies for COVID-19 antibody tests is unprecedented, making it difficult for any living review to keep on top of emerging literature. The landscape in which antibody tests are used has also changed considerably since we published the first version of the review. Rapid antigen tests are considerably better at identifying SARS-CoV-2 infection early compared to serology-based tests and are now in widespread use, and laboratory capacity for conducting RT-PCR tests has expanded exponentially. The trajectory of primary humoral response to infection is now more understood, with IgG known to begin to wane around eight weeks after infection (Post 2021) with mixed evidence for detectable IgG at six to eight months after infection (HIQA 2021). Although the presence of IgG is thought to most likely reflect immunity to SARS-CoV-2, immunity is more appropriately measured using the presence of neutralising antibodies or T cell or B cell responses. The successful development and widespread adoption of vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 have led to COVID-19 'vaccine passports' based on evidencing of vaccination status rather than the presence of antibodies as originally proposed. These factors limit the usefulness of serology tests for identification of prior infection as a possible indicator of immunity to further infection. Current use cases for antibody tests are likely to be limited to seroprevalence surveys or, in a limited proportion of cases, detection of current infection to assist with diagnosis of COVID-19 or post-acute sequelae of COVID-19. Although we are aware of additional eligible studies published

since our search, this review provides a comprehensive and significant overview of the effect of timing of testing on assay sensitivity for detecting current or prior natural infection with SARS-CoV-2, of reference group on specificity, and of the effect of factors such as test method and antigen used.

The studies included in this version are largely from Europe ($n = 94$), evaluating tests from European universities and manufacturers, although many were also conducted in Asia ($n = 45$) and North America ($n = 35$). Whilst some of the included studies were early phase reports, the commercial nature of the tests evaluated means there was more consistent application of the tests, such as following instructions for use (IFU) and less reliance on data-driven thresholds. There are still only a small number of field-based studies that evaluated rapid tests as point-of-care tests, with the majority of assays having been carried out by technical experts in laboratories, utilising samples that are easily available to the research team, with multiple samples obtained from the same participants. A large proportion of participants with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 are likely to have been severely ill hospitalised patients, and very few of our included studies included community-based cases ($n = 14$).

For non-COVID-19 groups, most studies recruited healthy or other disease participants. The majority of studies ($n = 132$) did not clearly report blinding of the index test used, whilst 35 were at high risk of bias because of lack of blinding of the index test interpretation to participants' COVID-19 status. Very few studies ($n = 8$) implemented the test in a way that prevented a risk of bias. These limitations explain much of the rating for high risk of bias and concerns about applicability in this review. Many of these issues make it likely that the accuracy of tests, when used in clinical care, will be lower than that observed here. Only five evaluations recruited patients in clinical pathways before it was established whether they had COVID-19. This is more likely to produce results that reflect clinical practice, and we encourage future evaluations to consider this study design.

A concern with the previous version of this review was the high likelihood of selective reporting of results, particularly by manufacturers. Although for this review iteration we excluded studies that did not disclose test brands, it does appear to have become less of a problem with only seven studies excluded on this basis. Our decision to exclude evaluations of 'inhouse' assays also reduced the likelihood of selective reporting of results at 'optimal' thresholds. Unlike randomised controlled trials of interventions, there are no requirements for test accuracy studies to be prospectively registered on study registers, nor to publish their findings. Many industry studies are only briefly described on 'Information for use' documents included with the tests, and study reports submitted to regulators are regarded as confidential. We are also aware that there are independent studies undertaken by National Public Health bodies, some of which have been submitted to FIND's data tracking tool for speedy data sharing (<https://www.finddx.org/covid-19/pipeline/>). We plead for greater transparency and full publication in this field and continue to encourage laboratories to submit data and reports via FIND's portal.

Summary of main results

We summarise 10 key findings from this review.

1. Evaluations of many antibody tests on the market are not available as publications or even as preprints. This review has evaluated data on 124 commercial assays, potentially representing a significant proportion of the 270 antibody tests listed by FIND in November 2021. We did not, however, systematically assess whether all assays evaluated in our set of included studies remain on the market, nor whether any amendments to assay kits have been made since the evaluations were published.
2. The design and execution of the current studies limits the strength of conclusions that we are able to draw. Nearly all studies sampled cases with and without SARS-CoV-2 infection separately, and methods for selecting participants were not described. Eighty-nine studies reported blinded reference standard interpretation and only eight clearly blinded index test interpretation. There is also a risk of reference standard misclassification especially for absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in contemporaneously collected samples relying on a single negative RT-PCR test result (the possibility of missing true cases of infection leading to apparent 'false positive' results) or relying on samples from 'healthy' blood donors with no apparent confirmation of absence of infection.
3. Many studies only applied tests in laboratory settings on plasma or serum, whilst they are also approved for use as point-of-care tests using (capillary) whole blood. From these data, it is not possible to ascertain the clinical accuracy of these tests in lower resource and more accessible settings.
4. Data for sensitivity strengthens the results from the previous version of this review, showing a strong trend towards increased sensitivity of antibody tests over time from onset of symptoms. The ability of antibody tests to detect SARS-CoV-2 infection is very low in the first week after onset of symptoms (for example for IgG or IgM combined, the average sensitivity was 41.1%, 95% CI 38.1 to 44.2), and is only moderate in the second week (74.9%, 95% CI 72.4 to 77.3). By week three after onset, however, average sensitivity for IgG or IgM combined was 88.0% (95% CI 86.3 to 89.5) (compared to just 78.3% for IgM alone, 95% CI 74.8 to 81.4). Average sensitivity during the convalescent phase of infection (up to a maximum of 100 days since onset of symptoms) was 89.8% for IgG (95% CI 88.5 to 90.9), 92.9% for IgG or IgM combined (95% CI 91.0 to 94.4), and 94.3% for total antibodies (95% CI 92.8 to 95.5). These estimates are now based on thousands of samples, however, it is likely that, in the early weeks after onset of symptoms, many participants may have remained hospitalised with COVID-19 at the time of sampling. To some degree, the observed results might represent those at the more severe end of the disease spectrum, however, this population likely includes both immune-competent individuals (who might be expected to show higher antibody responses) and immunosuppressed individuals and it is not possible to determine the extent to which observed results are representative of those with milder forms of COVID-19.
5. Data for IgA as target antibody are based on smaller numbers of samples but suggest a similar pattern as for other antibodies, with average sensitivity for IgA alone exceeding 80% from week 3 onwards. Data for the combination of IgA with IgG were limited suggesting increase in sensitivity over time.
6. Average specificities were consistently high and precise, especially for pre-pandemic samples which provide the least biased estimates of specificity. Average specificities were between 98.6% (for IgM) and 99.8% (for total antibodies) with 95% CIs spanning between 0.3 and 1.1 percentage points. All reference groups, except those including samples from those suspected of COVID-19 and those based exclusively on samples deliberately selected for cross-reactivity or confounder panels (which reflect analytical rather than clinical specificity), were broadly consistent with the specificity estimates for pre-pandemic samples (differences in specificity were less than 1%). There is some evidence of greater heterogeneity in specificities from samples other than pre-pandemic sources.
7. Some differences were noted by test technology, however, heterogeneity in study results, timing of sample collection, and smaller sample numbers in some groups complicate interpretation of results. For IgG assays, both types of laboratory-based test appeared to be more sensitive on average than rapid tests: CLIA methods were marginally more sensitive (92.4%, 95% CI 90.6 to 93.9) than ELISA (89.4%, 95% CI 87.0 to 91.3) or lateral flow assays (86.9%, 95% CI 84.4 to 89.1) ($P = 0.0008$). Similar patterns were observed for IgM and combination antibodies. Based on results for pre-pandemic samples, CLIAs may also be the most specific test method, however differences were marginal.
8. For assays that included IgG as a target antibody (alone or combined with other antibodies), there was no clear evidence of differences in sensitivity according to the antigen used (N- or S-) during the convalescent phase of infection, although a trend towards higher average sensitivity for S-based assays targeting IgM (average sensitivity 78%) compared to assays using N- alone or both N- and S- antigens (average sensitivities around 65%) was suggested. It is possible that the antigen used has a stronger effect on sensitivity in the first weeks after onset, (the highest sensitivity for assays targeting IgM was observed for S-based assays, and highest sensitivity for assays targeting IgG was observed for those using both N- and S-protein as opposed to those using either N- or S-protein alone), however, this requires confirmation by direct comparison. Because the studies included in this review were conducted before vaccines against COVID-19 were available, we could not directly address test performance for vaccination-induced antibodies. The apparent lack of consistent effect from antigen type on the sensitivity of IgG assays *might* suggest similar sensitivities for S-based assays for detection of vaccination-induced antibodies as for those resulting from natural infection, but this would need to be confirmed by a review of relevant studies. It is also possible that mutations to the viral genome after 2020 could affect the accuracy of antibody tests that were developed using the original SARS-CoV-2 variant unless the proteins used in these assays are updated by the manufacturers.
9. Investigations of test performance by brand showed considerable variation in sensitivity between tests, and variability in results between studies evaluating the same test. None of the test brands in our review fully meet UK MHRA target performance criteria for sensitivity or specificity (both should be 98% or more, established in at least 200 samples). Using a modified version of the performance criteria, we identified a small number of tests that were evaluated in 200 or more samples and for which the lower bound of the 95% CI for sensitivity was 90% or more: five tests targeting IgG alone, one targeting IgG or IgM combined, and four total antibody assays. Larger numbers of test brands met the MHRA minimum criteria for specificity, however: 16 for IgG, five for IgG or IgM, and

seven for total antibodies. Only seven antibody tests met these modified criteria for both sensitivity and specificity: two CLIAs for IgG alone (Abbott Architect and Shenzhen YHLO iFlash), one LFA targeting IgG or IgM combined (SureScreen Diagnostics rapid test), and three CLIAs and one ELISA targeting total antibodies (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics VITROS Total assay, Roche Elecsys, Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay, and the Beijing Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay).

10. A limited number of evaluations investigated antibody assays using samples from asymptomatic participants; however, small sample sizes limit interpretation of results. A similar effect from time after diagnosis was observed, with lower sensitivity for IgG assays within two weeks of a positive RT-PCR result (49.8%; 95% CI 25.7 to 73.9; 208 samples), increasing to 78.2% (95% CI 61.5 to 88.9; 111 samples) 14 or more days after positive PCR.

Strengths and weaknesses of the review

Our review used a broad search screening all articles concerning COVID-19. We undertook all screening and eligibility assessments, QUADAS-2 assessments (Whiting 2011), and data extraction of study findings independently and in duplicate. Whilst we thus have reasonable confidence in the completeness and accuracy of the findings up until the search date, should errors be noted please inform us at covidtda@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

We have identified two main weaknesses in our review. Firstly, while we have tried to address the question of identification of current as opposed to prior SARS-CoV-2 infection by using time since onset of symptoms, studies that reported results beyond the first two weeks of infection often did not report whether participants' symptoms had resolved (and thus they were in a convalescent state) when serology samples were taken. Where data were reported by week after onset, we were therefore frequently unable to clearly distinguish between studies that evaluated the accuracy of antibody tests to identify current infection from past infection. Similarly, our definition of convalescent phase (or prior) infection was based on either 21 or more days after symptom onset or 14 or more days after a positive RT-PCR result, and we were not able to consider later definitions of prior infection (e.g. two, three or four months after onset of symptoms or infection). It is also important to note that many studies did not report the maximum time after onset of infection; the longest time from onset to sampling that was reported was approximately 100 days (e.g. Butterfield 2021 [A]; Flower 2020 [A]; Gudbjartsson 2020 [A]).

The second main weakness of this review is the length of time elapsed between the last search (September 2020) and the publication of the review. It is not possible for us to quantify the number of eligible studies that have been published during the interim period. Nevertheless, we have conducted a scoping search to map available systematic reviews on the same topic. We identified a total of 17 reviews (two available only as preprint), five of which either have the same search cut-off date as this review (De Carvalho 2021; Macedo 2022) or a more recent search cut-off (Chua 2021; Gracienta 2022; Makoah 2022), the most recent being April 2021 (Makoah 2022). The number of studies included in the five reviews ranged from 10 (De Carvalho 2021) to 58 (Makoah 2022), and, where reported, the total number of samples included ranged from 2824 (De Carvalho 2021) to 13,650 (Macedo 2022). All five studies had narrower review questions, e.g. evaluating only LFAs (Gracienta 2022), only assays authorised in the review authors' country (Chua 2021) or restricting inclusion to cohort studies only

(De Carvalho 2021). Only two reviews considered the effect of time from onset of symptoms on sensitivity: Makoah 2022 considering only week one after onset, and Macedo 2022 considering weeks one, two and three onwards, but only for the combination of IgG or IgM. In summary, although there are other reviews with more recent search cut-offs than our review and that include more recently published studies, we have not been able to identify any other review that provides such a comprehensive oversight of the effect of time on the sensitivity of serological assays for detection of natural infection with SARS-CoV-2.

Additional flaws reflect weaknesses in the primary studies and their reporting. Many studies omitted descriptions of sample recruitment, and key aspects of study design and execution. Studies frequently did not differentiate between 'participants' and 'samples', and we have therefore had to treat studies that describe their data as being based on 'samples' as if the samples were individual patients. Our separation of sensitivity data into distinct time periods after onset of symptoms should have minimised any effect from individual patients contributing multiple samples to each time slot. Quality assessment and data extraction were frequently hindered by poor quality reporting, particularly in regard to participant recruitment and application of the index test. Greater adherence to the STARD reporting guideline for diagnostic accuracy studies (Bossuyt 2015) and use of STARD participant flow diagrams is needed.

For this iteration of the review, we identified more studies with direct comparisons of tests (102 studies with two or more tests evaluated); however, there were still not enough test comparisons in common across studies to allow us to make meaningful direct comparisons of test brands. We have instead relied on indirect and informal comparison between test brands, identifying assays with the best performance from those with at least 200 samples and highlighting studies with direct comparisons of tests in at least 100 samples. Although historically less common for DTA studies than for intervention studies, network meta-analyses to compare the accuracy of tests are increasingly being conducted (Veroniki 2022), and are likely to provide the best approach to compare the sensitivity of different brands of antibody tests in relevant time periods after onset of symptoms. Such a review should consider using the recently published extension of QUADAS-2 to evaluate the accuracy of comparative test accuracy studies (QUADAS-C; Yang 2021).

Applicability of findings to the review question

In the background, we outlined five possible roles for antibody testing, two of which we did not further consider in this review (serial testing to assess immune response and selection of seronegative COVID-19 patients for monoclonal antibody treatments). We here consider the evidence for the remaining three use cases:

1. *Diagnosis of infection in patients presenting with symptoms of suspected COVID-19, particularly where molecular testing had failed to detect the virus and if earlier antibody test results (soon after onset of symptoms) were negative.* It is unclear how generalisable our results for weeks one to three after symptom onset are to people who present either in the community or in hospital settings with a negative RT-PCR result but ongoing and potentially concerning symptoms. A large proportion of studies included in this review iteration collected data from

patients in the acute phase of disease in hospital inpatient settings, with less than 15% clearly recruiting individuals from community or emergency care settings. As noted in the [Index test\(s\)](#) section, where COVID-19 vaccination rates are high, antibody tests that can distinguish between antibodies to the N- and S- proteins would be needed to distinguish SARS-CoV-2 infection from vaccination induced antibodies. Because the studies included in this review were conducted before vaccines against COVID-19 were available, we have not been able to assess test performance for vaccination-induced antibodies compared to antibodies from infection.

2. *To assist diagnosis when patients present with a multi-system inflammatory syndrome or other post-acute sequelae of COVID-19, and no clear diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the immediately preceding weeks, including individuals with mild or no symptoms of COVID-19 during the acute phase (current or previous infection).* Our results are likely to be applicable to this use case scenario, with the caveat that individuals who were asymptomatic or had only mild symptoms at the onset of infection may not have mounted the same level of antibody response by week three or week four as the participants included in the studies in our review, many of whom were hospital inpatients.
3. *In seroprevalence surveys to estimate the prevalence of detectable antibodies resulting from infection in a community at any given point in time.* Our results for convalescent-phase infection may be applicable to this use case, bearing in mind the caveats around how we have been able to define convalescent or 'prior' infection and the lack of very long-term follow-up in the studies included. Because IgG persists for the longest time after infection, results for IgG assays are likely to be the most relevant for this use case. We found some evidence to suggest that quantitative assays, especially CLIAAs are more sensitive than rapid LFAs. Our heterogeneity investigations according to the antigen or protein used in the test kit suggested no obvious effect on IgG assay sensitivity during the convalescent period, i.e. assays using N- alone, S- alone or N- and S-proteins had on average similarly sensitivities (around 90%). These results imply that as long as at least three weeks have passed since symptom onset, antibody tests have the potential to detect around 90% of those infected. With a maximum reported participant follow-up of only around 100 days, we are not able to comment on the duration of time that this level of sensitivity is maintained after infection, nor could we directly address the accuracy of tests for detecting vaccination-induced antibodies. The choice of test (or tests) for seroprevalence surveys and the specific antigens used in those tests will dictate whether or not previous infection can be differentiated from vaccination response, as per CDC guidelines ([CDC 2021b](#)). Sensitivity varies between test brands, however. Although we have not captured all available evaluations of all available test brands, the included direct comparisons of tests have shown variations in sensitivity of as much as 40.6 percentage points between 11 different LFAs ([Rudolf 2020 \[A\]](#)) or 46.6 percentage points between three laboratory-based assays ([Gudbjartsson 2020 \[A\]](#)). Even restricting to comparison of assays using the same protein does not necessarily reduce the difference in sensitivity. High specificity of tests is essential in seroprevalence testing, which appears likely for many of the tests included in this review. The suitability of pre-pandemic samples to establish specificity requires further discussion. We found specificity for

IgG assays was on average one percentage point lower for tests evaluated in those where COVID-19 was ruled out after initially being suspected ('suspected COVID-19' group) compared to pre-pandemic samples. This either reflects misclassification as not having SARS-CoV-2 infection, or a true lower specificity in those presenting with symptoms.

Illustration of predicted effect of antibody testing by current or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection

We illustrate our results for two different scenarios.

Firstly, for antibody testing used in a diagnostic context, we use IgG or IgM data in week three after onset (sensitivity 92.9%, 95% CI 91.0 to 94.4) and average specificity in pre-pandemic samples (99.2%, 95% CI 98.5 to 99.5). We have computed predictive values, and the numbers of true positives, false positives, false negatives and true negatives in a hypothetical cohort of 1000 people at a COVID-19 prevalence of 2% (a value that might reflect antibody testing used to diagnose COVID-19 in people with symptoms but who have had a negative PCR test). In this scenario, the positive predictive value is estimated as 69.2% (95% CI 48.2, 85.7), the negative predictive value as 99.8% (95% CI 99.3 to 100). Of 1000 people undergoing testing, we would anticipate eight false positives (95% CI 5 to 15) and two false negatives (95% CI 2 to 3).

Secondly, in a higher prevalence setting, where we wanted to understand how many people in a community had previously been infected with SARS-CoV-2, we use results for IgG during the later phase of infection (average sensitivity 89.8%, 95% CI 88.5 to 90.9) and average specificity using pre-pandemic samples (98.9%, 95% CI 98.6 to 99.1). In this scenario, the positive predictive value is estimated as 98.7% (95% CI 97.2 to 99.5), the negative predictive value as 90.6% (95% CI 87.9 to 93.0). Of 1000 people undergoing testing, we would anticipate six false positives (95% CI 5 to 7) and 51 false negatives (95% CI 46 to 58).

Predictions at alternative prevalences of infection are provided in [Summary of findings 1](#).

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

Implications for practice

Diagnosis of acute suspected COVID-19 in patients with negative RT-PCR results (use cases 1 and 2)

Based on this analysis, in patients presenting with symptoms of acute suspected COVID-19, antibody tests have no role on their own as the primary test to use in the diagnosis of COVID-19 when patients present during the first week since onset of symptoms, as their sensitivity is too low.

However, antibody tests have an increasing likelihood of detecting immune response to the infection as time since onset of symptoms progresses. Some antibody tests, therefore, could be a useful diagnostic tool for those with ongoing symptoms of acute infection but in whom molecular- or antigen-based tests have failed to detect the SARS-CoV-2 virus, particularly if they also had negative serological results early in the course of infection. Antibody tests are also likely to be a useful diagnostic aid in those presenting with post-acute sequelae of COVID-19, who may have been asymptomatic or had only mild symptoms at the onset of infection. Much of the data that we have reflects detection of antibody

response in hospitalised patients but may be generalisable to those who do not require hospital admission.

Assessment of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection (use cases 2 and 3)

The data analysed in the review suggest that antibody tests are likely to have a useful role for detecting previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, for example, for sero-epidemiological purposes, if used during what we defined as the convalescent phase of infection (day 21 onwards). Again, this conclusion needs to be cautioned by the relatively poor study quality, the applicability of the study settings and lack of availability of COVID-19 vaccination at the time the studies were conducted, the typically small sample sizes of individual studies and restricted number of tests that have undergone evaluation.

Implications for research

Although further research into the accuracy of antibody tests for diagnosis of acute SARS-CoV-2 infection is unlikely to be necessary, there is preliminary evidence for superior accuracy of some assays that could warrant further investigation. Any such studies should include participants who experience mild symptoms, or who were asymptomatic at the time of testing, and should clearly disaggregate test sensitivity by time since onset of symptoms. There is a lack of data about antibody test accuracy in those suspected of MIS, however, there is evidence that the majority of patients with MIS have detectable IgG antibodies on presentation (Kumar 2021; Patel 2021).

In regard to detection of prior infection, much of our data is based on cross-sectional studies with samples collected from day 21 after onset of symptoms or day 14 after a positive PCR onwards, rather than all samples being collected at a longer time after the acute infection period. Ideally, longitudinal studies that sample from the same patients at several time points over a lengthy period of time are needed to fully understand how time since onset of infection affects test performance, and the extent to which type of test (laboratory-based versus rapid test) affects accuracy. There remains a need for tests intended for use for seroprevalence purposes to be properly validated in the population in which the test is intended to be used.

Any future study should adhere to the methodological standard for test accuracy studies, for example, as set out by Doust and colleagues (Doust 2021) or by the UK Royal Statistical Society Working Group on Diagnostic tests (RSS 2021), and should adhere to standard requirements for the reporting of a test accuracy study (Bossuyt 2015). Test performance should be evaluated in consecutive individuals who are recruited from a representative clinical population and with due consideration to optimal sample size to estimate both sensitivity and specificity, in order to reflect the likely performance of the tests in practice. Studies should ensure that the test is used as intended (i.e. in the right setting, on the right specimens, by the intended test operator (whether at-home self-collection or by healthcare workers). We encourage investigators to utilise blinding in their study designs, such that index tests are undertaken without knowledge of the reference standard diagnosis and, likewise, reference standards are determined without knowledge of the index test findings.

It is also important to have good data upon which to compare tests, the strongest comparisons being made by testing the same

participants multiple times with different tests. Whilst it is possible for this to be undertaken in prospective studies, it is easier to undertake in laboratory-based studies utilising serum banks, which will compromise the applicability of the absolute estimates of test accuracy but provide some information about comparability. Tests utilising novel technologies, such as protein microarrays, should be directly compared with the best performing alternative tests in order for relative performance to be put in context.

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* Indicates the major publication for the study

CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDIES

Characteristics of included studies [ordered by study ID]

Adams 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19 infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group design with sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed (RT-PCR-positive) COVID-19 (n = 270 samples from 124 patients) [2] Pre-pandemic bio-banked serum samples from three sources (from 2018 to pre-December 2019) (n = 564 samples)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Cases prospectively enrolled</p> <p>Sample size: 834 (270) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Not further described</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear (early validation conducted on inpatient samples but not clear for final validation study which included asymptomatic cases)</p> <p>Location: South West London Pathology Laboratory at St George's University Hospital, London</p> <p>Country: UK</p> <p>Dates: Not stated; conducted subsequent to 26 March 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 209/270 samples (77%) from 90/124 patients reporting symptoms of COVID-19 61/270 samples (23%) from 34/124 individuals who were asymptomatic at first swab collection</p> <p>Demographics: age: range, 26-88 years Sex: 74/124 (60%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic</p>

Adams 2020 (Continued)

Source: Hospital controls from 2018 to pre-December 2019. Bio-banked serum samples from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Mologic, and St George's University of London

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests	<p>Test name: IgG COVID-19 ELISA</p> <p>Manufacturer: Mologic</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: NP and S2 antigens</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory-based (South West London Pathology (SWLP) microbiology laboratory at St George's, University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (SGHFT))</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1] post-symptom onset (range 1 to 54 days based on Fig 3) < 7: n = 16 (6%) (not reported but back-calculated from Tabl 2B) >= 7-14, n = 32, 12% >= 14-21, n = 45, 17% >= 21-28, n = 58, 21% >= 28-35, n = 30, 11% >= 35, n = 29, 11% asymptomatic, n = 60, 22% [2] previously in hospital.</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1] post-symptom onset (range 1 to 54 days based on Fig 3) < 7: n = 16 (6%) >= 7-14, n = 32, 12% >=14 - 21, n = 45, 17% >= 21-28, n = 58, 21% >= 28-35, n = 30, 11% >= 35, n = 29, 11% asymptomatic, n = 60, 22%</p> <p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: results were considered positive 'if they were 10% above the cut off value'; multiple thresholds reported in Suppl Appendix</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Unclear</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR; Altona Diagnostics RealStar®SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR Kit detecting S and E genes from extracted RNA</p> <p>Samples used: Respiratory samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not reported</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Samples used: bio-banked serum samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls</p>

Adams 2020 (Continued)

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Serum samples obtained between 0 to 42 days post-RT-PCR
n = 53, 0-7 days.
n = 215, ≥ 8 days.
n = 197, ≥ 10 days.
n = 159, 14-42 days.

All patients received same reference standard: No (different for cases and controls)

Missing data: None reported

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Samples mainly (with a few results by patients)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: UK Department for International Development and Wellcome Trust

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv

Author COI: COI declared: SK is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee for Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) a not-for-profit that produces global guidance on affordable diagnostics. The views expressed here are personal opinions and do not represent the recommendations of FIND.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Adams 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Unclear

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Adams 2020 (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Alvim 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of COVID-19 current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: This paper describes the validation of an in-house test. Data were extracted only for the commercially available test. This is a single-group analysis for sensitivity. [1] Confirmed COVID patients (437 samples)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Prospectively for samples collected at UFRJ COVID Screening and Diagnostic Center; unclear for samples collected at the State Hematology Institute Hemorio</p> <p>Sample size: 437 (437)</p> <p>Further detail: [1] Only symptomatic subjects who presented at least two of the following symptoms were included: loss of taste or smell, fever, shortness of breath, diarrhoea, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, or muscle aches. PCR-positive individuals who were followed along time</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: State Hematology Institute Hemorio and UFRJ COVID Screening and Diagnostic Center, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ)</p> <p>Country: Brazil</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Clinical characteristics of the patients not documented</p> <p>Demographics: Not available</p> <p>Exposure history: Not available</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: This paper primarily describes an in-house assay. Data extraction was only performed for the commercially available test. anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA (#EI 2606-9601 G)</p> <p>Manufacturer: Euroimmun</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: S1 subunit of the spike-protein of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Alvim 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Timing of samples: Samples collected from D0 after symptom onset, up to 98 days after symptom onset</p> <p>0-5 days pso: n = 33</p> <p>6-10 days pso: n = 42</p> <p>11-15 days pso: n = 83</p> <p>16-20 days pso: n = 62</p> <p>21-25 days pso: n = 56</p> <p>26-30 days pso: n = 54</p> <p>31-98 days pso: n = 107</p> <p>Samples used: Unclear</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Not stated (as per manufacturer's instructions)</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear (no as only COVID cases tested)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: As per manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Unclear</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, performed prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: yes (more data reported in study that are not included in our review, e.g. non-COVID samples for specificity results)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples (individuals who had tested positive by PCR and were followed over time)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by Senai CETIQT, Senai DN and CTG, and by the Brazilian research funding agencies Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado do Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ), Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES) and Instituto Serrapilheira. DASR was supported by a fellowship from CNPq (DTI-A; 401209/2020-2).</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)</p> <p>Source: medRxiv Pre-print</p> <p>Author COI: We declare no competing interests.</p>

Methodological quality
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Alvim 2020 (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk	

Alvim 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Andrey 2020a [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of COVID-19 current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to determine sensitivity and specificity: [1] 46 real time RT-PCR–confirmed COVID-19 cases; [2] 45 unmatched control blood samples from asymptomatic donors without known exposure to SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] unclear [2] unmatched 1:1 case-control study</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear (prospectively as blood samples were analysed within 72 hours of sampling)</p> <p>Sample size: 91 (46) of which 57 (12) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: [1] COVID patients: RT-PCR–confirmed COVID-19 cases hospitalised at the University Hospitals of Geneva [2] Controls: Healthy blood donors, asymptomatic, no known exposure to SARS-CoV-2, age 18-65 years old, absence of known acute or chronic infection and without history of cancer, diabetes, or haematological disorders, as well as cardiovascular, autoimmune, inflammatory, chronic kidney or neurological disease</p>
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Andrey 2020a [A] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: hospital inpatients

Location: University Hospitals of Geneva

Country: Switzerland

Dates: April 2020

Symptoms and severity: Stated moderate-to-severe critical COVID as mild COVID patients were not admitted to hospital.

Demographics: Age - median 66 years old, IQR 50.5 to 76) Males (n = 28, 60.9%)

Exposure history: Unclear - not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Healthy controls

Source: University Hospitals of Geneva, April 2020

Characteristics: Median 47 years old, IQR 39.5-55, 9 males (20%)

Non-Covid group 2: Asymptomatic donors without known exposure to SARS-CoV-2, who were not tested by RT-PCR, since they did not meet the testing criteria of our institution
These healthy donors met the blood donation criteria at our institution: age 18-65 years old, absence of known acute or chronic infection and without history of cancer, diabetes, or haematological disorders, as well as cardiovascular, autoimmune, inflammatory, chronic kidney or neurological disease.

Source: NA

Characteristics: NA

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Augurix SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG RDT

[B] SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA (# EI 2606-9601 G)

Manufacturer:

[A] Augurix, GaDia

[B] Euroimmun AG, Lübeck, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgM and/or IgG

[B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] Not stated

[B] S1-domain of the spike-protein

Evaluation setting:

[A] POC performed in lab

[B] Laboratory

Test method:

[A] Immunochromatographic cassette test (lateral flow test)

[B] ELISA

Timing of samples: Median 10 days (IQR 5-15 days) post-positive PCR results:

Andrey 2020a [A] (Continued)

0-6 days post-positive PCR: n = 20
7-14 days post-positive PCR: n = 14
> 14 days post-positive PCR: n = 12

Samples used:

[A] 20 µL of whole blood (as a proxy for one capillary blood drop) and 10 µL of plasma were applied in parallel for each sample.

[B] Plasma

All analyses were performed within 72 hours of blood sampling.

Test operator: [A] and [B] Lab personnel

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Test lines

[B] The quantitative results (ratios) were then expressed in arbitrary units and interpreted following the cut-offs derived from our validation study:

OD ratio: < 0.5 = negative, ≥ 0.5 and < 1.5 = indeterminate, ≥ 1.5 = positive.

Blinding reported:

[A] Yes

[B] Not stated, possibly yes

Threshold predefined:

[A] Yes

[B] Cut-offs derived from validation study

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR - eMAG (bioMérieux, France) and the Charité RT-PCR protocol or the BD SARS-CoV-2 reagent kit for the BD Max system (Becton, Dickinson and Co, US) Cobas 6800 SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (Roche). Threshold not stated

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal secretions in 45/46;
On one occasion, the RT-PCR was carried out on a bronchial aspirate.

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test (as case-control study)

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Non-cases did not have RT-PCR testing as it was stated that this did not meet the institutional standard for testing inclusion.

Asymptomatic donors without known exposure to SARS-CoV-2

Samples used: None (untested)

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] Among COVID-19 patients, the median delay between a SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR diagnostic test and serology testing was 10 days (IQR 5-15 days).
[2] Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated for study analyses but 34/46 COVID samples excluded from review analyses

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Andrey 2020a [A] (Continued)

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients (Leftovers from blood specimens (whole blood and plasma) from single patients or controls, collected at a single time point)

Comparative

Notes

Funding:
Augurix RDTs were provided by Mr P. Ducret (GaDia, Switzerland). GaDia had no role in the study design and realisation nor in results interpretation.
This work was supported by the Division of Laboratory Medicine, HUG and the Geneva Centre for Emerging Viral Diseases.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: European Journal of Clinical Investigation

Author COI: None declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Andrey 2020a [A] (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Andrey 2020a [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Andrey 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of COVID-19 current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] RT-PCR confirmed samples from hospitalised patients (n = 41) [2] unmatched asymptomatic donors (n = 50)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Unclear [2] unmatched</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear (prospectively as samples not frozen)</p> <p>Sample size: 91 (41)</p> <p>Further detail: No specific inclusion/exclusion criteria noted. [1] real-time (RT)-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases hospitalised at the University Hospitals of Geneva [2] Asymptomatic blood donors obtained during the same period (April 2020) Exclusion criteria not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: University Hospitals of Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>Country: Switzerland</p> <p>Dates: April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Details on clinical characteristics not stated All hospitalised</p> <p>Demographics: Median 71 years old, (IQR 63–76) Males (n = 32, 78.1%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Healthy controls</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Andrey 2020b [A] (Continued)

Source: Asymptomatic donors, University Hospitals of Geneva, April 2020

Characteristics: Median 47 years old, IQR 40–55

Males (n = 11, 22.0%)

Healthy donors, asymptomatic

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] NTBIO RDT (test name not stated)</p> <p>[B] Orient-Gene RDT (test name not stated)</p> <p>[C] MEDsan RDT (test name not stated)</p> <p>[D] Euroimmun IgG ELISA (# EI 2606-9601 G)</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] NTBIO Diagnostics Inc, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada</p> <p>[B] Zhejiang Orient-Gene Biotech Co. Ltd., Huzhou, China</p> <p>[C] MEDsan GmbH, Biological Health Solutions, Hamburg, Germany</p> <p>[D] Euroimmun AG, Lübeck, Germany</p> <p>Antibody: [A]–[C] IgM and/or IgG</p> <p>[D] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] Full spike-protein</p> <p>[B] Not stated</p> <p>[C] N- and S-based</p> <p>[D] S1 domain of spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting:</p> <p>[A]–[C] POC performed in a laboratory environment</p> <p>[D] Laboratory</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A]–[C] Immunochromatographic method, lateral flow assay</p> <p>[D] ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Median 22 days (IQR 13–31 days) post-positive PCR:</p> <p>0–14 days post-PCR+: n = 14</p> <p>> 14 days post-PCR+: n = 27</p> <p>Samples used: [A]–[C] Whole blood and plasma</p> <p>[D] Plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Lab personnel (technical assistance acknowledged)</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: [A]–[C] Test lines</p> <p>[D] The quantitative results (ratios) obtained were then expressed in arbitrary units and interpreted following the recently published proposed cut-offs derived from our local validation process: OD ratio: < 0.5 = negative, ≥ 0.5 and < 1.5 = indeterminate, and ≥ 1.5 = positive</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not explicitly stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p> <p>[A]–[C] Visual-based</p> <p>[D] Cut-offs derived from our local validation process (recently published)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR - eMAG (bioMérieux, France) and the Charité RT-PCR protocol or BD SARS-CoV-2 reagent kit for the BD Max system (Becton, Dickinson and Co, US) Cobas 6800 SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (Roche).</p> <p>Samples used: Not clearly stated</p>

Andrey 2020b [A] (Continued)

	<p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Asymptomatic, untested</p> <p>Samples used: None as untested</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated (untested, asymptomatic)</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: The median delay between a positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR and serology testing was 22 days (IQR 13–31 days).</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No ([1] PCR-tested, [2] Asymptomatic)</p> <p>Missing data: yes (1 invalid result for test [B] excluded; 14 samples taken 0–14 days post-PCR+ not eligible for review)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: yes, 1 invalid result for test [B] excluded</p> <p>Indeterminate results: [A]–[C] No indeterminate range [D] Indeterminate ELISA IgG results were considered to be negative for the test performances.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by the Division of Laboratory Medicine, Geneva University Hospitals, Geneva, Switzerland and the Centre for Emerging Viral Diseases, Geneva University Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine, Geneva, Switzerland.</p> <p>We thank Christine Kopp and Thomas Büeler (Swiss Red Cross) and Didier Trono (Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force and EPFL) for providing the rapid tests.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Medicine</p> <p>Author COI: None stated The authors declared no conflicts of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

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Andrey 2020b [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard		High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Andrey 2020b [A] (Continued)

does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Andrey 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Andrey 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Andrey 2020b [C] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Bartolini 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Evaluation of two different immunochromatographic (IC) rapid tests for detection of IgG and IgM against SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Design: RT-PCR-positive asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic healthcare workers (n = 151)</p> <p>Recruitment: All 151 RT-PCR-positive cases from a mass screening of 10,945 asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic healthcare workers at the Local Health Unit of Bologna taking part in a seroprevalence study (surveillance programme established by the Emilia-Romagna Region).</p> <p>Due the contacts caused by the type of work done, some of them were considered much more exposed to risk of infection; for this reason they had previously been submitted to RT-PCR.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospectively in a mass screening programme (surveillance programme). The samples were collected after informed consent was given.</p> <p>Sample size: 151 (151) of which 35 (35) were tested with test [1] and 116 (116) tested with test [2]</p> <p>Further detail: RT-PCR-positive</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Healthcare workers</p> <p>Location: Local Health Unit of Bologna</p> <p>Country: Italy</p> <p>Dates: Serological tests done between 3rd to 27th of April 2020 RT-PCR tests done 0-45 days before</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated (Due the contacts caused by the type of work done, some of them were considered much more exposed to risk of infection)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[1] KHB® Diagnostic Kit for SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody (Colloidal Gold)</p> <p>[2] Cellex qSARS-CoV- 2 IgG/IgM Cassette Rapid Test</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bartolini 2020 [A] (Continued)

Manufacturer: Not stated

Antibody:

[1] IgG. IgM

[2] IgG. IgM

Antigen target: Not stated - SARS-CoV-2 conjugate

Evaluation setting:

[1] POC, used in a laboratory

[2] POC, used in a laboratory

Test method:

[1] lateral flow chromatographic immunoassay (Colloidal Gold)

[2] lateral flow chromatographic immunoassay

Timing of samples: 0-45 days after positive RT-PCR ([1]/[2])

Samples used: plasma

Test operator: Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity: Both tests: The presence of the captured immunocomplex is visible due to its precipitation in a coloured red band.

Blinding reported: No - all samples RT-PCR-positive

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer, visual

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR

Samples used: nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal samples

Timing of reference standard: Not stated (mostly asymptomatic patients)

Blinded to index test: Yes - prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: 0-45 days

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data:

Not stated

Uninterpretable results:

Not stated

Indeterminate results:

Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.28.20116046>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Bartolini 2020 [A] (Continued)

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		

Bartolini 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Bartolini 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Beavis 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection

Design: Two-group design to assess sensitivity and specificity:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Beavis 2020 (Continued)

[1] COVID-19 PCR+ve patients (n = 82)
[2] COVID-19 PCR-ve patients (n = 86)

Recruitment: unclear

Prospective or retrospective: retrospective

Sample size: 168(82)

Further detail: Inclusion
[1] Samples RT-PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2.
[2] Samples RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2. Ambulatory and pre-pandemic.

Exclusion:
[1] [2] not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Clinical Laboratories

Location: University of Chicago Medicine

Country: USA

Dates: March to May 2020

Symptoms and severity: not stated

Demographics: not stated

Exposure history: not stated

Non-Covid group 1: COVID-19 PCR-ve patients

Source: 70 samples collected from ambulatory patients at the University of Chicago from March to May 2020. 16 collected in early 2019, pre-pandemic

Characteristics: 28 of these patients had tested positive for common coronavirus strains (HKU1 n = 6, NL63 n = 10, OC43 n = 9, 229E n = 1, and both 229E and OC43 n = 1).

Index tests

Test name:
[A] EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG Assay
[B] EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgA Assay

Manufacturer:
[A] [B] EuroImmune

Antibody:
[A] IgG
[B] IgA

Antigen target:
[A] [B] S1 domain

Evaluation setting: laboratory test

Test method: Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)

Timing of samples: 0 to 49 days after PCR testing

Samples used: serum or EDTA plasma

Test operator: not stated

Beavis 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Definition of test positivity: Ratio ≥ 1.1 positive, Ratio ≥ 0.8 to < 1.0 borderline, < 0.8 negative</p> <p>Blinding reported: unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: unclear</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and nasal mid-turbinate</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-PCR or pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and nasal mid-turbinate</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 0-49 days post-PCR</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: not stated</p> <p>Missing data: not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: borderline results were considered positive for analysis</p> <p>Unit of analysis: samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: study was internally funded</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: All authors declared no conflict of interest</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Beavis 2020 (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	No	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Beavis 2020 (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Bernasconi 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection of SARS-CoV-2 3-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of acute disease and convalescent infection</p> <p>Design: Three groups for two comparisons (COVID cases versus same time period controls or pre-pandemic controls): [1] COVID-19 positive ED patients (n = 67) [2] COVID-19 negative ED patients (with clinical suspicion of acute airway infection) (n = 76, see comment) [3] COVID-19 negative historical pre-pandemic controls (n = 100)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear [1] and [2] Symptomatic patients presenting to the emergency department of 1 hospital; patients' enrolment was based on clinical suspicion of acute airway infection. [3] SARS-CoV-2 seronegative samples collected between May and October 2018</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Pandemic cases/controls, prospective (consent was obtained from participants). Pre-pandemic controls, retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Same time period comparison [1 and [2]: 143 (67) All 3 groups: 243 (67) patients with 315 (135) samples of which 243 (67) samples were included in our analysis</p> <p>Further detail: ED cases/controls: "symptomatic patients presenting to the ED of the Kantonsspital Aarau, Switzerland from March to April 2020... Patients' enrolment was based on clinical suspicion of acute airway infection." Pre-pandemic controls: Unclear. ("SARS-CoV-2 seronegative samples collected between May and October 2018")</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Emergency department</p> <p>Location: Kantonsspital Aarau AG, Tellstrasse 25, 5001 Aarau, Switzerland</p> <p>Country: Switzerland</p> <p>Dates: March-April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: "symptomatic"</p> <p>Demographics: Not reported by COVID-19 status. Whole ED case/control population (n = 143): Sex Male 84 (59%), female 59 (41%) Age, Median, years 69 (range 22-95 years)</p> <p>Exposure history: not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Contemporaneous ED controls</p> <p>Source: Emergency department, March-April 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Not reported by COVID-19 status Whole ED case/control population (n = 143): Sex Male 84 (59%), female 59 (41%)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bernasconi 2020 (Continued)

Age, Median, years 69 (range 22-95 years)

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Source unclear, May-October 2018

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name: Maccura LFIA

SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG

Manufacturer: Maccura Biotechnology, Chengdu, China

Antibody: IgM, IgG

Antigen target: recombinant spike and nucleocapsid proteins of the SARS-CoV-2

Evaluation setting: POC, tested at ED and during hospitalisation (figure 1)

Test method: lateral flow immunochromatography assay (LFIA)

Timing of samples: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (n = 67):

< 7 days onset (n = 21),

≥ 7 days onset (n = 46)

Fig 1 reported on 135 samples from 1-31 days pso.

[2] COVID-19 negative patients - not stated

Timing of samples: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (n = 67):

< 7 days onset (n = 21),

≥ 7 days onset (n = 46)

Fig 1 reported on 135 samples from 1-31 days pso.

[2] COVID-19 negative patients - not stated

Samples used: not stated

Test operator: not stated

Definition of test positivity: not stated

Blinding reported: Yes, since antibody/RT-PCR tests were done in parallel and antibody test results are faster than RT-PCR

Unclear for samples taken during hospitalisation

Threshold predefined: not stated (visually based)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR (Seegene Inc., Seoul, Republic of Korea)

Diagnosis of COVID-19 was based on clinical, microbiological and radiological criteria according to in-house, national and international recommendations and guidelines.

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab samples (transportation medium ESwab, Copan Italia, Brescia, Italy) or nasopharyngeal fluid

Timing of reference standard: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (n = 67):

< 7 days onset (n = 21),

≥ 7 days onset (n = 46)

Blinded to index test: Not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] COVID-19 negative patients, RT-PCR (Seegene Inc., Seoul, Republic of Korea)

[3] pre-pandemic controls

Bernasconi 2020 (Continued)

Samples used:

- [2] COVID-19 negative patients, nasopharyngeal swab samples or nasopharyngeal fluid
- [3] pre-pandemic controls, not stated

Timing of reference standard:

- [2] COVID-19-positive patients - not stated
- [3] pre-pandemic controls

Blinded to index test:

- [2] Not stated
- [3] yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] and [2] LFIA and molecular testing for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR ... was done in parallel for 67 samples.
Unclear for the remaining 72 samples (215 samples from 143 patients)
[3] Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: None

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples for [1] and [2] (215 samples of 143 ED patients)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None declared
Publication status: Published letter
Source: Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine
Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interest

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		

Bernasconi 2020 (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bernasconi 2020 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Bettencourt 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity [1] Confirmed COVID cases (66 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: 66 consecutive patients in a real-life study performed in a hospital partially devoted to COVID-19 infection</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospectively</p> <p>Sample size: 66 (66)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: Patients with COVID-19 disease, which diagnosis was based on clinical evaluation and positive RT -PCR SARS-CoV-2 identification. Patients in the recovery phase of infection, after the resolution of symptoms and a negative result for the first RT-PCR test Exclusion: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent, hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Hospital partially devoted to COVID-19 infection (Hospital CUF Porto, Faculdade de Medicina da UP, Unidade de Investigação Cardiovascular da FMUP, Portugal)</p> <p>Country: Portugal</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 37 mild disease, 26 moderate disease, 3 severe disease. Overall median time of symptoms was 7 days.</p> <p>Demographics: median age was 59.5 years (44–70). 32/66 women</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bettencourt 2020 (Continued)

Index tests	<p>Test name: Biozec COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test lateral flow immunoassay (LFIA)</p> <p>Manufacturer: Biozec (Inzec)</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT, unclear how performed</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: Mean 20.5 days (18–23) pso</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Visually based</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated, possibly no as only COVID cases included</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Performed according to the manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated (no results for IgM reported though)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Journal of Infection</p> <p>Author COI: Not stated</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bettencourt 2020 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear

Bettencourt 2020 (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Bond 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnostic performance evaluation for multiple COVID-19 tests</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity. [1A] Symptomatic RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 91 patients) [1B] Symptomatic COVID-19-negative on single RT-PCR (n = 1217 patients) [2] Pre-pandemic controls obtained in 2018 (n = 56 patients) Group 1B only used to assess specificity for one test</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 1400 (91) Note: the total sample size reported above only applied to one test, for which sera from 1217 COVID-19 negative subjects were used to further assess specificity.</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Both in- or outpatients. All serum samples were collected in a tertiary hospital or a state reference laboratory; mild cases were not hospitalised.</p> <p>Location: Royal Melbourne Hospital and Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory</p> <p>Country: Australia</p> <p>Dates: Dates not reported but likely collected in the first semester of 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 71 mild (not hospitalised), 17 moderate (hospitalised, non-ICU) and 3 severe cases (ICU).</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Group [1B] symptomatic COVID-19 negative</p> <p>Source: Subjects presenting to the hospital emergency department between Feb 6th and Apr 15th, 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Group [2] - 56 pre-pandemic controls obtained in 2018</p> <p>Source: Pre-pandemic specimens collected in 2018</p>

Bond 2020 (Continued)

	Characteristics: Not stated
Index tests	<p>Study evaluated multiple assays; timing pso provided only for one of them; remainder were excluded</p> <p>Test name: EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgA or IgG)</p> <p>[Assays from [A] CTK Biotech Inc. (China), [B] VivaChek Biotech (Hangzhou) Co. Ltd. (China), [C] Hangzhou Alltest Biotech Co. Ltd. (China), [D] Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech Co. Ltd. (China), [E] Hightop Biotech (China) all excluded]</p> <p>Manufacturer: [F] & [G] EUROIMMUN AG</p> <p>Manufacturer: EUROIMMUN AG</p> <p>Antibody: IgA or IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: S1 domain of the spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: lab test, done in lab</p> <p>Test method: Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Any time point (229 samples); > 14 days (157 samples)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold: ratio < 0.8, negative result; (2) ratio ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1, borderline result; and (3) ratio ≥ 1.1, positive result</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Group [1A]: Coronavirus Typing Assay (AusDiagnostics) followed by an unspecified confirmatory test at the state reference laboratory</p> <p>Samples used: Upper and/or lower respiratory tract specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated but likely done before index test</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Group [1B]: Single negative RT-PCR Group [3]: no testing, pre-pandemic sera</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Unclear</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Unclear</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bond 2020 (Continued)

Indeterminate results: Unclear

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Work supported by a grant from the NHMRC Medical Research Future Fund. Some authors are recipients of the following: Investigator Grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) of Australia; NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship; NHMRC Post-graduate Scholarship.

Publication status: Published article

Source: Academic journal

Author COI: None

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear

Bond 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	
Were results presented per patient?	No	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Boukli 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection, and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity, including:</p> <p>[1] PCR-positive Covid-19 patients in intensive care unit (76 samples from 49 patients)</p> <p>[2] PCR-positive Covid-19 patients, described as 'unselected' (68 samples from 68 patients)</p> <p>[3] 'unselected' pre-pandemic samples (n = 40)</p> <p>[4] pre-pandemic samples from cases with other infection (n = 60)</p> <p>Results are presented for group [1] and [2] combined, and separately for group [3] and [4].</p> <p>Reported results suggest that not all samples were tested with both assays.</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Boukli 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

	Recruitment: Unclear Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective Sample size: 217 (117) Further detail: Not further described
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Mixed; included hospital inpatient (Intensive care unit) and an unspecified setting Location: Saint-Antoine Hospital, Paris Country: France Dates: Not stated Symptoms and severity: Not stated; 68/144 COVID-19 samples from individuals in ICU Demographics: Not stated Exposure history: Not stated Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic other infection Source: Pre-pandemic Characteristics: Coronavirus 229E, NL63, OC43 (n = 10); primary CMV (n = 5); primary EBV (n = 10); acute HAV (n = 5); acute HBV (n = 4); acute HCV (n = 3); acute HEV (n = 5); acute HIV (n = 5); influenza A/B (n = 10); acute malaria (n = 3) Non-Covid group 2: Pre-pandemic 'unselected' samples Source: Pre-pandemic Characteristics: No further details
Index tests	Test name: [A] Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG assay; [B] Alinity I SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay Manufacturer: [A] DiaSorin, Antony, France [B] Abbott Diagnostics, Rungis, France Antibody: [A] and [B] IgG Antigen target: [A] Recombinant S1 and S2 proteins; [B] capsid antigen Evaluation setting: Laboratory based Test method: CLIA Timing of samples: Not stated Day 1 to day 30 pso Samples used: Group [2], [3], [4] serum, Group [1] plasma; samples stored at -20 or -80°C Test operator: Not stated

Boukli 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Definition of test positivity: [A] Negative was defined as < 12 absorbance units (AU)/mL, positive as > 15 AU/mL, and equivocal as 12 to 15 AU/mL; [B] positive was defined as > 1.4 index, negative was defined as < 1.4 index Equivocal results were re-tested</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR; no further details</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: During hospital stay in 49 cases. The rest unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-PCR-negative Pre-pandemic samples used</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No (pre-pandemic did not have SARS-CoV-2 PCR)</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: No funding statement reported</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology</p> <p>Author COI: No COI statement reported</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Boukli 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern	
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High	
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		

Boukli 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Boulki 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Brochot 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19 infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity including:</p> <p>[1] patients hospitalised for COVID-19 (n = 20);</p> <p>[2] non-hospitalised patients but PCR confirmed with SARS-CoV-2 (n = 58);</p> <p>[3] patients participating in screening campaigns, also described as outpatients with no history of SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 62);</p> <p>[4] and samples from patients with a history of other seasonal coronavirus infections (n = 28).</p> <p>Study focused mainly on agreement between evaluated assays; data could be extracted for samples with PCR+ result (from group [1] and group [2]) at two time points and for non-COVID-19 cases (group [3])</p>
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Brochot 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Recruitment: Unclear Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective Sample size: 168 (78) Further detail: Not further described
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Hospital in patients, outpatients and community screening Location: Amiens University medical Center, Amiens Country: France Dates: Not stated Symptoms and severity: Not stated Demographics: Available in the supplement. Could not open the file*** Exposure history: Not stated Non-Covid group 1: Outpatients with no history of SARS-CoV-2 ***Review authors think that some of these have had Covid but have not had it PCR-confirmed - if you look at Fig 2, quite a number of samples have positive serology results, too many to all be false positives. What we did in this case, was to report the group in item A2 (as publication authors have done) but then we did not use the data because there was apparently no reference standard for them. Source: During pandemic Characteristics: Non-Covid group 2: Other human coronavirus infections Source: Not clearly described; may be pre-pandemic Characteristics: Not stated
Index tests	Test name: Assays identified only by manufacturer: [A] Abbott; [B] Biorad; [C] Euroimmun; [D] Liaison; [E] Wantai Manufacturer: [A] Abbott; [B] Biorad; [C] Euroimmun; [D] Liaison; [E] Wantai Antibody: [A] IgG; [B] total antibodies; [C] IgG; [D] IgG; [E] total antibodies Antigen target: [A] nucleocapsid; [B] nucleocapsid; [C] spike 1; [D] spike1/2; [E] receptor binding domain Evaluation setting: Laboratory Test method: [A] CLIA; [B] ELISA; [C] ELISA; [D] CLIA; [E] ELISA Timing of samples: Time pso not given; number of samples by time post-PCR+ given only for day 31-50 (n = 21) and > 50 days (n = 14) Samples used: Serum Test operator: Not stated Definition of test positivity: Positivity thresholds were as follows: [A] Abbott ≥ 1.4 ; [B] Biorad ≥ 1 ; [C] Euroimmun ≥ 1.1 ; [D] Liaison ≥ 15 ; [E] Wantai ≥ 1 Samples with a 'doubtful' signal were tested a second time; if the same result was obtained, result was considered negative

Brochot 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Blinding reported: Not stated
	Threshold predefined: Yes, manufacturer defined thresholds used
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: PCR; no further details Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swab Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Not stated Incorporated index test: Not stated Definition of non-COVID cases: PCR for group 3. Pre-pandemic for group 4 Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swab Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Not stated Yes; conducted first (and was basis for selection of samples for testing) Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: None reported Uninterpretable results: None reported Indeterminate results: None reported Unit of analysis: Not stated; referred to selection of 'samples' but also stated that longitudinal data not available (Discussion)
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: This work was supported by a grant from the Amiens University Medical Center Publication status: Published paper Source: Journal of Clinical Virology Author COI: Authors declared no COI present

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Brochot 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Brochot 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Brochot 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Brochot 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Brochot 2020 [C] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Brochot 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative	
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Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Brochot 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative	
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Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Bryan 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity for diagnosis of acute Covid-19
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	Design: [1] PCR-positive Covid cases (245)
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	Recruitment: Unclear
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Bryan 2020a (Continued)

	<p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 245 (245) of which 41 (41) had extractable outcome data from Fig 2</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (n = 194), emergency department (n = 39), outpatients (n = 12)</p> <p>Location: University of Washington Medicine Hospitals, Seattle, Washington</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Unclear</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Unclear (8/245 asymptomatic at the time of initial PCR result)</p> <p>Demographics: Sex: 147/245 (60%) male Age: 10-20: 1/245 (0.4%) 20-29: 12/245 (4.9%) 30-39: 17/245 (6.9%) 40-49: 27/245 (11.0%) 50-59: 42/245 (17.1%) 60-69: 46/245 (18.8%) 70-79: 52/245 (21.2%) 80-89: 30/245 (12.2%) 90-99: 18/245 (7.3%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Unclear</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid IgG</p> <p>Manufacturer: Abbott, USA</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Nucleocapsid</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CMIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>< 7 days post-symptom onset: 24/41 7-10 days post-symptom onset: 10/41 11-14 days post-symptom onset: 2/41 > 14 days post-symptom onset: 5/41</p> <p>Samples used: Serum or plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Manufacturer's suggested cut-off of 1.40 was used for seropositivity</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear (but study only included cases)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: qRT-PCR</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bryan 2020a (Continued)

	<p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, performed before index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Unclear</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Washington Medical Center.</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)</p> <p>Source: medRxiv</p> <p>Author COI: ALG reported personal fees from Abbott Molecular, outside of the submitted work. AB, SLF, MAG, GP, AC, MHW, CM, KRJ, PCM reported no conflicts of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

Bryan 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

No

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Bundschuh 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: The aim of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of the EDI ELISA test for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 IgM and IgG antibodies in human plasma.</p> <p>3-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design: Three-group study:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-positive COVID-19 patients admitted for treatment at two tertiary hospitals (n = 64)</p> <p>[2] Healthy blood donors (pre-pandemic, n = 200)</p> <p>[3] Medical intensive care patients (pre-pandemic, n = 256)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (from respiratory specimens) confirmed COVID-19 patients that were treated in one of the two tertiary care hospitals. Blood samples for clinical routine that were sent to central laboratory were included in the present study (frozen, leftover plasma).</p> <p>[2] First 200 consecutive EDTA plasma samples from our previously described cohort of healthy blood donors</p> <p>[3] 256 consecutive baseline EDTA plasma samples of patients admitted to the medical intensive care unit of the Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz, Austria</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] and [3] retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 520 (64) patients with 560 (104) samples</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] All COVID-19 patients admitted for treatment at two tertiary hospitals. Criteria unclear</p> <p>[2] Healthy blood donors.</p> <p>[3] Medical intensive care patients</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients, two tertiary care hospitals</p> <p>Location: Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz and Ordensklinikum Linz Barmherzige Schwestern in Linz, Austria</p> <p>Country: Austria</p> <p>Dates: Between 15th of March 2020 and 10th of April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: 64 patients (53 males, 11 females), median age 65 years (range 14–95, IQR 56–87, years)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2] Healthy blood donors</p> <p>Source: Recruited at the Red Cross organisation in Linz, Austria from January 31st to February 13th 2008</p> <p>Characteristics: 3% immune-compromised</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2:</p> <p>[3] Intensive care patients</p> <p>Source: Intensive care unit of the Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz</p>

Bundschuh 2020 (Continued)

Characteristics: Intensive care patients

Index tests	<p>Test name: EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM and IgG ELISA kit</p> <p>Manufacturer: Epitope Diagnostics Inc.</p> <p>Antibody: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory (ELISA), used in laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: < 5 days-22 days after symptom onset (COVID-19 patients). Results were reported for 4 time bands</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Laboratory staff</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>Single run: If the patient sample OD (optical density) was below the negative cut-off the result was reported negative (-); If the patient sample OD was above the negative cut-off but below the positive cut-off the result was reported borderline (+-); If the patient sample OD was above the positive cut-off the patient was reported as positive (+).</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: following the manufacturers instruction</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: respiratory specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, done prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test:</p> <p>No. Different specimens and tests</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] and [3] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: [2] and [3] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2] and [3] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, done prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No, pre-pandemic samples</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p>

Bundschuh 2020 (Continued)

Indeterminate results: If the patient sample was above the negative cut-off but below the positive cut-off the result was reported borderline - these have not been extracted to the 2 x 2 sensitivity/specificity tables, and have accordingly been subtracted from group denominators.

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None reported

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinica Chimica Acta

Author COI: The authors declared that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

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Bundschuh 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Butterfield 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19

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Butterfield 2021 [A] (Continued)

Design: Multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity:
 [1] SARS-CoV-2 real-time PCR-positive patients (42 samples from 37 patients)
 [2] Pre-pandemic samples from patients with viral infections (n = 102) or [3] attending routine antenatal testing (n = 20)
 Recruitment: Unclear
 Prospective or retrospective: Unclear
 Sample size: Patients: 159 (37); samples: 164 (42)
 Further detail: No further details reported

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Jamaica National Influenza Centre. No further details available</p> <p>Location: Jamaica National Influenza Centre</p> <p>Country: Jamaica</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Disease severity for PCR+ was classified according to WHO criteria: 34/42 (81%) moderate, severe or critical; 8 (19%) asymptomatic or mild</p> <p>Demographics: Age and sex not reported</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic patients with viral infections</p> <p>Source: Pre-pandemic (University of the West Indies Virology Laboratory)</p> <p>Characteristics: Influenza A/B, parainfluenza, EBV, CMV, HTLV I/II, DENV, CHIKV, ZIKV, HBV, HCV, Parvovirus B19</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [3] Healthy donors</p> <p>Source: Pre-pandemic (University of the West Indies Virology Laboratory)</p> <p>Characteristics: Routine antenatal testing</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: [A] Roche Elecsys1 Anti-SARS-CoV-2, [B] Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgM, [C] Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG, [D] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgA, [E] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA, [F] Trillium IgG/IgM rapid assays</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] Roche [B] Abbott [C] Abbott [D] Euroimmun [E] Euroimmun [F] Trillium</p> <p>Antibody: [A] Total Ab; [B] IgM; [C] IgG; [D] IgA; [E] IgG; [F] IgG/IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: [A-E] Laboratory, [F] POC; all evaluations were laboratory-based</p> <p>Test method: [A-C] CLIA, [D-E] ELISA, [F] Lateral flow assay</p> <p>Timing of samples: Symptomatic: 6–103 days post-onset; Asymptomatic: 20–69 days post-PCR+</p> <p>Samples used: Blood samples collected in tubes without anticoagulant</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: As per manufacturer's instructions. For Euroimmun assays, borderline index values were considered negative.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p>

Butterfield 2021 [A] (Continued)

	Threshold predefined: Yes (as per manufacturer's instructions)
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: Real time PCR using Charite Berlin protocol (Corman 2020) Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Not stated Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic Samples used: Serum Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: Yes: number of samples for specificity estimates ranged from 90 to 122, either due to lack of sample volume or limited number of test kits; fewer test results also provided for Architect IgM (reason not given) Uninterpretable results: not reported Indeterminate results: For Euroimmun assays, borderline index values were considered negative. Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors. Publication status: agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases Author COI: All authors declared no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

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Butterfield 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Butterfield 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Butterfield 2021 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Butterfield 2021 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Butterfield 2021 [C] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Butterfield 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Butterfield 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Butterfield 2021 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Butterfield 2021 [F] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Candel 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To analyse the accuracy of a point-of-care SARS-CoV-2 IgM and/or IgG rapid test for the diagnosis of COVID-19, and to correlate this pattern of immune response with the severity of disease.</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease.</p> <p>Only 1 group (sensitivity only) included in our review</p> <p>Design: Two-group study:</p> <p>[1] randomly selected SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR confirmed patients (n = 35)</p> <p>[2] healthy volunteers with no history of COVID-19 symptoms and negative SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (n = 5)</p> <p>Group [2] excluded from review as <25 controls.</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] randomly selected SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR confirmed patients, admitted to IFEMA Field Hospital between April 27th and April 29th, 2020</p> <p>[2] source of recruitment unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 40 (35) of which 35 (35) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: [1] positive RT-PCR for pharyngeal swabs</p> <p>[2] healthy, nonsymptomatic, negative RT-PCR</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: 1400-bed field hospital set up at IFEMA (Institución Ferial de Madrid/Ferial Institution of Madrid)</p> <p>Country: Spain</p> <p>Dates: Recruitment April 27th to April 29th, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Mild = 3; Moderate = 9; Severe = 21; Critical = 2</p> <p>12 (34.3%) mild-moderate</p> <p>23 (65.7%) severe-critical</p> <p>31/35 (88.6%) bilateral pneumonia</p> <p>Demographics: Female 21/35; mean age 58.2 years (COVID-19 positive patients only)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Candel 2020 (Continued)

Index tests	<p>Test name: Autobio rapid lateral-flow point-of-care antibody test Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Test</p> <p>Manufacturer: Autobio Diagnostics Co. Zhengzhou, China</p> <p>Antibody: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 recombinant spike-protein antigen</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC, used as POC</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold) (CGIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: The average time from the first day of reported symptoms to the lateral flow test was 28 days (SD: 8.7). The ranges were similar between the mild-moderate cases (minimum: 17 days; maximum: 45 days) and the severe-critical (minimum: 16 days; maximum: 48 days).</p> <p>Samples used: Whole blood</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: According to the manufacturer instructions, IgG band reading rendered either negative or positive results. On the other hand, IgM band was classified as either negative, positive or weak positive depending on the intensity of the band staining. IgM-positive, IgG-positive and either IgM or IgG-positive band staining were counted as positive results for the rapid test.</p> <p>A picture of every rapid test was taken at the manufacturer's established time of reading. Test results were evaluated by two operators. In case of disagreement, a third operator was requested.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated, but unlikely - controls were healthy volunteers whereas cases were inpatients</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Visual, interpreted as per manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 positive RT-PCR for pharyngeal swabs; threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: pharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes - index test was done 16-48 days after symptom onset</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No - index test was done 16-48 days after symptom onset</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated [2] Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes - RT-PCR</p> <p>Missing data: None</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: None to declare

Candel 2020 (Continued)

Publication status: Published

Source: Journal: Revista Española de Quimioterapia (Official Journal of the Spanish Society of Chemotherapy)

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		

Candel 2020 (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		Unclear risk

Carozzi 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid-positive</p> <p>[1a] Clinical hospitalised COVID-19 cases (n = 135)</p> <p>[1b] PCR +ve healthcare workers (n = 33)</p> <p>[2] Non-Covid</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic (n = 295)</p> <p>[2b] Suspected healthy healthcare workers (n = 17,065)</p> <p>Group [1b] and [2b] were not eligible for our review as [1b] was pre-selected and [2b] had no reference standard.</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated for [1a] and [2a]</p>
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Carozzi 2020 [A] (Continued)

Prospective or retrospective: [1a] Unclear [2a] Retrospective [1b] [2b] Prospective for HCW seroprevalence survey

Sample size: 17,528 (168) but 430 (135) included in our review

Further detail: Inclusion: [1a] Clinical hospitalised cases with PCR +ve test at advanced stages of disease

[2] Pre-pandemic serum samples

Exclusion: [1] [2] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: [1a] Hospital inpatients

Location: [1a] University Hospitals throughout Tuscany:

[sA] AOUS, Siena ([n = 26])

[sB] AOUC, Florence (n = 41)

[sC] AOUP, Pisa (n = 68)

Country: Italy

Dates:

[1a] Not stated

Symptoms and severity: [1a] Hospitalised, reported signs and symptoms since 10-14 days

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Source: Site F: Fondazione Toscana Gabriele Monasterio (FTGM) in Pisa and Massa. 2013-2014

n = 200 November to February

n = 95 July and August

Characteristics: 145 women, 150 men aged 50-70 years

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Screen Test Covid-19 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM

[B] COVID-19 IgG/IgM rapid test cassette

Manufacturer:

[A] Screen Italia S.r.l

[B] Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co., Ltd

Antibody: [A] [B] IgG/IgM

Antigen target: Not stated

Evaluation setting: POCT used in lab

Test method: [A] [B] Lateral Flow test

Timing of samples: 14+ days post-PCR

Samples used: [1a] [2a] Serum

Test operator: Staff in six laboratory departments of the participating institutions

Definition of test positivity: IgG-positive: presence of the expected control line and of a line at the IgG position only

Carozzi 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>IgM-positive: presence of the expected control line and of a line at the IgM position only</p> <p>IgG and IgM-positive: Presence of the expected control line and of two lines at the IgG and IgM positions, respectively.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-real time PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated for [1a]</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: [1a] Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: NA as pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: [1a] > 14 days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: yes, we excluded groups [1b] and [2b] from our review. Not all 135 samples from [1a] were tested with both rapid tests.</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: A test was considered invalid in the absence of a control line, none declared.</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Readings were considered doubtful if a shade, not classifiable as a clear line, appeared at the IgG or/and IgM positions. [A] 25/295 doubtful for IgM [B] 5/295 doubtful for IgM Number of doubtful results for IgG not reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: [1a] Not stated [2a] Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: No external funding received, rapid tests provided by the Health Regional Department</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)</p> <p>Source: medRxiv Pre-print</p> <p>Author COI: Authors declared no competing interests.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

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Carozzi 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the refer-	High

Carozzi 2020 [A] (Continued)

ence standard does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Carozzi 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Carta 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection

Design: Single-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity (n = 65)
[1] Covid positive residents (n = 54)
[2] Covid negative residents (n = 11)

Recruitment: All residents in a long-term care facility

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Carta 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 65 (54)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: All the guests (symptomatic and asymptomatic) of a long-term care facility. [1] Residents who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection on RT-PCR during any of three tests [2] Residents who tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 infection on all of three RT-PCR tests</p> <p>Exclusion: [1] [2] No exclusion criteria; all residents included</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Long-term care facility, all convalescent</p> <p>Location: Vicenza district</p> <p>Country: Italy</p> <p>Dates: PCR test performed between March 29 and April 22, 2020. Follow-up for 2 months after outbreak</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Symptomatic and asymptomatic, including 11 cases of fatal infection</p> <p>Demographics: 52/65 female, average age 82 years (range 56-97 years) 26 not self-sufficient</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: [A] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG and IgM</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] [B] Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co., SNIBE Diagnostic, Shenzhen, PR China</p> <p>Antibody: [A] IgG/IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] spike-protein and nucleocapsid region</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory used in laboratory</p> <p>Test method: [A] CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Day 32 (28-36) and 49 (47-50) post-PCR +ve</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated, possibly Medicina di Laboratorio, AULSS 8 Berica, Viale Rodolfi, Vicenza, Italy</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: [A] IgG antibodies were considered negative < 0.90 AU/mL, grey-zone 0.90-1.10 AU/mL and positive ≥ 1.10 AU/mL [B] IgM antibodies were considered positive ≥ 1.00 AU/mL, negative < 1.00 AU/mL.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not clear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR on Cobas 6800 RT-PCR System (Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany) When two gene targets were found both positive, or even if only one target was found, but the patient had characteristic symptoms, the test was considered positive.</p> <p>Samples used: Oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs</p>

Carta 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Timing of reference standard: Start of outbreak at long-term care facility then on days 20, 32 and 49</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-PCR on Cobas 6800 RT-PCR System (Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany)</p> <p>When two gene targets were found both positive, or even if only one target was found, but the patient had characteristic symptoms, the test was considered positive.</p> <p>Samples used: Oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Start of outbreak at long-term care facility then on days 20 and 32.</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 32 (28–36) and 49 (47–50) days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Among 65 residents, 54 tested positive for COVID-19 on the first swab but 11 of these patients subsequently died.</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Grey zone for IgG antibody detection results, 0.90–1.10 AU/mL, but no indeterminate results reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples (one sample on day 32 and one sample on day 49)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None declared</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: De Gruyter Diagnosis</p> <p>Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Carta 2020 (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes

Carta 2020 (Continued)

Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Case 2020 [A]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	Purpose: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity for diagnosis of acute Covid-19 Design: [1] PCR-confirmed Covid-19 patients (20 patients, 42 samples) Recruitment: Not stated Prospective or retrospective: Not stated Sample size: 42 (42) of which 40 (40) were eligible for our review
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Not stated Location: Not stated Country: USA Dates: Not stated Symptoms and severity: Not stated Demographics: Not stated Exposure history: Not stated Non-Covid group 1: NA
Index tests	Test name: [A] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA [B] Epitope IgG ELISA Manufacturer: [A] Euroimmun, Germany [B] Epitope Antibody: [A] and [B] IgG Antigen target: [A] SARS-CoV-2 S-protein [B] Not stated Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Laboratory Test method: [A] and [B] ELISA

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Case 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Timing of samples: 5-7 days post-symptom onset: 5/40 (13%) 8-14 days post-symptom onset: 23/40 (50%) 15-20 days post-symptom onset: 12/40 (30%) 2 not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Index value positive if ≥ 1.1, as per manufacturer</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, done before index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned [A] 1 indeterminate results (0.8-1.1) [B] 1 indeterminate results (0.8-1.1)</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples (40 samples from 18 or 19 patients)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This study was supported by NIH contracts and grants (75N93019C00062, HHSN272201700060C, R01 AI127828, R37 AI059371, and U01 AI151810), the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (HR001117S0019), and gifts from Washington University in Saint Louis. J.B.C. is supported by a Helen Hay Whitney Foundation postdoctoral fellowship.</p> <p>The Diamond laboratory has received unrelated funding under sponsored research agreements from Moderna and Emergent BioSolutions.</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed) Now published</p> <p>Source: bioRxiv Journal "Cell Host & Microbe"</p> <p>Author COI: M.S.D. is a consultant for Inbios, Vir Biotechnology, NGM Biopharmaceuticals, and on the Scientific Advisory Board of Moderna. D.C. and H.W.V. are employees of Vir Biotechnology Inc. and may hold shares in Vir Biotechnology Inc. S.P.J.W. and P.W.R. have filed a disclosure with Washington University for the recombinant VSV.</p>
Methodological quality	

Case 2020 [A] (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing			

Case 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Case 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Caturegli 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of COVID-19 diagnostic test</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity Group [1] and [2] were hospitalised adults investigated for COVID-19 selected from a cohort of patients with at least one NAT result (n = 11,066) and with available residual serum samples (n = NR): [1] COVID-19 cases, including PCR-confirmed (n = 50, including 38 with single positive result) and clinically defined PCR-negative based on medical record review (n = 10) [2]: Symptomatic patients with negative PCR (n = 55, including 43 with single negative result) [3] Laboratory controls including healthy lab employees and patients with polyclonal activation of antibody response (n = 513; 325 pre-pandemic and 188 contemporaneous)</p> <p>Recruitment: Convenience</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Caturegli 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Sample size: Hospitalised COVID suspects: 115 (60) Full sample: 628 (60)</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed Groups [1] and [2]: Inpatient service of a tertiary hospital Group [3] healthy and patients</p> <p>Location: Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD</p> <p>Country: United States</p> <p>Dates: 11 Mar to 12 Apr, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Group [1]: All symptomatic individuals. No clear details on severity but likely moderate to critical because they were all hospitalised and some developed ARDS.</p> <p>Demographics: Age, median (IQR): 59 (48-70) Sex: 43/60 (72%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: 21/60 (35%) had travel history 20/60 (33%) had sick contacts 5/60 (8%) were healthcare workers</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: Symptomatic patients with negative PCR</p> <p>Source: Hospitalised patients who underwent one or more PCR tests for SARS-CoV-2 between 11 Mar and 12 Apr, 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Age, median (IQR): 61 (47-69) Sex: 22/60 (40%) male All symptomatic, with fever (31%), cough (55%), shortness of breath (47%) the most common symptoms</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Group [3]: non-COVID controls (pre-pandemic and contemporaneous)</p> <p>Source: Lab stocked samples mostly collected during the pre-pandemic period (n = 327), except for 188 samples that were obtained in 2020.</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG and IgA</p> <p>Manufacturer: EUROIMMUN AG</p> <p>Antibody: IgG, IgA</p> <p>Antigen target: S1 domain of the spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Lab tests, done in lab</p> <p>Test method: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Multiple samples taken from each patient at various points in time, from 0 to 59 days after symptom onset</p> <p>Samples used: Residual serum samples</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: positive if ratio > 1.1 Also reported threshold derived based on collected data (not extracted)</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>

Caturegli 2020 (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no further details available - unclear whether more than one assay was used to test patients) AND clinical evaluation based on clinical record review (risk factors, signs and symptoms on presentation, radiologic findings, comorbidities, smoking and alcohol history, BMI, reason for repeated NAAT testing (as applicable), and complications during hospital stay. No formalised combination of findings to indicate COVID-19 was reported.</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated; duration of symptoms on clinical presentation was 7 days (range 4 to 7) for cases and 3 days (range 1 to 7) for non-COVID patients</p> <p>Blinded to index test: For PCR, yes but record review was post hoc</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Group [2]: RT-PCR (as above) Group [3]: pre-pandemic and contemporaneous (no testing)</p> <p>Samples used: Group [2]: Nasopharyngeal swab Group [3]: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Group [2]: Not stated Group [3]: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Group [2]: Yes (done earlier) Group [3]: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>		
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated. Only time from symptom onset for index test was available.</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>		
Comparative			
Notes	<p>Funding: The study was funded internally by the Clinical Immunology Laboratory of the Department of Pathology, Johns Hopkins Hospital.</p> <p>Publication status: Published article</p> <p>Source: Academic journal</p> <p>Author COI: None declared</p>		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	No		

Caturegli 2020 (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk

Caturegli 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Cervia 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose:
Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection

Design: Study reported two cohorts, only one of which was eligible for this review.
[1] Single-group study to estimate sensitivity in patients with RT-qPCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 56)

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Prospective (Following written informed consent, patients and healthcare workers were recruited for sampling of blood and mucosal secretions)

Sample size: [1] 56 (56)
([2] 109 (21))

Further detail: No further details

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Mixed

Location: Not stated; authors' institution University Hospital Zurich (USZ)

Country: Switzerland

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: WHO criteria: mild 19, 34% (mild illness and mild pneumonia); severe 37, 66% (severe pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Cervia 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Outpatient: 10/19 mild cases and 0/37 severe cases</p> <p>Demographics: median 61 y (IQR 48, 77), 31 (55%) male Mild: median age 49 (IQR 34-60) years, 8/19 (42%) male; Severe: median age 68 (IQR 57-79) years, 23/37 (62%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Mentioned but results not documented</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgA and IgG immunoassay (no product code reported)</p> <p>Manufacturer: Euroimmun</p> <p>Antibody: IgA, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein (S1)</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1] mean 16.4 days (median 13 days) for the mild group and approx day 2 to day 48; mean 20.9 days (median 16 days) for the severe group since symptom onset</p> <p>Samples used: serum (usable data were not reported for mucosal samples (tears, nasal fluid, saliva))</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: serum IgA: optical density (OD) ratios of 1.1–2.0 were considered borderline-positive; values above 2.0 positive serum IgG: OD ratios of 0.8–1.1 were considered borderline-positive and values above 1.1 positive.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: As per manufacturer; IgA: OD > 2.0, IgG OD > 1.1</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-qPCR, TaqMan SARS-CoV-2 Assay Kit v2 (Thermo Fischer), the 2019-nCoV CDC qPCR Probe Assay (2019-nCov CDC EUA Kit; Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc.), or the Roche Cobas SARS-CoV-2 Test CE-IVD (Roche) according to manufacturers' instructions</p> <p>Samples used: NP</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes (different RT-PCR assays)</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: patients</p>

Cervia 2020 (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Academy of Medical Sciences fellowships, the Young Talents in Clinical Research Fellowship by the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences and Bangerter Foundation, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Clinical Research Priority Program of the University of Zurich for the CRPP CYTIMM-Z, and a grant of the Innovation Fund of the University Hospital Zurich

Publication status: Pre-print

Source: bioRxiv

Author COI: The authors declared no competing financial interests related to this work.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Cervia 2020 (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Chan 2020a
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid subjects (n = 144)</p> <p>[1a] Admitted PCR-positive samples (n = 78) for clinical performance study</p> <p>[1b] Archived PCR-positive samples (n = 66) for method comparison study</p> <p>[2] Non covid subjects (n = 130)</p> <p>[2a] non-SARS-CoV-2 respiratory viral samples (n = 25)</p> <p>[2b] Other viral positive samples (n = 52)</p> <p>[2c] Pre-pandemic samples (n = 53)</p> <p>[1b] excluded from review as no time pso or post-PCR+ reported.</p> <p>Recruitment: [1a] Admitted PCR-positive patients who had routine metabolic profiles and serologies ordered for clinical care</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chan 2020a (Continued)

[1b] Archived samples from the validation studies for the EuroImmun Ab assay
 [2a] [2b] Not stated, likely samples from storage
 [2c] Pre-pandemic samples (41 from a reference range study prior to 2018 and 12 from a banked respiratory viral panel from early 2019)

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 274 (144) of which 208 (78) were eligible for review

Further detail: Inclusion:
 [1a] PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 admitted to hospital
 [1b] Archived PCR-positive samples from the validation studies for the EuroImmun Ab assay
 [2a] Positive for non-SARS-CoV-2 respiratory infection (coronaviruses: HKU1 n = 5, NL63 n = 7, OC43 n = 7, 229E n = 2, OC43 + 229E CV n = 1, Rhinovirus n = 2)
 [2b] Positive for other viruses (HIV n = 20, HepB n = 15, HCV n = 17)
 [2c] Pre-pandemic (41 from a reference range study prior to 2018 and 12 from a banked respiratory viral panel from early 2019)
 Exclusion:
 [1a] [1b] [2a] [2b] [2c] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: [1a] Hospital inpatients

Location: Chemistry and Immunology Laboratories, University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL

Country: USA

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: [1a] All hospitalised

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] non-SARS-CoV-2 respiratory viral samples

Source: University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL; time not stated

Characteristics: HKU1 CV n = 5, NL63 CV n = 7, OC43 CV n = 7, 229E CV n = 2, OC43 CV + 229E CV n = 1, Rhinovirus n = 2

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Other viral positive samples
 [2c] Pre-pandemic samples

Source: [2b] University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL; time not stated
 [2c] University of Chicago Hospitals, Chicago, IL, 41 prior to 2018, 12 from early 2019

Characteristics: [2b] HIV n = 20, HepB n = 15, HCV n = 17
 [2c] Not stated (41 from a reference range study prior to 2018 and 12 from a banked respiratory viral panel from early 2019)

Index tests

Test name: [A] Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody assay
 [B] EuroImmun IgG antibody assay (anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA)

Manufacturer: [A] Roche diagnostics
 [B] Euroimmun

Antibody: [A] Total antibody
 [B] IgA/IgG

Antigen target: [A] Nucleocapsid protein
 [B] Not stated

Evaluation setting: Laboratory test used in laboratory setting

Chan 2020a (Continued)

	<p>Test method: [A] ECLIA [B] ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1a] 0-13 days post-PCR + (n = 40) ≥ 14 days post-PCR + (n = 38)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum and plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Clinical chemistry staff at the University of Chicago</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: [A] COI ≥ 1.0 positive, COI < 1.0 negative [B] Not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] [2b] not stated, possibly pre-pandemic [2c] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: [2a] [2b] unclear [2c] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2a] [2b] unclear [2c] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: [1a] 0-13 days post-PCR + (n = 40) ≥ 14 days post-PCR + (n = 38)</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: [1b] excluded from review as well as 40 samples from [1a] < 14 days post-PCR+</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated, no indeterminate threshold</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Unclear</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: American Journal of Clinical Pathology</p> <p>Author COI: Not stated</p>

Methodological quality

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chan 2020a (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Chan 2020a (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Charlton 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (28 patients, 46 samples)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic non-COVID (50 samples)</p> <p>[3] Cross-reactivity non-COVID samples [62 samples: pre-pandemic (n = 15) and concurrent (n = 47)]</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Hospitalised (or ambulatory) patients confirmed to be positive for SARS-CoV-2 upon nasopharyngeal swab or endotracheal aspirate testing by rRT-PCR</p> <p>[2] Negative samples were retrieved from bio-banked sera stored at the public health laboratory (Alberta Precision Laboratories) in Alberta collected before 1 November 2019.</p> <p>[3] Convalescent phase sera (either retrieved from stored sera or prospectively collected)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] Retrospective</p> <p>[3] Prospective and retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 158 (46) samples</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

Further detail:

- [1] Patients who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by rRT-PCR
- [2] Serum samples stored prior to 1 November 2019
- [3] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (26/28; 93%) and ambulatory (2/28; 7%)</p> <p>Location: Not stated [history taken by Alberta Health Services Communicable Diseases Team (Public Health)]</p> <p>Country: Alberta, Canada</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 2/28 (7%) ambulatory 26/28 (93%) hospitalised 9/28 ICU 7/28 Need for mechanical ventilation 1/28 Pulmonary embolism 26/28 COVID pneumonia 1/28 No COVID pneumonia 1/28 Unknown 13/28 acute respiratory distress syndrome 14/28 no acute respiratory distress syndrome 1/28 unknown</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age of patients was 70.1 (median 73; range, 34 to 102 years), 12/28 (43%) female</p> <p>Exposure history: Travel-related exposures - yes 4 (14%) (USA n = 2; United Arab Emirates n = 1; within Canada n = 1) - no 23 (82%) - unknown 1 (4%)</p> <p>Contact with traveller - yes 6 (21%) - no 21 (75%) - unknown 1 (4%)</p> <p>Infection related to outbreak in long-term-care/continuing care facility 9 (32%)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Bio-banked sera stored at the public health laboratory (Alberta Precision Laboratories) in Alberta collected before 1 November 2019.</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [3] Cross-reactivity samples</p> <p>Source: 15 sera were collected prior to the first case of SARS-CoV-2 diagnosis in Alberta, and 47 were collected after the first case of SARS-CoV-2 was detected in Alberta.</p> <p>Characteristics: The sera were from patients who had tested negative for COVID-19 by in-house rRT-PCR but positive for other viruses as follows (with the number of sera used): - influenza A virus (n = 5), - influenza B virus (n = 5), - respiratory syncytial virus (RSVA, n = 6; RSVB, n = 1), - rhinovirus/enterovirus (n = 6), - human metapneumovirus (HMPV; n = 5), - parainfluenza virus (PIV-1 and PIV-4; n = 4), - CoV-229E (n = 6), - CoV-NL63 (n = 11),</p>
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Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

- CoV-OC43 (n = 7), or

- CoV-HKU1 (n = 7).

One patient was positive for multiple viruses (RSVA and enterovirus/rhinovirus).

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay
- [B] EDI novel coronavirus COVID-19 IgM and IgG ELISA
- [C] a novel coronavirus COVID-19 IgM and IgG assay
- [D] SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
- [E] anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgA and IgG assay
- [F] anti-SARS-CoV-2
- [G] Rapid Response
- [H] 2019 nCoV IgM/IgG detection kit
- [I] SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM Ab test kit
- [J] Novel coronavirus IgG/IgM test kit
- [K] One Step Test for novel coronavirus
- [L] 2019-nCoV Ab test

Manufacturer:

- [A] Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, IL, USA
- [B] Epitope Diagnostics Inc., supplied by Affinity Diagnostics Corp., Toronto, ON, Canada
- [C] DRG International Inc., supplied by Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA
- [D] DiaSorin, Stillwater, MN, USA
- [E] Euroimmun, Mississauga, ON, Canada
- [F] Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN, USA
- [G] BTNX, Markham, Ontario, Canada
- [H] Biolidics Limited, Singapore
- [I] Anhui Deep Blue Medical Technology Co., Ltd., Anhui, China
- [J] Genrui; Genrui Biotech Inc., Shenzhen, China
- [K] Getein Biotech Inc., Nanjing, China
- [L] Innovita Biological Technology Co. Ltd., Qian'an, Hebei, China

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgM and IgG
- [C] IgM and IgG
- [D] IgG
- [E] IgA and IgG
- [F] Total antibodies (including IgG)
- [G]-[L] IgM and IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] Recombinant antigen nucleocapsid protein
- [B] Recombinant antigens of the RBD and spike-protein
- [C] Antibodies recognising recombinant nucleocapsid proteins and peptides
- [D] IgG antibodies directed against the S1 and S2 domains of the spike-protein
- [E] Recombinant S1 domain of the structural protein
- [F] Recombinant protein representing the nucleocapsid antigen
- [G], [I], [J], [L] Target unspecified
- [H] Recombinant protein, target unspecified
- [K] Recombinant nucleocapsid and spike proteins

Evaluation setting:

- [A]-[F] Lab test used in lab
- [G]-[L] POCT used in lab

Test method:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [A] chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay [CMIA]
- [B] ELISA
- [C] ELISA
- [D] chemiluminescence immunoassay [CLIA]
- [E] ELISA
- [F] electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)
- [G]-[L] Lateral flow test

Timing of samples:

- [A]-[L]
- 0-14 days pso 21/42
- 15-21 days pso 11/42
- > 21 days pso 10/42

Samples used:

- [A]-[L] Serum (all kits assessed using same patient samples from single-use aliquots). Samples collected, spun down (3000 rpm for 10 min), aliquoted into single-use aliquots, and frozen at -80°C until the time of testing
- [G]-[L] Cross-reactivity panel [3] was not assessed on the POCTs.

Test operator:

- [A]-[L] Lab personnel
- Results read independently by two laboratorians; in case of discrepancy, a third laboratorian reading was used as an arbitrator (+/-/- was considered equivocal, +/-/+ was considered positive).

Definition of test positivity:

- [A]-[F] as per manufacturer specifications using cut-offs as described in the package inserts. All values greater than the published cut-off were considered positive.
- [G]-[L] any banding detected for either IgM or IgG. Faint banding was considered positive. Assays where the control line was absent were considered invalid.

Testing was performed as per manufacturer specifications.

Blinding reported: not stated

Threshold predefined:

- [A]-[F] yes as per manufacturer specifications
- [G]-[L] Yes, visual-based

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: rRT-PCR, threshold not reported

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swab (27/28) or endotracheal aspirate (1/28)

Timing of reference standard: All dates of symptom onset were reported earlier than the date of diagnostic sample collection (mean, 16 days [range, 2 to 48 days]).

Blinded to index test: yes, done prior

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

- [2] Pre-pandemic
- [3] Pre-pandemic or in-house rRT-PCR on nasopharyngeal swab testing

Samples used:

- [2] Pre-pandemic
- [3] Pre-pandemic, otherwise nasopharyngeal swab

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinded to index test: yes, done prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] Not stated [time of PCR positivity was 5.3 days after date of symptom onset on average (range, 0 to 19 days)].

[2] Not stated

[3] The time from an RPP-positive result to serum collection ranged from 11 to 135 days (mean 45 days) from the date of the original RPP result.

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: yes (see Tables 3 and 4)

Uninterpretable results: Two invalid samples observed for Affinity and for Euroimmun and one for Getein BioTech LFA (all excluded)

Indeterminate results: Yes; number of equivocal results reported per test; these can be considered either as index-positive or negative

Unit of analysis: Patients; 11 COVID-19-positive patients had serum collected at multiple time periods; however, only one sample per patient was used per time interval to calculate assay sensitivity. When more than one serum sample from the same individual was within a given time interval, only the most recently collected serum sample was included.

Comparative

Notes

Funding:

We also thank the following manufacturers for supplying kits for analysis: Abbott, Affinity, Bio-Rad, DiaSorin, Euroimmun, Roche, BTNX, Biolistics, Deep Blue, Genrui, Getein BioTech, and Innovita.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charlton 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Charlton 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charlton 2020 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [C]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [D]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [E]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Charlton 2020 [E] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charlton 2020 [G] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Charlton 2020 [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Charlton 2020 [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Charlton 2020 [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Charlton 2020 [J] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charlton 2020 [L]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charlton 2020 [L] (Continued)

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charpentier 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (88 samples from 54 patients)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic non-COVID-samples (120 samples)</p> <p>[2a] Samples for testing as part of routine clinical care (n = 56)</p> <p>[2b] Serum samples corresponding to a cross-reactivity panel (n = 64)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1]-[3] Samples collected in the Virology Laboratory of Bichat-Claude Bernard and Saint-Louis University-Hospitals both in Paris, France</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] and [3] unclear [2] retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 262 (88) samples of which 208 (88) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Patients with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis by a positive nasopharyngeal sample RT-PCR</p> <p>[2] Collected before November 2019</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (40/54) and outpatients (14/54) (mixed)</p> <p>Location: Virology Laboratory of Bichat-Claude Bernard and Saint-Louis University-Hospitals both in Paris, France.</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 54 patients: 29 hospitalised in intensive care, 11 hospitalised in infectious diseases, so 74% with severe infections 14 outpatients</p> <p>Demographics: Median age was 52 years (range: 27–80), 36 were males.</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic Source: Virology Laboratory of Bichat-Claude Bernard and Saint-Louis University-Hospitals both in Paris, France. All collected before November 2019</p> <p>[2a] Samples for testing as part of routine clinical care (n = 56)</p> <p>[2b] Serum samples corresponding to a cross-reactivity panel (n = 64): Coronaviruses (HKU1, NL63, 229E and OC43; n = 20), malarial (n = 26), respiratory viruses (influenza A [n = 2], influenza B [n = 1], respiratory syncytial virus [n = 2], metapneumovirus [n = 1], rhinovirus [n = 1]), sera with acute CMV infection (n = 2), acute EBV infection (n = 1), HIV-HBV co-infection (n = 1), acute parvovirus B19 infection (n = 1), toxoplasma (n = 1). Samples containing auto-antibodies (4 rheumatoid factor and 1 systemic lupus erythematosus)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Suspected COVID-19, negative or no RT-PCR (not included in review)</p> <p>Source: Virology Laboratory of Bichat-Claude Bernard and Saint-Louis University-Hospitals both in Paris, France.</p>

Charpentier 2020 [A] (Continued)

Time not stated

Characteristics: 54 healthcare workers who presented with clinical symptoms during the epidemic period for whom SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR was negative or not carried out

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Covid-Presto® test rapid Covid-19 IgG/IgM

[B] NG-Test® IgM-IgG COVID-19

[C] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG kit

Manufacturer:

[A] AAZ, Boulogne-Billancourt, France

[B] NG Biotech, Guipry, France

[C] Abbott, IL, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgG and IgM

[B] IgG and IgM

[C] IgG

Antigen target:

[A]-[C] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A] and [B] POC test used in lab

[C] Lab test used in lab

Test method:

[A] and [B] Lateral flow test

[C] Chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay

Timing of samples:

[A] 88 samples between day 4 and day 42 after onset of symptoms.

4-9 days pso: 18/88

10-14 days pso: 33/88

15-42 days pso: 37/88

[B] Subgroup of 59 samples among the 88 samples between days 7 and 28 after onset of symptoms

7-9 days pso: 6/59

10-14 days pso: 22/59

15-28 days pso: 31/59

[C] 57 samples:

7-9 days pso: 6/57

10-14 days pso: 22/57

>14 days pso: 29/57

Samples used: [A]-[C] Serum

Test operator: [A]-[C] Lab personnel

Definition of test positivity: [A] and [B] According to manufacturer's instructions; results were read and interpreted 10 min after depositing serum.

[C] The assay cut-off is an index of 1.40 and the assigned grey zone is comprised between 1.12 and 1.68.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: [A] and [B] yes, visual-based

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charpentier 2020 [A] (Continued)

[C] yes, according to manufacturer's instructions

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: [1] RT-PCR, threshold not stated Samples used: Nasopharyngeal samples Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, prior Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] Pre-pandemic samples (before November 2019) [3] RT-PCR or no reference standard Samples used: [2] Pre-pandemic samples (before November 2019) [3] Not stated or no reference standard Timing of reference standard: [2] and [3] Not stated Blinded to index test: [2] and [3] yes, prior Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: no Missing data: yes (sensitivity for [B] in 59/88 samples; sensitivity of for [C] in 57/88 samples; specificity for [B] and [C] in 52/120 samples) Uninterpretable results: Not stated Indeterminate results: yes [one sample was positive in the grey zone with Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay (index: 1.45)] Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Not stated Publication status: Published paper Source: Journal of Clinical Virology Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charpentier 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charpentier 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Charpentier 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Charpentier 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Charpentier 2020 [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Chaudhuri 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase disease</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (368 patients with 379 samples) [2] Pre-pandemic non-COVID samples (n = 184)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] The participants for this study were derived from a longitudinal cohort of COVID-19-positive participants known as the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) India COVID-19 Consortium cohort with on-going recruitment from March 2020 at eight clinical sites in the Delhi-National Capital Region, India. [2] Sera samples collected in the pre-pandemic period (184 from pregnant women enrolled in a pregnancy cohort).</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Department of Biotechnology(DBT) India COVID-19 Consortium cohort: prospective [2] Retrospective (stored samples)</p> <p>Sample size: 563 (379) samples</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] For longitudinal cohort study:</p> <p>i) Suspected COVID-19 patients enrolled at the time of RT-PCR testing at the screening centre and ii) RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 positive patients admitted at one of the clinical sites For the present study: sera/plasma samples collected ≥ 20 days of illness or following RT-PCR positivity [2] Sera samples collected in the pre-pandemic period (before September 2019.) from pregnant women enrolled in a pregnancy cohort</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent, setting not stated</p> <p>Location: 8 clinical sites in the Delhi-National Capital Region, India [Department of Biotechnology (DBT) India COVID-19 Consortium cohort]</p> <p>Country: India</p> <p>Dates: from March 2020</p>

Chaudhuri 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Symptoms and severity: 83.7% symptomatic
16.3% asymptomatic (text says 14%?)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic healthy

Source: Collected before September 2019 from pregnant women enrolled in a pregnancy cohort.

Characteristics: 184/184 pregnant women

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Diasorin LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S1 IgG CLIA

[B] Covid Kavach IgG ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] Diasorin

[B] Zydus

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] S1/S2 domains of the spike-protein

[B] specific antigenic epitope(s) of the inactivated virus in the Kavach assay were not defined

Evaluation setting:

[A] and [B] Lab tests performed in lab

Test method:

[A] Chemiluminescence assay (CLIA)

[B] ELISA

Timing of samples:

20-72 days of illness in symptomatic or RT-PCR positivity in asymptomatic individuals; duration of illness bimodal due to study design: The means of the sampling window distributions were 23.5 and 49.3 days respectively.

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Test operator: [A] and [B] Lab personnel

Definition of test positivity:

[A] The tests were considered positive when the IgG concentration was ≥ 15 AU/mL, negative when the concentration was < 12 AU/mL and equivocal when the concentration was > 12 and < 15 AU/mL. Equivocal samples were considered negative for sensitivity analysis.

[B] The kit suggests interpretation of the results by a two-pronged method, based on OD value and P/N (Positive/Negative Ratio). When both read-outs are in agreement, then the sample is considered positive or negative. The manufacturer's instruction does not mention interpretation for samples with a read-out not in agreement for the two criteria. We considered such results negative.

Chaudhuri 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined:</p> <p>[A] IgG concentration (AU/mL) as per manufacturer's instructions</p> <p>[B] OD value and P/N (Positive/Negative Ratio) as per manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: The testing by RT-PCR was done at an approved laboratory as per the National Testing Strategy of India; threshold not reported</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: The specificity of DiaSorin could not be evaluated due to limited availability of pre-pandemic negative sera.</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results:</p> <p>[A] Seven samples were reported as indeterminate by DiaSorin CLIA. Equivocal samples were considered negative for sensitivity analysis.</p> <p>[B] 6 samples were indeterminate in Zydus Kavach test and excluded from the study; and 23 (not 25, corrected by author) samples were positive only by one condition (cut-off, P/N ratio) by Zydus Kavach.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples (11 patients with 2 samples)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: We deeply thank the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India for supporting the consortium. We are grateful to the leadership and administration of all partner institutions in the consortium for their help and support. We thank all the clinical, laboratory and data management staff for their contributions to this work and the consortium at large.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: No conflicts of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chaudhuri 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled? Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided? No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions? No

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

Chaudhuri 2020 [A] (Continued)

The reference standard
does not incorporate the in-
dex test

Yes

**Could the reference stan-
dard, its conduct, or its in-
terpretation have intro-
duced bias?**

Low risk

**Are there concerns that
the target condition as
defined by the reference
standard does not match
the question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate
interval between index test
and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included
in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive
a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per
patient?

No

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Chaudhuri 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chen 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (74 patients, n = 346 samples)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples (n = 194)</p> <p>[2a] Current patients with acute respiratory infection (n = 120)</p> <p>[2b] Current patients with presence of auto-antibodies (n = 36)</p> <p>[2c] Pre-pandemic samples with presence of antigens/antibodies (n = 38)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Consecutively qRT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients who were treated at six participating hospitals between 23 January 2020 and 31 May 2020</p> <p>[2] Not stated [Hospitalised patients with an acute respiratory infection (ARI) who tested negative at least 2 times using qRT-PCR with or without confirmed aetiology for ARI, treated between January 31 and May 31, 2020; patients with auto-antibodies (1-31 May 2020) or patients showing presence of specific microbiological antigens or antibodies, treated between 1 August and 31 December 2019]</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 540 (346)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] qRT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients who were treated at six participating hospitals between 23 January 2020 and 31 May 2020</p> <p>[2] Not stated [Hospitalised patients with an acute respiratory infection (ARI) who tested negative at least 2 times using qRT-PCR with or without confirmed aetiology for ARI, treated between January 31 and May 31, 2020; patients with auto-antibodies (1-31 May 2020) or patients showing presence of specific microbiological antigens or antibodies, treated between 1 August and 31 December 2019]</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (in Taiwan, all qRT-PCR confirmed patients are mandatorily hospitalised)</p> <p>Location: 6 hospitals: National Taiwan University Hospital, National Cheng Kung University Hospital, Tao Yuan General Hospital, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Changhua Christian Hospital, Nantou Hospital, Ministry of Health and Welfare, and China Medical University Hospital.</p> <p>Country: Taiwan</p> <p>Dates: 23 January 2020 to 31 May 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: All 74 enrolled COVID-19 patients reported at least one COVID-19-compatible symptom. Lower respiratory tract symptoms were the predominant symptom at the time of diagnosis (66.2%), followed by upper airway symptoms (62.2%), and fever (45.9%). 28 (37.8%) patients developed pneumonia during hospitalisation, among whom five (6.8%) required ventilator support and intensive care. 1/74 received ECMO support</p> <p>Demographics: Mean patient age was 38.5 years (SD, 16.2 years). 41 (55.4%) patients were men and 67 (90.5%) of them had no significant comorbid or surgical condition.</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>

Chen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Non-COVID patients

Source: [2a] Treated between 31 January and 31 May 2020, source not stated

[2b] 1 May to 31 May 2020, source not stated

[2c] Treated between 1 August and 31 December 2019, source not stated

Characteristics: [2a] Acute respiratory infection and negative rt-PCR without other confirmed aetiologies (n = 70);

Acute respiratory infection and negative rt-PCR with microbiological aetiologies (n = 50):

Coronavirus n = 3

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) n = 18

CMV and herpes simplex virus (HPV) n = 2

CMV and HPV and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) n = 1

HSV n = 1

EBV n = 5

Mycoplasma pneumoniae n = 5

Chlamydia trachomatis n = 5

Respiratory syncytial virus n = 2

Influenza A n = 4

Influenza B n = 4

[2b] Patients showing the presence of any specific auto-antibodies (n = 36)

[2c] Pre-pandemic patients showing the presence of specific antigens/antibodies (n = 38):

Mycoplasma pneumoniae n = 15

Chlamydia pneumoniae n = 5

EBV n = 10

Respiratory syncytial virus n = 1

Influenza A n = 3

Influenza B n = 4

Index tests
Test name:

[A] Roche Elecsys® Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Test

[B] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG

[C] Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test

[D] ASK COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test

[E] Dynamiker 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test

Manufacturer:

[A] Roche Diagnostics Basel, Switzerland

[B] Abbott Laboratories, IL, USA

[C] Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech Co., Ltd., China

[D] TONYAR Biotech Inc. Taiwan

[E] Dynamiker Biotechnology [Tianjin]

Antibody:

[A] Total antibodies (including IgG)

[B] IgG

[C] Total antibodies

[D] IgG and IgM

[E] IgG and IgM

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] N-protein

[C] spike-protein

[D] spike-protein

[E] N-protein

Evaluation setting:

Chen 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [A] Lab test used in lab
- [B] Lab test used in lab
- [C] POCT used in lab
- [D] POCT used in lab
- [E] POCT used in lab

Test method:

- [A] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay
- [B] Chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay
- [C]-[E] Lateral flow tests

Timing of samples:

Median 7 days pso (range 1-93 days pso)
Mean 11.4 (SD 14.8) days pso
0-7 days pso: 61/346
8-14 days pso: 73/346
15-21 days pso: 61/346
22-28 days pso: 64/346
29-35 days pso: 32/346
36-93 days pso: 55/346

Samples used:

[A]-[E] Serum (Residual blood samples; the serum of the collected blood samples was stored at -20°C before testing)

Test operator: Not stated (possibly lab personnel)

Definition of test positivity:

[A] and [B] Test results were interpreted as positive if the electrochemiluminescent signal value of the Roche Test (cut-off index, COI) ≥ 1.0 , or the chemiluminescent signal value of the Abbott Test (index [sample/calibrator], S/C) ≥ 1.4 , as manufacturers' instructions
[C]-[E] Positive results were interpreted as the presence of control line and either IgG or IgM test line for ASK Test and Dynamiker Test, or control line and total antibody test line in Wondfo Test.
A weakly positive result (any shade of colour in the test lines) of an antibody rapid testing was considered positive according to the manufacturers' instructions.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: [A]-[E] yes

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: In Taiwan, the respiratory tract specimens from patients who meet the reporting criteria for COVID-19 have to be submitted to virology laboratories validated and associated with the Centers for Diseases Control of Taiwan (Taiwan CDC) for SARS-CoV-2 qRT-PCR assay. Three sets of primers and probes targeting the SARS-CoV-2 envelope (E), nucleocapsid (N), and RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) genes were used. If the result of the first sample was negative for SARS-CoV-2, an additional SARS-CoV-2 qRT-PCR assay for another respiratory tract sample from the patient suggested of having COVID-19 was performed to minimise the risk of false-negative results using the qRT-PCR assay.

Samples used: Respiratory tract specimens

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: Current patients with acute respiratory infections: tested negative ≥ 2 times using SARS-CoV-2 qRT-PCR
Current patients with auto-antibodies: not tested

Chen 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Pre-pandemic samples
	Samples used: Not stated (possibly as cases) or not tested
	Timing of reference standard: Not stated or not tested
	Blinded to index test: yes, prior
	Incorporated index test: no
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
	All patients received same reference standard: No
	Missing data: Not stated
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not stated
	Unit of analysis: Samples (48 patients had sequential serum samples; 1 to 38 samples per patient, median 4 samples)
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Not stated
	Publication status: Published paper
	Source: Emerging Microbes & Infections
	Author COI: No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included			High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chen 2020 [A] (Continued)

patients and setting do not match the review question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Chen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Chen 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chen 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Chen 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Chen 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Chen 2020 [E] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Chew 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: This study aimed to evaluate the diagnostic performance of the Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay in COVID-19 patients compared with pre-pandemic controls. 2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design: Two-group study: [1] Symptomatic COVID-19 patients selected on the basis of a positive SARS-CoV-2 rRT-PCR from a respiratory sample (n = 177) [2] Negative controls were samples taken from patients prior to December 2019. These included patients with and without other positive serological tests (n = 163)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear whether all cases included - "We prospectively identified confirmed COVID-19 patients presenting at and admitted to our institution from 30th March 2020 to 15th May 2020".</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] prospective [2] retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 340 (177)</p> <p>Further detail: [1] COVID-19 patients selected on the basis of a positive SARS-CoV-2 rRT-PCR from a respiratory sample. Patients who were asymptomatic at the time of PCR testing for contact screening purposes could not be stratified according to time from onset of illness and were excluded. [2] Unclear</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: National University Hospital, 5 Lower Kent Ridge Road, 11907, Singapore</p> <p>Country: Singapore</p> <p>Dates: 30th March 2020 to 15th May 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated, other than that patients who were asymptomatic at the time of PCR testing for contact screening purposes could not be stratified according to time from onset of illness and were excluded</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Negative controls were samples taken from patients prior to December 2019</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chew 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Characteristics: Not stated. See comment</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: Abbott Diagnostics, Chicago, USA</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: IgG raised against the nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory, used in laboratory</p> <p>Test method: chemiluminescent immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: COVID cases stratified according to time from onset of clinical illness to testing: (≤ 6 days, 81/177 7-13 days, 39/177 14-20 days 25/177, and ≥ 21 days 32/177)</p> <p>Samples used: Residual sera</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: A signal/cut-off (S/CO) ratio of ≥ 1.4 was interpreted as reactive and an S/CO ratio of < 1.4 was interpreted as non-reactive. Also used alternate cut-offs of 1.0 and 0.8</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: A signal/cut-off (S/CO) ratio of ≥ 1.4 was interpreted as reactive and an S/CO ratio of < 1.4 was interpreted as non-reactive (Results also extracted for alternative lower cut-off values. No for cutoffs 1.0 and 0.8)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Two PCR assays were used during this time period (Fortitudo, MirXES, Singapore, and cobas® SARS-COV-2, Roche Diagnostics, USA). No threshold reported</p> <p>Samples used: respiratory samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Presumably, as cases selected on basis of reference test result</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: None - "negative samples collected prior to December 2019 were assumed to be negative as SARS-CoV-2 was first identified late in 2019".</p> <p>Samples used: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, historical samples</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No.</p> <p>For COVID cases, there were two different PCR assays in use while historical controls included patients with and without other positive serological tests and were assumed to be COVID-negative.</p>

Chew 2020 (Continued)

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: No external funding was received for this study. Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd sponsored the laboratory testing kits used in this study.

Publication status: Article in press; now published

Source: Clinical Microbiology and Infection

Author COI: One author (PT) received grants paid to the National University Hospital from Roche, Johnson & Johnson, Sanofi Pasteur, GlaxoSmithKline, and Shionogi. All other authors had no conflicts of interest to declare.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chew 2020 (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Chong 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only [1] Confirmed COVID patients (63 samples from 18 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 63 (63) samples from 18 (18) patients</p> <p>Further detail: Patients diagnosed with COVID-19 on the basis of a positive rt-PCR and admitted to Kyushu University Hospital (Fukuoka, Japan) Exclusion criteria not stated</p>
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Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: University Hospital, Fukuoka, Japan</p> <p>Country: Japan</p> <p>Dates: March and April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>5 asymptomatic 8 mild 3 severe 2 critical</p> <p>Demographics: Age: Mean 48.3 years (range 23-69 years) Sex: 10 female, 8 male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p>
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Index tests	<p>Test name: [A] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] Hangzhou Alltest Biotech Co. Ltd.</p> <p>Antibody: IgG and IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: Nucleocapsid protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT performed retrospectively in a laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Immunochromatographic assay</p> <p>Timing of samples: 1-33 days post-symptom onset or post-positive PCR for asymptomatic cases: 1-6 days: 8/63 samples 7-13 days: 35/63 samples 14-20 days: 11/63 samples 21-33 days: 9/63 samples</p>
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Chong 2021 (Continued)

	<p>Samples used: Serum samples, remaining from other biochemical tests (retrospective analysis)</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: The presence of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM and/or IgG antibodies was separately indicated by a red line in the corresponding area of the device.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated but only included COVID patients</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes, visual-based</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: real-time PCR assay performed by the Japanese Institute of Health according to the manual for the detection of pathogen 2019-nCoV; threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: nasal and pharyngeal swab specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Influenza & Other Respiratory Viruses</p> <p>Author COI: "We have no financial conflicts of interest to declare."</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chong 2021 (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Chong 2021 (Continued)

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Clarke 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection or prior infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 79)</p> <p>[2] Suspected COVID, PCR-negative patients (n = 42)</p> <p>[3] Concurrent, untested, asymptomatic patients (n = 235)</p> <p>Group [3] not eligible for our review as a high-risk group without reference standard</p> <p>Recruitment: Patients receiving dialysis within two units affiliated with Imperial College Renal and Transplant Centre between April 27 and May 7, 2020 who were routinely screened for the development of symptoms or a fever prior to each haemodialysis session</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 356 (79) of which 121 (79) are eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: Patients receiving dialysis within two units affiliated with Imperial College Renal and Transplant Centre between April 27 and May 7, 2020</p> <p>Exclusion from analysis: No informed consent</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Seroprevalence screening</p> <p>Location: Imperial College Renal and Transplant Centre, London, UK</p> <p>Country: UK</p> <p>Dates: April 27 and May 7, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: All symptomatic</p> <p>Demographics: Patients with end-stage kidney disease receiving haemodialysis (n = 79)</p> <p>Age: Median 65 (range 54–73) years</p> <p>Sex: 26 (32.9%) women</p> <p>Ethnicity:</p> <p>Black 9 (11.4%)</p> <p>White 19 (24.1%)</p> <p>Indoasian 38 (48.1%)</p> <p>Other 13 (16.5%)</p> <p>Immunosuppressed 8 (10.1%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Exposure within dialysis units</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2] Suspected COVID, PCR-negative</p> <p>Source: Imperial College Renal and Transplant Centre, London, UK between April 27 and May 7, 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Patients with end-stage kidney disease receiving haemodialysis with COVID symptoms (n = 42)</p> <p>Age: Median 62 (range 51–74) years</p> <p>Sex: 20 (47.6%) women</p>

Clarke 2020 (Continued)

Ethnicity:
Black 8 (19.0%)
White 9 (21.4%)
Indoasian 19 (45.2%)
Other 6 (14.2%)
Immunosuppressed 4 (9.5%)
Exposure within dialysis units

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Concurrent asymptomatic (untested)

Source: Imperial College Renal and Transplant Centre, London, UK between April 27 and May 7, 2020

Characteristics: Patients with end-stage kidney disease receiving haemodialysis without COVID symptoms (n = 235)

Age: Median 68 (range 54–73) years

Sex: 84 (35.7%) women

Ethnicity:

Black 29 (12.3%)

White 62 (26.4%)

Indoasian 97 (41.2%)

Other 47 (20.0%)

Immunosuppressed 43 (18.3%)

Exposure within dialysis units

Index tests

Test name: [A] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

Manufacturer: [A] Abbott

Antibody: IgG

Antigen target: Nucleocapsid-protein antigen

Evaluation setting: Lab test performed in lab

Test method: Automated (Architect system) two-step chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: [1] Mean 34+/-6.4 days, median 22 (range 14–34) days after PCR testing
[2] Median time between tests was 23 (14–35) days
[3] Asymptomatic

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Staff working in the Department of Infection and Immunity, North West London Pathology NHS Trust.

Definition of test positivity: The index (sample/control) is calculated by comparing relative light units in the sample to the calibrator relative light units. Samples were interpreted as positive or negative according to the manufacturer's instructions, with a cut-off index value of 1.4.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, according to the manufacturer's instructions (S/C index)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

Routine screening of patients for the development of symptoms or a fever occurred prior to each haemodialysis session from March 9.

Symptomatic patients received real-time RT-PCR assay of nasopharyngeal swab specimens following either routine screening or acute presentation; RT-PCR was carried out as per PHE guidelines using certification marked assays with primers directed to the nucleocapsid or RNA-dependent RNA polymerase genes.

Threshold not stated

Clarke 2020 (Continued)

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab specimens

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] Routine screening of patients for the development of symptoms or a fever occurred prior to each haemodialysis session from March 9.

Real-time RT-PCR assay of nasopharyngeal swab specimens following either routine screening or acute presentation; RT-PCR was carried out as per PHE guidelines using certification marked assays with primers directed to the nucleocapsid or RNA-dependent RNA polymerase genes. Threshold not stated

[3] Routine screening of patients for the development of symptoms or a fever occurred prior to each haemodialysis session from March 9 (no PCR test)

Samples used:

[2] nasopharyngeal swab specimens

[3] None

Timing of reference standard:

[2] Not stated

[3] No reference standard as no symptoms

Blinded to index test: yes, prior

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1] Mean 34+/-6.4 days, median 22 (range 14–34) days after PCR testing

[2] Median time between tests was 23 (14–35) days

[3] No reference standard

All patients received same reference standard: yes for [1] and [2]; no reference standard for [3]

Missing data: Exclusion of 235 PCR-untested patients (group [3])

Uninterpretable results: None

Indeterminate results: 3 of 356 (0.84%) patients had a borderline antibody result that was within +/-20% of the cut-off index for a positive result.

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This research is supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Imperial Biomedical Research Centre based at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and Imperial College London.

Publication status: Published paper (rapid communication)

Source: Journal of the American Society of Nephrology (JASN)

Author COI: Dr. Liz Lightstone reported grants from Roche, outside the submitted work. M. Griffith reported an educational grant from Vifor Pharmaceuticals for £400 to attend the American Society of Nephrology 2019, outside the submitted work.

Methodological quality

Clarke 2020 (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Clarke 2020 (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Conklin 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients, convalescent (n = 40) [2] Confirmed COVID samples, longitudinal testing (47 patients with 272 samples) [3] Pre-pandemic non-COVID challenge samples (60 patients)
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

Recruitment:

- [1] Not stated
- [2] Not stated
- [3] These samples came from a study of patients presenting to the Johns Hopkins Hospital Emergency Department with symptoms of an acute respiratory tract infection between January 2016 and June of 2019 as part of the Johns Hopkins Center for Influenza Research and Surveillance study.

Prospective or retrospective:

- [1] Unclear
- [2] Unclear
- [3] Retrospective

Sample size: 372 (312)

Further detail:

- [1] RT-PCR positive for SARS-CoV-2 and asymptomatic for at least 28 days. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) negative
- [2] Hospitalised SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR-confirmed patients
- [3] Patients presenting to the Johns Hopkins Hospital Emergency Department with symptoms of an acute respiratory tract infection between January 2016 and June of 2019. Samples that were known to represent infections with other respiratory viruses (rhinoviruses A, B, and C and/or coronavirus 229E, HKU1, and NL63 OC43)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting:

- [1] Convalescent plasma donors (community?)
- [2] Hospital inpatients

Location:

- [1] and [2] Not stated (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore?) Samples evaluated were from the Baltimore-Washington region of the United States.

Country:

- [1] and [2] Maryland, USA

Dates:

- [1] and [2] Not stated

Symptoms and severity:

- [1] Convalescent, asymptomatic since at least 28 days
- [2] Fever 34 (72%)
- Cough 29 (62%)
- Difficulty breathing 24 (51%)
- Muscle/body pain 14 (30%)
- Chills 9 (19%)
- Weakness/fatigue 7 (15%)
- Sore throat 6 (13%)
- Other 31 (66%)

Demographics:

- [1] Not stated
- [2] Age:
- Median 62 (IQR 44-80) years
- 29 (62%) male
- Black/African American 23 (49%)

Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

White/Caucasian 17 (36%)
Hispanic/Latino 4 (9%)
Asian 2 (4%)
Other 1 (2%)

Exposure history:

[1] and [2] Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [3] Pre-pandemic challenge

Source: Johns Hopkins Hospital Emergency Department between January 2016 and June of 2019

Characteristics: Samples that were known to represent infections with other respiratory viruses (rhinoviruses A, B, and C and/or coronavirus 229E, HKU1, and NL63 OC43).

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Index tests

Test name: [A] AllTest

[B] AYTU

[C] Clarity

[D] RightSign

[E] Covisure

[F] DNA Link

[G] Nirmidas

[H] Ready Result

[I] EDI IgM ELISA

[J] SafeCare

[K] Sensing Self

[L] Smart Screen

[M] TBG SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM

[N] Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Ab

[O] Zeus SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG

[P] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] Hangzhou AllTest Biotech Co., Ltd.

[B] AYTU Biosciences

[C] Alfa Scientific Designs Inc.

[D] Hangzhou Biotest Biotech Co., Ltd.

[E] W.H.P.M., Inc.

[F] Not stated

[G] Nirmidas Biotech, Inc., and Lows Health

[H] Hangzhou Biotest Biotech Co., Ltd.

[I] Epitope Diagnostics, San Diego, CA

[J] Safecare Biotech (Hangzhou) Co., Ltd.

[K] Sensing Self, PTE. Ltd.

[L] Intelligent Endoscopy

[M] TBG Biotechnology Corp.

[N] Wondfo Biotechnology

[O] Zeus Scientific, Inc.

[P] Euroimmun, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Antibody: [A] IgM, IgG

[B] IgM, IgG

[C] IgM, IgG

[D] IgM, IgG

[E] IgM, IgG

[F] IgM, IgG

Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

[G] IgM, IgG
[H] IgM, IgG
[I] IgM
[J] IgM, IgG
[K] IgM, IgG
[L] IgM, IgG
[M] IgM, IgG
[N] IgM/IgG combined
[O] IgM, IgG
[P] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] N, S
[B] N, S
[C] N, S
[D] RBD
[E] Not stated
[F] Not stated
[G] S
[H] N, S
[I] Not stated
[J] Not stated
[K] N, S
[L] Not stated
[M] Not stated
[N] Not stated
[O] N, S
[P] Not stated

Evaluation setting: All POC tests apart from [I] and [P] Lab-based

Test method:

[A] Lateral flow tests apart from [I] and [P] ELISAs

Timing of samples:

[1] 45 days (standard deviation [SD], +/-7.5 days (at least 28 days asymptomatic). [Figure 2a](#) says "> 26 days"
[2] Median 6 (IQR 4-8) post-symptom onset; Data Set S1 reported range from -2 to 36 days pso.

Samples used:

[1] and [2] Plasma
[3] Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[A]-[O] All LFAs were performed according to the manufacturers' protocols. Any detectable band (IgM and/or IgG) was considered a positive result. All LFAs, except Wondfo, had separate bands for IgM and IgG detection. Results were considered invalid when the control band was not visible.
[P] and [Q] per the manufacturers' protocols

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based or as per manufacturer's protocols [I] and [P]

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: [1] and [2] SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: [1] and [2] Not stated

Timing of reference standard: [1] and [2] Not stated

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Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinded to index test: [1] and [2] yes, prior

Incorporated index test: [1] and [2] no

Definition of non-COVID cases: [3] Pre-pandemic

Samples used: [3] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [3] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: [3] yes, prior

Incorporated index test: [3] no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: yes (see [Figure 2a](#), test [E] Covisure 3 invalid results, test [H] Premier Biotech 2 invalid results, test [F] DNA Link 1 no data; test [M] TBG 1 no data)

Uninterpretable results: yes (3 invalid results for test [E], 2 invalid results for test [H], [Figure 2a](#))

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis:

[1] and [2] Patients

[3] Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: The study was supported by the Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH). Research reported in this publication was supported by the following research awards: from the NIAID, UM1-AI068613, R01AI120938, and R01AI128779; from the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, U54EB007958; from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, 1K23HL151826-01. The work described here was supported in part by NIAID contract HHSN272201400007C awarded to the Johns Hopkins Center for Influenza Research and Surveillance (JHCEIRS).

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Author COI: E.M.B. is a member of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Blood Products Advisory Committee. Any views or opinions that are expressed in this article are ours, based on our own scientific expertise and professional judgment; they do not necessarily represent the views of either the Blood Products Advisory Committee or the formal position of FDA and also do not bind or otherwise obligate or commit either Advisory Committee or the Agency to the views expressed.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the	Yes	

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Conklin 2020 [A] (Continued)

results of the index tests?

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Conklin 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Conklin 2020 [B] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Conklin 2020 [G] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [J]

Study characteristics

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Conklin 2020 [J] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [L]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Conklin 2020 [L] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Conklin 2020 [M]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Conklin 2020 [N]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Conklin 2020 [O]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Conklin 2020 [O] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Conklin 2020 [P]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Costa 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection (only time split 4-13 days pso was eligible for our review though)</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 122)</p> <p>[1a] rt-PCR-positive (n = 106)</p> <p>[1b] negative RT-PCR but a clinical COVID-19 diagnosis (n = 16)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples (96 historical blood donation samples, Table 2 specified 100 though)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Not stated (2 Brazilian hospitals)</p> <p>[2] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Costa 2020 (Continued)

[2] Retrospective

Sample size: 218 (122) of which 134 (38) are eligible for our review.

Further detail:

[1a] rt-PCR-positive

[1b] rt-PCR-negative with clinical COVID diagnosis based on highly suggestive symptoms and chest computed

tomography (CT) findings

[2] historical (February 2019) blood donors

Exclusion criteria not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Mixed (inpatients and outpatients)

Location: 2 Brazilian hospitals:

Hospital das Clínicas da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo (HC-FMUSP; [1b]) and Hospital Sírio-Libanês (HSL; [1a, inpatients]).

Both hospitals are located in São Paulo.

Country: Brazil

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: 75 inpatients and 47 outpatients

Numbers (%) for 59 PCR+ inpatients, 47 PCT+ outpatients and 16 PCR- inpatients:

Fever 34 (60); 27 (61); 13 (81)

Cough 38 (67); 35 (79); 16 (100)

Coryza 7 (12); 10 (23); 1 (6)

Sore throat 6 (11); 16 (36); 1 (6)

Dyspnoea 30 (53); 12 (27); 15 (94)

Myalgia 6 (11); 18 (41); 3 (19)

Asthenia 6 (11); 8 (18); NA

Headache 4 (7); 27 (61); 2 (13)

GI symptoms* 5 (9); 17 (38); 3 (19)

Haemoptysis 3 (5); NA; NA

Dysgeusia 1 (1.8); 2 (4.5); 2 (13)

Anosmia NA; 7 (15); 2 (13)

All 16 RT-PCR-negative patients had pneumonia, 6/16 (38%) were intubated.

Demographics: [1a] 59 PCR+ inpatients

Age median 61 (range 32-90) years

Male 41 (70%)

[1a] 47 PCR+ outpatients (healthcare workers)

Age median 44 (range 21-62) years

Male 20 (43%)

[1b] 16 PCR- inpatients

Age median 55 (range 36-77) years

Male 6 (38%)

Exposure history:

[1a] 47/106 were healthcare workers

[1b] Not stated

Non-Covid group 1:

[2] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Blood donors; February 2019

Characteristics: Not stated (blood donors, so possibly healthy)

Costa 2020 (Continued)

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Not stated
- [B] Not stated

Manufacturer:

- [A] Euroimmun- Lübeck, Germany
- [B] Wondfo-China

Antibody:

- [A] IgA and IgG
- [B] IgG and IgM

Antigen target:

- [A] anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1 IgG and IgA
- [B] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

- [A] Lab test performed in lab
- [B] POCT, unclear where performed (plasma samples)

Test method:

- [A] ELISA
- [B] Rapid chromatographic immunoassays; Anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies present in the sample bind to recombinant antigens coated on colloidal gold particles and form an antigen-antibody/colloidal gold complex.

Timing of samples:

- [1a] PCR+ inpatients
Mean 10.7 (range 4-23) days pso
- PCR+ outpatients
Mean 32.0 (range 16-42) days pso
- All PCR+ patients:
< 14 days: 38/106
14+ days pso: 59/106
Unknown: 9/106
- [1b] PCR- inpatients
Mean 8 (range 2-15) days pso

Samples used: Plasma

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] Results were interpreted according to the manufacturer's recommendation: a ratio < 0.8 as negative, between 0.8 and 1.1 as borderline, and ≥ 1.1 as positive.
- [B] The result was read in 15 minutes by three people that had received appropriate training. The colour change was compared to the assay standard.

Blinding reported: not stated

Threshold predefined:

- [A] yes, according to the manufacturer's recommendation
- [B] yes, visual-based

Costa 2020 (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR. RNA was extracted from clinical samples with an automated method using magnetic beads (sample Preparation System RNA, Abbott, Illinois, USA). SARS-CoV-2 RNA reverse transcription, amplification, and detection were performed using an adapted protocol, as described elsewhere. An assay detecting the E gene was used as the first-line screening tool, followed by confirmatory testing with an assay detecting the N gene. Threshold not stated.</p> <p>[1b] 14/16 RT-PCR-negative patients had a second negative RT-PCR. Clinical COVID-19 diagnosis based on highly suggestive symptoms and chest computed tomography (CT) findings.</p> <p>Samples used: [1] Respiratory samples were obtained from both the nasopharynx and oropharynx using rayon swabs.</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic (February 2019)</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: no</p> <p>Missing data: yes as only 38/122 COVID cases included in our review</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated (there seemed to be some borderline results for test [A] in Figure 1, see supplement)</p> <p>Unit of analysis:</p> <p>[1] Patients [2] Unclear</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Internal funding from the Hospital das Clínicas of University of São Paulo, Brazil.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper (Short Communication)</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: The authors reported no declarations of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Costa 2020 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear	
Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	

Costa 2020 (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Coste 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of multiple tests for COVID-19 diagnosis

Design: Two-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity
Group [1]: PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 178);
Group [2]: Pre-pandemic controls (n = 404)
[Some assays only had preliminary evaluation results for subgroup of 113 COVID-19 samples and 69 non-COVID samples]

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 582 (178); 182 (113) in preliminary evaluation

Further detail: No more details available

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Coste 2021 [A] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear

Location: Lausanne University Hospital

Country: Switzerland

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Not available

Demographics: Not available

Exposure history: Not available

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Lab stocked samples obtained before Nov 1st, 2019 from patients with multiple infectious or autoimmune diseases.

Characteristics: Other infections/conditions documented in supplementary table, including 129 nonspecific, 17 herpes simplex virus 1 and 2, 18 respiratory syncytial virus, 22 Epstein-Barr virus, 33 cytomegalovirus, 27 mumps and/or measles virus, 14 parvovirus B19, 17 rubella virus, 45 influenza A, B or RSV, plus others (varicella-zoster virus, human immunodeficiency virus, hepatitis virus A, B, C, D, and E, and some rheumatoid factors, or auto-antibodies (anti-PR3, -PR4, SCL70, SCL71)).

Preliminary evaluation controls included 18 HCov, 12 lupus, and 39 nonspecific

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] EDI™ Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA Kit
- [B] EDI™ Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM ELISA Kit
- [C] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG)
- [D] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgA)
- [E] SARS-CoV-2 NP IgG ELISA Kit
- [F] SARS-CoV-2 NP IgM ELISA Kit
- [G] COVID-19 ELISA IgG
- [H] COVID-19 ELISA IgM+IgA
- [I] SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA Kit
- [J] SARS-CoV-2 IgM ELISA Kit
- [K] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test
- [L] NADAL® COVID-19 IgG/IgM Test
- [M] One Step Test for Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) IgM/IgG Antibody
- [N] ISON® SARS-CoV-2 IgG kit
- [O] MAGLUMITM 2019-nCoV IgG + IgM
- [P] Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2

Manufacturer:

- [A] Epitope Diagnostics, USA
- [B] Epitope Diagnostics, USA
- [C] EUROIMMUN AG, Germany
- [D] EUROIMMUN AG, Germany
- [E] Immunodiagnostics limited, Hong Kong
- [F] Immunodiagnostics limited, Hong Kong
- [G] Vircell, Spain
- [H] Vircell, Spain
- [I] Creative Diagnostics, USA
- [J] Creative Diagnostics, USA
- [K] Dynamiker, China
- [L] Nal Von Minden, Germany
- [M] Augurix Diagnostics, Switzerland/China
- [N] Diasorin, Italy
- [O] Snibe, China

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Coste 2021 [A] (Continued)

[P] Snibe, China
[Q] Roche, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgG
[B] IgM
[C] IgG
[D] IgA
[E] IgG
[F] IgM
[G] IgG
[H] IgM, IgA
[I] IgG
[J] IgM
[K] IgG, IgM
[L] IgG, IgM
[M] IgG, IgM
[N] IgG
[O] IgG, IgM
[P] Total antibody

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein
[B] N-protein
[C] S1 domain of the spike-protein
[D] S1 domain of the spike-protein
[E] N-protein
[F] N-protein
[G] N and S-proteins
[H] N and S-proteins
[I] Whole virus lysate
[J] N and S-proteins
[K] N-protein
[L] S-protein
[M] N and S-proteins
[N] S1 and S2 domains of the spike-protein

[O] N and S-proteins
[P] N-protein

Evaluation setting:

[A] - [J] and [N] - [Q]: Lab tests; likely done in lab but not explicitly stated.
[K] - [M]: POC tests, unclear where they were performed.

Test method:

[A] - [J]: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
[K] - [M]: Lateral flow assay
[N] - [O]: Chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)
[P]: Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)

Timing of samples: Obtained during the first 2 months post-symptom onset. No more details available

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: As per manufacturer (no more details available)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Coste 2021 [A] (Continued)

	Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no more details available)</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: No testing (pre-pandemic samples)</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No (type of RT-PCR unknown for cases; controls were pre-pandemic samples)</p> <p>Missing data: Apparently no. However, only some tests were done on all samples. Selection for full evaluation was based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) sensitivity and specificity performance of the preliminary evaluation, ii) protein detected (anti-N: ED IgG ELISA and Dynamiker IgG/IgM; anti-S: Diasorin IgG CLIA, anti N+S: Snibe IgG/IgM CLIA) iii) availability of the kits on 15th April 2020 in Switzerland, iv) specific detection of IgG and/or IgM or IgA, and v) compatibility of the kits to most laboratory needs (e.g. median to low samples volumes per day and extended expiration days upon kits opening). <p>"Despite its good performance, the ECLIA from Roche was selected as it detects pan-180 Ig, which is not the most appropriate for infectious serology diagnostic".</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Yes, varied by test but the number of indeterminate results for each test was unclear due to contradictory numbers in supplementary tables</p> <p>[A] Epitope Diagnostics IgG: 0/178, 13/404 (full evaluation); 3/113, 4/69 (preliminary evaluation); more missing from preliminary evaluation compared to full</p> <p>[B] Epitope Diagnostics IgM: 12/178, 5/404 (full evaluation)</p> <p>[C] EUROIMMUN IgG: 8/113; 1/69</p> <p>[D] EUROIMMUN IgA: 8/113; 5/69</p> <p>[E] Immunodiagnosics limited, IgG: 1 extra sample reported for D+; 3/69 missing for [D]-[F] Immunodiagnosics limited, IgM: 2 extra samples reported for D+; 2/69 missing for [D]-</p> <p>[G] Vircell, IgG: 3/113, 5/69 missing</p> <p>[H] Vircell, IgM+IgA: 7/113, 13/69 missing</p> <p>[I] and [J] Creative Diagnostics: 0 indeterminate</p> <p>[K] Dynamiker: preliminary evaluation 2/113 for IgG and 5/113 for IgM missing, but for full evaluation there was 1 extra sample reported for IgG (179 instead of 178), and only 2/178 missing for IgM (for disease-negative there was 1/404 missing for IgG and 3/404 missing for IgM); more missing from preliminary evaluation compared to full</p> <p>[L] Nal Von Minden: IgG 6/113, 1/69 missing; IgM 7/113, 2/69 missing</p> <p>[M] Augurix Diagnostics IgM 8/113; 2/69; IgM 18/113; 1/69</p> <p>[N] Diasorin, Italy: preliminary evaluation dataset showed 6/113 and 2/69 indeterminate; full evaluation showed 3/178 D+ missing but 5 extra results for D- (409 instead of 404); more missing from preliminary evaluation compared to full</p> <p>[O] Snibe, IgG: full evaluation 2/178, 1/404 missing; preliminary evaluation showed 6/113, 1/69 missing; more missing from preliminary evaluation compared to full Snibe, IgM: full evaluation 1/178, 2/404 missing; preliminary evaluation showed 5/113, 3/69 missing; more missing from preliminary evaluation compared to full</p> <p>[P] Roche pan-IgG: 6/113, 2/69 missing</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Unclear - referred to 'patients' but did not describe if 1 sample per patient</p>

Coste 2021 [A] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None reported

Publication status: Pre-print article

Source: Pre-print server (medXriv)

Author COI: None reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of		Unclear risk	

Coste 2021 [A] *(Continued)*
the index test have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Coste 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Coste 2021 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Coste 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Coste 2021 [F] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [G]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [H]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [I]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Coste 2021 [I] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Coste 2021 [K] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Coste 2021 [L]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Coste 2021 [M]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Coste 2021 [N]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Coste 2021 [N] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Coste 2021 [O]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Criscuolo 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of two antibody tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity Group [1]: Lab-confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 46). Group [2]: Pre-pandemic controls (n = 85) For Group [1], lab confirmation likely referred to PCR test, but this was not explicitly stated.</p> <p>Recruitment: Random (approach not explained)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 131 (46)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Criscuolo 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient service (all patients were hospitalised)</p> <p>Location: IRCCS San Raffaele Hospital, Milan</p> <p>Country: Italy</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated, all admitted</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Lab stocked samples collected between 2012 and 2018</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>[B] LIAISON® SARS-CoV-2 69 S1/S2 IgG assay</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Roche Diagnostics</p> <p>[B] DiaSorin, Italy</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] Total antibodies</p> <p>[B] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] N-protein</p> <p>[B] S1 and S2 domains of the spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting:</p> <p>[A], [B]: Lab tests, done in lab</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)</p> <p>[B] Chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: For each patient: one serum sample collected at hospital admission and another one 15 days later.</p> <p>Time since symptom onset not reported.</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] Positive if COI ≥ 1</p> <p>[B] Positive if > 15 AU/mL; undetermined if 12-15 AU/mL; negative if < 12 AU/mL</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>

Criscuolo 2020 [A] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Apparently RT-PCR (the authors only reported "lab-confirmation"). No more details available</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic samples - no testing</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Unclear: all cases (Group [1]) were lab-confirmed but various assays were likely used.</p> <p>Missing data: None</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Yes, 1 for test [B] on pre-pandemic samples (Group [2]); none reported for cases.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None reported</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print article</p> <p>Source: Pre-print server (medRxiv)</p> <p>Author COI: None reported</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Criscuolo 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Criscuolo 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Criscuolo 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Dave 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of COVID-19 infection and prognostication</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to assess sensitivity [1] RT-PCR-positive patients admitted to a tertiary care hospital</p> <p>Recruitment: All RT-PCR-positive COVID 19 patients (both symptomatic and asymptomatic) above the age of 18 y admitted in various wards of a dedicated Corona hospital from April 2020 to May 2020</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear</p> <p>Sample size: 100 (100)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>Inclusion: All RT-PCR-positive COVID-19 patients (both symptomatic and asymptomatic) above the age of 18 y</p> <p>Exclusion:</p> <p>(i) patients on steroids, immunosuppressants and chemotherapy (ii) PLHA and other immune-deficiency diseases (iii) non-consenting patients</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Patients admitted to a tertiary care hospital (dedicated COVID hospital)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dave 2020 (Continued)

Location: RNT Medical College, Udaipur, Rajasthan

Country: India

Dates: April 2020-May 2020 (2 months)

Symptoms and severity: 76 asymptomatic; 17 mild to moderate; 7 severe

Demographics: Male 45; female 55
Mean age 37 years

Exposure history: Not reported

Non-Covid group 1: NA

Index tests	<p>Test name: Antibody-based rapid card test (no specific name provided)</p> <p>Manufacturer: SIDAK Life Care</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not reported</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC unclear where used</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow method (immune chromatographic assay)</p> <p>Timing of samples: days of illness for all 100 patients (74/100 were asymptomatic so must be days post-positive PCR?): 0-7 (n = 23) 8-14 (n = 27) 15-21 (n = 36) > 21 (n = 14)</p> <p>Samples used: Whole blood (2 drops)</p> <p>Test operator: Not reported</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>(a) Along with C band, if band at zone 1, indicates the presence of IgM (b) Along with C band, if band at zone 2, indicates the presence of IgG (c) Along with C band, if band at zone 1 and 2, indicates the presence of both IgM and IgG</p> <p>Blinding reported: No</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR-positive; according to the protocols by National Institute of Virology, Pune</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal swab</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done prior to the index test)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p>

Dave 2020 (Continued)

Blinded to index test: NA

Incorporated index test: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not reported

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Not reported

Uninterpretable results: Not reported

Indeterminate results: Not reported

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published article

Source: Journal of Indian Academy of Clinical Medicine

Author COI: No COI declaration

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Dave 2020 (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Decru 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of multiple rapid tests for diagnosis of convalescent-phase COVID-19 infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>Group [1]: PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 26 patients, 33 samples)</p> <p>Group [2]: PCR-negative patients without clinical suspicion of COVID-19 (n = 39 patients/samples)</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Decru 2020 [A] (Continued)

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 72 (33)

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear

Location: University Hospitals, Leuven

Country: Belgium

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: All symptomatic individuals. No further details available (table footnote described one patient as having fever and compatible CT but no respiratory symptoms)

Demographics: Age, median (IQR): 67 y (33-92 y)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: PCR-negative patients without clinical suspicion of COVID-19

Source: Not stated; negative PCR was within previous 7 days

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] MultiG single lane (MultiG1, lot NCP-20030181)

[B] MultiG dual lane (MultiG2, lot COV1452003C)

[C] COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test Cassette (lot 2003318)

[D] COVID-19 Coronavirus Rapid Test Cassette (lot COV20030120)

Manufacturer:

[A], [B]: Multi-G, Belgium

[C]: Orient Gene Biotech, China

[D]: SureScreen Diagnostics

Antibody: IgG and IgM

Antigen target: Not stated

Evaluation setting: All POC tests, but likely done in lab

Test method: All lateral flow immunoassays (LFA)

Timing of samples: 23-65 days after symptom onset; (data by week provided by authors)

day 23-28: 3, 9%

day 29-35: 5, 14%

day > 35: 25, 71%

Samples used: Whole blood, plasma

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Not stated (but likely visual-based)

Blinding reported: Unclear

Decru 2020 [A] (Continued)

Threshold predefined: Visual line

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no further details available)</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-PCR test (no further details available)</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Test done in the last 7 days before enrolment in the study</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 21-62 days from first RT-PCR-positive</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes (for the purpose of this item we considered any RT-PCR to be adequate and 'the same')</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: The authors declared no specific funding was received.</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine</p> <p>Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Decru 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Decru 2020 [A] (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Decru 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Decru 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Decru 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Decru 2020 [D] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Delliere 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To evaluate the COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette (Orient Gene Biotech, Zhejiang, China) and compare it to simultaneous CMIA IgG testing by the Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG (ASIA) on Architect Abbott Instrument i2000SR</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design: Two-group study: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (n = 102, 106 samples) [2] Pre-pandemic patients (n = 42; 14 occupational health patients with no known disease; 28 hospitalised patients with previous pulmonary infection, rhinovirus, metapneumovirus, influenza A, syncytial respiratory virus, recent malaria, antibodies against cytomegalovirus or Epstein-Barr, HIV, hepatitis B, toxoplasmosis, rheumatic fever)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Unclear; [2] retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 142 (102) patients with 146 (106) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated 35/102 hospitalised in a medical unit 28/102 hospitalised in ICU The remaining 39/102 possibly not inpatients (2 asymptomatic and 37 mild symptoms)</p> <p>Location: Hôpital Saint-Louis, Département des Agents Infectieux, 1 avenue Claude Vellefaux, 75010 Paris, France</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: asymptomatic (n = 2), mild (n = 37), severe symptoms requiring hospitalisation in medical unit (n = 35), critical symptoms requiring hospitalisation in intensive care unit (n = 28)</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age of the patient population was 52 (\pm 16) years; male = 59/102 (57.8%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Not stated</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Delliere 2020 [A] (Continued)

Characteristics:

No known disease 14/42

Hospitalised patients 28/42: (previous pulmonary infection with endemic coronavirus 16/28; rhinovirus 1/28; metapneumovirus 1/28; influenza A 1/28; syncytial respiratory virus 1/28; recent infection with malaria 3/28; IgM antibodies (Ab) against cytomegalovirus 2/28; IgM Ab against Epstein-Barr virus 2/28; IgG against HIV 1/28; hepatitis B virus 1/28; toxoplasmosis 1/28; high levels of rheumatic factor 2/28)

Index tests
Test name:

[A] Orient Gene COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette

[B] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG

Manufacturer:

[A] Orient Gene Biotech, Zhejiang, China

[B] Abbott, Illinois, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgG, IgM

[B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] and [B] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A] POC, but performed on residual samples in laboratory

[B] Performed in lab (on Architect Abbott Instrument i2000SR)

Test method:

[A] lateral flow assay (LFA)

[B] CMIA

Timing of samples:

[A] and [B] ≥ 4 days (4-40, median = 18) since onset of symptoms or positive PCR for asymptomatic patients

Samples used:

[A] and [B] Serum (stored at -20°C upon use)

Test operator:

[A] All Orient Gene test results were performed and read after 10 min by two clinical microbiologists unblinded regarding the sample group. Indeterminate readings were to be read by a third microbiologist.

[B] Tests processed by microbiologists on Architect Abbott Instrument i2000SR

Definition of test positivity:

[A] The result is read at 10 minutes. The cassette displays a blue control band that turns red when the test has been performed correctly. IgG and IgM are represented by two separated bands and are read visually. All Orient Gene test results were performed and read after 10 min by two clinical microbiologists unblinded regarding the sample group. Indeterminate readings were to be read by a third microbiologist.

[B] manufacturer's recommended cut-off of 1.4

Blinding reported:

[A] microbiologists unblinded regarding the sample group

[B] Unclear

Delliere 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Threshold predefined: [A] yes, visual [B] yes, manufacturer's recommended cut-off of 1.4
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: SARS-COV-2 RT-PCR (Cobas® SARS-CoV-2 Test, Roche, Meylan, France) Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: None - pre-pandemic Samples used: pre-pandemic Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic Blinded to index test: pre-pandemic Incorporated index test: pre-pandemic
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: No. Cases had RT-PCR, controls untested pre-pandemic Missing data: Not stated Uninterpretable results: Not stated Indeterminate results: Not stated Unit of analysis: COVID-19 cases = 106 samples from 102 patients (4 patients with 2 consecutive sera)
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Not stated Publication status: Accepted manuscript posted online 9 June 2020; now published Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Delliere 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? No

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? No

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Delliere 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Delliere 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: An updated report evaluating the diagnostic performance of three serological point-of-care tests and comparing these with two POC tests and one EIA test included in a previous report</p> <p>Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease or identification of previous disease.</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] Sensitivity group: patients with SARS-CoV-2 detected by RT-PCR from upper and/or lower respiratory tract specimens. (n = 91 patients, 137 samples)</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Doherty Institute 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2] Specificity group: (n = 92 people, 92 samples)

[2a] patients with infections with the potential for cross-reactivity in serological assays, namely (i) patients with respiratory viral infections, including seasonal coronavirus infections and (ii) patients with other acute infections (e.g. dengue; CMV; EBV) (n = 36 patients, 36 samples)

[2b] representative sample of the Victorian population collected in 2018 and 2019 ('pre-pandemic controls') (n = 56 people, 56 samples)

Recruitment: All serum samples were obtained from a tertiary hospital (Royal Melbourne Hospital, RMH) or the state reference laboratory for virology (Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, VIDRL).

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: Patients: 183 (91)

Samples: 229 (137)

Further detail: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Tertiary hospital and state reference laboratory

Location: tertiary hospital (Royal Melbourne Hospital, RMH) or the state reference laboratory for virology (Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, VIDRL)

Country: Australia

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Not stated

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Other non-COVID infections

Source: Other diseases, dates not stated; pre-pandemic controls 2018-2019

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: 2018-2019

Characteristics: NR

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Hangzhou Alltest IgG/IgM Rapid Test

[B] Hangzhou unlabelled packaging (see comments)

[C] Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test

[D] Hightop SARS-COV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Rapid Test

[E] OnSite COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test

[F] VivaDiag COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test

[G] EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgA) (IgG)

Manufacturer: Not reported, but as per test names

Antibody:

[A] to [F] IgG, IgM, (NB assay [C] does not differentiate between antibody class, with only a single test line indicative of a positive test IgM/IgG)

[G] IgA, IgG

Antigen target:

Doherty Institute 2020 [A] (Continued)

[A to F] The specific SARS-CoV-2 recombinant antigen(s) incorporated into the assay were not described in the manufacturers' information
[G] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A to F] POC, used in laboratory; [G] Laboratory, used in laboratory

Test method:

[A to F] Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold) (CGIA); [G] ELISA

Timing of samples:

0 -> 30 days post-symptom onset
0-3 days pso: 23/137 (16.8%) samples
4-8 days pso: 28/137 (20.4%) samples
9-14 days pso: 21/137 (15.3%) samples
15-20 days pso: 8/137 (5.8%) samples
21-30 days pso: 27/137 (19.7%) samples
> 30 days pso: 30/137 (21.9%) samples

Samples used: Serum

Test operator:

[A to F] three laboratory research technicians, all of whom had undergone previous training in the use of lateral flow assays
[G] Not reported

Definition of test positivity:

[A, B, D to F] Visible lines for IgG/IgM; [C] single test line indicative of a positive test (IgM/IgG); [G] Not reported
[C] and [D] Testing was undertaken in duplicate, with a third test undertaken for discordant results. The majority result (i.e. 2/3) was taken as the final result, any faint line present at test termination was considered a positive result.

Blinding reported: Yes.

Threshold predefined:

[A to F] Visible lines, interpreted as per manufacturer's instructions for use; [G] Not reported

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 detected using the Coronavirus Typing assay (AusDiagnostics, Mascot, NSW) - a two-step, hemi-nested multiplex tandem PCR
In addition, all positive samples had SARS-CoV-2 detected at VIDRL where testing was first conducted using an in-house assay for the SARS-CoV-2 RdRp gene. If positive, subsequent testing for the SARS-CoV-2 E gene was performed, using previously published primers.

Samples used: Upper and/or lower respiratory tract specimens

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] Unclear for other diseases, [2b] NA for pre-pandemic controls

Samples used: [2a] Unclear for other diseases, [2b] NA for pre-pandemic controls

Timing of reference standard: [2a] Unclear for other diseases, [2b] NA for pre-pandemic controls

Doherty Institute 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No - pre-pandemic controls included

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: One sample was excluded from testing in the Hightop SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Anti-body Rapid Test assay as results were discordant and insufficient test kits remained to test in triplicate.

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Report of post-market validation (Report prepared for Office of Health Protection, Commonwealth Government of Australia, and the Therapeutics Goods Administration (TGA) of Australia)

Source: Doherty Institute

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Doherty Institute 2020 [A] (Continued)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Doherty Institute 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Doherty Institute 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Doherty Institute 2020 [F] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Doherty Institute 2020 [G]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

DomBourian 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID-19 convalescent plasma samples (n = 102) [2] Non-COVID samples (n = 126) [2a] Current non-COVID, respiratory pathogen panel (RPP)-positive samples (n = 20); [2b] Pre-pandemic samples (n = 106)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] and [2a] Unclear (possibly retrospective) [2b] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 228 (102) samples</p> <p>Further detail: [1] SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive donors from the Children's Hospital Colorado CCP donor programme; eligible individuals for the CCP donor programme were confirmed PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 and were symptom-free for at least 14 days prior to plasma donation and met all standard blood donation criteria per FDA requirements. [2a] Residual samples from patients who had tested positive for one of the respiratory viral pathogens and who were confirmed to be PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2</p>
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DomBourian 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2b] Pre-pandemic samples that were collected prior to November 2019

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Convalescent plasma donors

Location: Children's Hospital Colorado's CCP donor programme, Aurora, Colorado

Country: USA

Dates: Children's Hospital Colorado's CCP donor programme was registered with the FDA as eligible to collect CCP on March 31, 2020.

Symptoms and severity: Symptom-free for at least 14 days

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Current cross reaction challenge

Source: Not stated (current)

Characteristics: Tested positive for one of the respiratory viral pathogens (adenovirus; human metapneumovirus [HMPV]; influenza virus A hemagglutinin [H] subtypes H1, H3, and 2009 H1N1; influenza virus B; respiratory syncytial virus; coronaviruses NL63, OC43, 229E, and HKU1; human rhinovirus/enterovirus; parainfluenza types 1–4; Bordetella pertussis; mycoplasma pneumonia; and chlamydia pneumonia)

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Pre-pandemic

Source: Source not stated; collected prior to November 2019

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] EDI™ Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA kit

[B] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG)

Manufacturer:

[A] Epitope Diagnostics Inc. (EDI) (San Diego, CA)

[B] Euroimmun (Lubeck, Germany)

Antibody:

[A] and [B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] nucleocapsid antigen

[B] S1 domain, including the receptor binding domain (RBD) of the SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein

Evaluation setting:

[A] and [B] Lab test, unclear setting

Test method:

[A] and [B] ELISA

Timing of samples: At least 14 days symptom-free

Samples used: Plasma or serum

Test operator: Not stated

DomBourian 2020 [A] (Continued)

Definition of test positivity:

[A] For the EDI assay, positive, negative and borderline results were calculated based on the average optical density (OD450) value for the negative control assayed in triplicate for the specific assay. The positive and negative cut-off values were calculated using the formula: positive cut-off = $1.1 \times (\text{xNC} + 0.18)$ and negative cut-off = $0.9 \times (\text{xNC} + 0.18)$, where xNC is the average OD450 of triplicate negative control OD values. Samples that had OD450 values that fell between positive and negative cut-off values were reported as borderline.

[B] The Euroimmun assay was interpreted based on the ratio of the sample OD450 to the calibrator OD450. Samples with a ratio of less than 0.8 were deemed negative, samples with a ratio of greater than 1.1 were positive, and OD450 values between 0.8 and 1.1 were reported as borderline.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, for this study, the assays were used per the manufacturers' specifications.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] PCR (unclear how many negative tests)

[2b] Pre-pandemic (before November 2019)

Samples used:

[2a] Not stated

[2b] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Not stated

[2b] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results:

[A] 6 borderline results

[B] 6 borderline results

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: The Departments of Pediatrics and Pathology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Children's Hospital Colorado

DomBourian 2020 [A] (Continued)

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Immunological Methods

Author COI: All authors declared that they had no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

DomBourian 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	No	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

DomBourian 2020 [B]

Study characteristics		
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment	
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment	
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

DomBourian 2020 [B] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Dora 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection/prior infection (to identify potentially missed cases of COVID-19 during serial surveillance testing)</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID cases (n = 26) [2] Current non-COVID cases (n = 124)</p> <p>Recruitment: All eligible residents in the skilled nursing facilities (SACC and WLA) and additional patients from the community who were diagnosed with COVID-19 by RT-PCR and treated in the acute care hospital were transferred to the CRU.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 150 (26)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: a) Residents in SACC skilled nursing facility or WLA skilled nursing facility or in designated COVID-19 recovery unit (CRU) with PCR test result b) Patients from the community who were diagnosed with COVID-19 by RT-PCR and treated in the acute care hospital and transferred to the CRU Exclusion: 1 death; 1 received convalescent plasma; 25 refused blood draw, hospice care, discharged to community</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Skilled Nursing Facility or designated COVID-19 recovery unit</p> <p>Location: Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System West Los Angeles (WLA) campus or from a satellite campus (Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center, SACC) or designated COVID-19 recovery unit, Los Angeles, California</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Repeated PCR testing between 28 March 2020 and 18 May 2020 Serological testing: 5 to 12 June 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 20 symptomatic; 6 asymptomatic</p> <p>Demographics: Age: median 75 (IQR 69-78) years Sex: 26 (100%) males Black or African-American 9 (35%) White 11 (42%) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 1 (4%) Multiple races 1 (4%) Not reported 4 (15%) Hispanic 3 (12%)</p> <p>Exposure history: 17 nursing home</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dora 2020 (Continued)

	<p>9 Not stated (community)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Current PCR-negative</p> <p>Source: Skilled nursing facility at the Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System West Los Angeles (WLA) campus or from a satellite campus (Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center, SACC)</p> <p>Repeated PCR testing between 28 March 2020 and 18 May 2020</p> <p>Serological testing: 5 to 12 June 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Age: median 74 (IQR 69-83) years</p> <p>Sex: 122 (98%) males</p> <p>Asian 3 (2%)</p> <p>Black or African-American 51 (41%)</p> <p>White 61 (49%)</p> <p>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 1 (1%)</p> <p>Multiple races 1 (1%)</p> <p>Not reported 7 (6%)</p> <p>Hispanic 14 (11%)</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG</p> <p>Manufacturer: DiaSorin</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: S1/S2 spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Not stated</p> <p>Test method: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of samples: 46–76 days after their initial diagnosis</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Not stated</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: nasopharyngeal RT-PCR (Roche COBAS 6800) for SARS-CoV-2, repeated approximately weekly on each ward and discontinued when all ward residents tested negative; threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated (symptom-based testing from 28-30 March 2020; serial testing the weeks of 6 April, 13 April and 20 April 2020; surveillance testing on 11 May and 18 May)</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: nasopharyngeal RT-PCR (Roche COBAS 6800) for SARS-CoV-2, repeated approximately weekly on each ward and discontinued when all ward residents tested negative; threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: nasopharyngeal RT-PCR (Roche COBAS 6800) for SARS-CoV-2, repeated approximately weekly on each ward and discontinued when all ward residents tested negative; threshold not stated</p>

Dora 2020 (Continued)

	Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test
	Incorporated index test: no
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] 46–76 days after their initial diagnosis [2] Serial PCR testing from 28 March to 18 May 2020; antibody testing 5–12 June 2020 All patients received same reference standard: yes Missing data: no Uninterpretable results: no Indeterminate results: Not stated Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Not stated Publication status: Published paper (Brief report) Source: Clinical Infectious Diseases Author COI: No reported conflicts of interest

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dora 2020 (Continued)

of the results of the reference
standard?

If a threshold was used, was it
pre-specified? Unclear

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards like-
ly to correctly classify the tar-
get condition? Yes

Were the reference standard
results interpreted without
knowledge of the results of the
index tests? Yes

The reference standard does
not incorporate the index test Yes

**Could the reference stan-
dard, its conduct, or its inter-
pretation have introduced
bias?** Low risk

**Are there concerns that the
target condition as defined
by the reference standard
does not match the ques-
tion?** High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate in-
terval between index test and
reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in
the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a
reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per pa-
tient? Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Dora 2020 (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Low risk

Dortet 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: to assess the rapid test's diagnostic accuracy and clinical utility for patient management</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 101, 256 sera samples)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID-19 controls (n = 50: 22 healthy volunteers, 24 pre-pandemic; 4 RT-PCR-negative with common coronaviruses)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective at time of COVID-specific consultation or ER attendance. RT-PCR samples taken at same attendance as serum</p> <p>[2] Retrospective in 24 pre-pandemic samples, prospective in 22 healthy volunteers, and unclear for 4 PCR-negative samples</p> <p>Sample size: 151 (101) patients with 306 (256) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatients and ER consultations</p> <p>Location: Hôpital Bicêtre, AP-HP; Le Kremlin-Bicêtre, France; Hôpital Paul-Brousse, AP-HP; Villejuif, France</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: March 11–23 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>17.8% (18/101) were discharged</p> <p>72.3% (72/101) were hospitalised in a dedicated COVID ward</p> <p>10.9% (11/101) were critically ill and required immediate hospitalisation in the ICU</p> <p>Demographics: male/female ratio was 1.46; median age was 58 years (IQR, 35–61)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Non-COVID-19 controls</p> <p>Source: 22 healthy volunteers and 4 RT-PCR-negative with common coronaviruses = contemporaneous; 24 pre-pandemic = September–October 2017</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated for 24 pre-pandemic samples</p> <p>4 from patients with respiratory symptoms that were RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 but positive for common coronaviruses (Coronavirus HKU1 (n = 2), NL63 (n = 1), 229E (n = 1)), recent common coronavirus infections in the past 3-months; 22 healthy volunteers without any respiratory symptoms</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: NG-Test IgM-IgG COVID All-in-one</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Dortet 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Manufacturer: NG Biotech, Guipry, France</p> <p>Antibody: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Nucleocapsid protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC, applied POC for healthy volunteers but unclear for the other participants (retrospective analysis from stored sera)</p> <p>Test method: lateral flow immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: For 97 patients, days 1-11 after hospitalisation Most sera were sampled between day 0-15 after the onset of symptoms (85.5%, 219/256)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum for [1] and [2], pre-pandemic and PCR-negative samples or a drop of blood (after finger puncture) for [2, healthy volunteers]</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Results were read after 15 minutes according to the manufacturer's recommendations, visual-based</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Real-time RT-PCR targeting RNA-dependent RNA polymerase and E genes</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: The average time between the onset of symptoms and receiving an RT-PCR result was 5.4 (\pm 0.4) days</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, done prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Mixed Pre-pandemic (September/October 2017) (n = 24) RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 (n = 4) No respiratory symptoms for healthy volunteers (n = 22)</p> <p>Samples used: None</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA for pre-pandemic samples and healthy volunteers</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear for healthy volunteers (tested directly using a drop of whole blood)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: done during same consultation for 97 COVID-19 samples, unclear for the remaining samples</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	

Dortet 2020 (Continued)

Notes

Funding: This research was supported by Assistance Publique–Hôpitaux de Paris (APHP), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), and by a Grant from the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID). We acknowledge NG Biotech for providing free testing devices.

Publication status: Submitted to Lancet Infectious Diseases; now published article

Source: Editorial Manager® and Prodxion Manager® from Aries Systems Corporation
Journal: Emerging Microbes and Infections

Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear

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Dortet 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Dortet 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of COVID-19 Design: Two-group design with separate estimates of sensitivity and specificity: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (sample size = 250 from 159 patients) [2] Pre-pandemic patients with other infections (sample size = 254)
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dortet 2021 [A] (Continued)

Recruitment:

- [1] Serum samples from COVID-19 patients from 2 university hospitals located in the south of Paris were randomly selected from the BIOCOVID-19 biobank.
[2] Serum samples collected prior to December 2019 were selected, which had previously tested positive for a separate agent or pathology that could potentially interfere with SARS-CoV-2 testing results.

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: Samples: 504 (250)

Patients: 413 (159)

Further detail: No further details

[(1) Patients with documented RT-PCR-positive results for SARS-CoV-2 using nasopharyngeal swabs from 2 hospitals in the south of Paris

[2] Serum samples collected prior to December 2019 were selected, which had previously tested positive for a separate agent or pathology that could potentially interfere with SARS-CoV-2 testing results)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Patients from two university hospitals

4.4% (7/159) were discharged after their initial visit to the emergency room (ER), and 95.6% (152/159) were hospitalised.

Over the study period, 44.1% (67/152) of patients required intensive care unit (ICU) care while hospitalised.

Location: Bicêtre and Paul Brousse Hospitals, Paris (BIOCOVID-19 biobank)

Country: France

Dates: 11 March to 3 April 2020

Symptoms and severity: No standard classification of severity was provided. 4.4% (7/159) were discharged after their initial visit to the emergency room (ER), and 95.6% (152/159) were hospitalised. Over the study period, 44.1% (67/152) of patients required intensive care unit (ICU) care while hospitalised. The overall death rate among hospitalised patients was 19.1% (29/152): 10.5% (9/85) among non-ICU patients and 29.9% (20/67) among ICU patients.

Demographics: COVID patients

Median age - 62.9 years (range 12.8 to 97.6 years)

Male:female ratio = 100:59

Exposure history: Not reported

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic patients with other infections

Source: Serum samples collected before December 2019 and tested positive for another pathogen

Characteristics: another coronavirus (n = 11), other viral and parasitic infections (including Epstein-Barr virus [EBV], cytomegalovirus [CMV], rubeola virus, and toxoplasma) (n = 129), a rheumatoid factor (n = 3), IgG (n = 6) and IgM (n = 3) hyperglobulinaemia, malaria (n = 5), or a positive Treponema pallidum hemagglutination assay (TPHA) (n = 97)

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] NG-Test IgG-IgM COVID-19;
[B] anti-SARS-CoV-2 rapid test;
[C] (2019-nCoV) antibody IgG/IgM test;
[D] Nadal COVID-19 IgG/IgM test;
[E] Biosynex COVID-19 BSS;
[F] 2019-nCoV Ab test;
[G] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM test;
[H] COVID-19-Check-1;
[I] Finecare SARS-CoV-2 antibody test;
[J] Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 antibody test.

Manufacturer:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Dortet 2021 [A] (Continued)

- [A] NG Biotech SA, Guipry, France;
- [B] Autobio Diagnostic Co; Ltd, Zhengshou, China;
- [C] Avioq Bio-Tech Co; Ltd, Shandong, China;
- [D] Nal Von Minden GmbH; Ltd, Moers, Germany;
- [E] Biosynex SWISS SA, Fribourg, Switzerland;
- [F] Innovita Biological Technology Co.; Ltd, Hebei, China;
- [G] Biolidics Co, Ltd, Mapex, Singapore;
- [H] Vedal Lab SA, Alençon, France;
- [I] Wondfo Biotech Co, Ltd, Guangzhou, China;
- [J] Wondfo Biotech Co, Ltd, Guangzhou.

Antibody:

- [A] IgG and IgM;
- [B] IgG and IgM;
- [C] IgG and IgM;
- [D] IgG and IgM;
- [E] IgG and IgM;
- [F] IgG and IgM;
- [G] IgG and IgM;
- [H] IgG and IgM;
- [I] Total antibody;
- [J] Total antibody.

Antigen target:

- [A] N and S;
- [B] Not reported;
- [C] Not reported;
- [D] Not reported;
- [E] Not reported;
- [F] N and S;
- [G] Not reported;
- [H] Not reported;
- [I] Not reported;
- [J] Not reported.

Evaluation setting: POC performed in lab

Test method:

- [A] lateral flow assay, colloidal gold;
- [B] lateral flow assay, colloidal gold;

Timing of samples: 0-9 days pso; 101/250
10-14 days pso; 86/250
15-32 days pso. 63/250

Most serum samples were obtained on days 0 to 15 (85.5%; 219/256) after symptoms appeared, although serum samples from later dates (up to day 31) were also available.

Samples used: Serum; test performed at room temperature. Two boxes (the total number of boxes not provided) containing samples were stored at 4 degrees Celsius.

Test operator: Trained laboratory technicians; two independent readers read the test.

Definition of test positivity: By the intensity of lines:

- 0 - non reactive;
- 1 - very weak, but definitely reactive;
- 2 - medium to high reactivity;
- U - undetermined (values were not recorded when a control line did not appear, and tests were subsequently repeated).

Dortet 2021 [A] (Continued)

Blinding reported: Yes (Selected serum samples were randomly placed in working boxes so as not to bias the technicians' interpretation of results. Two sets of these boxes were prepared and stored at 4°C prior to being used).

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR targeting the RNA-dependent RNA polymerase and E genes (eSwabs-Virocult; Copan, Italy); using Charite Berlin protocol ([Corman 2020](#))

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: unclear

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Yes (number of samples tested is < 250 for COVID cases and < 254 non-COVID cases for most tests; test [G] was evaluated on only half of the total serum samples collection, as only 250 tests were received: results for 167/250 COVID cases and 79/254 pre-pandemic control samples)

Uninterpretable results: Yes (1 for test [C], 3 for test [H])

Indeterminate results: If three readings were different, the result was reported as unknown (see also "Missing data")

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This research was supported by Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris (APHP), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), and a grant from the French Defense Innovation Agency (AID).

Publication status: Published article

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Author COI: Authors declared no conflicts of interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dortet 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dortet 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Dortet 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Dortet 2021 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Du 2021
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-19 (n = 107)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic non-COVID (n = 226)</p> <p>[2a] Healthy donor samples (n = 138)</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reaction challenge samples (n = 88)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19 patient serum samples were acquired from ProMedDx (Norton, MA) and University of California and VA Healthcare System.</p> <p>[2a] Healthy donor EDTA K2 plasma samples were purchased from Golden West Biosolutions (Temecula, CA) in 2019 prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. COVID-19 negative EDTA K2 plasma samples were also obtained from University of Florida Department of Radiation Oncology in 2017.</p> <p>Healthy donor serum samples were purchased from Innovative Research, LLC (Plymouth, MN).</p> <p>[2b] Patient serum samples positive for IgG to HBV/HCV/HIV/RSV were purchased from Antibody Systems, Inc (Hurst, TX). Patient serum samples positive for IgG to HAV/CMV/EBV/Rubella/Influenza B were purchased from ProMedDx (Norton, MA). Patient serum samples positive for IgG to Influenza A were purchased from Dx Biosamples, LLC (San Diego, CA).</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 333 (107) of which 252 (26) with eligible time splits</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: ProMedDx (Norton, MA) and University of California and VA Healthcare System</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic healthy or cross-reactivity</p> <p>Source:</p> <p>[2a] Healthy donor EDTA K2 plasma samples were purchased from Golden West Biosolutions (Temecula, CA) in 2019 prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. COVID-19 negative EDTA K2 plasma samples were also obtained from University of Florida Department of Radiation Oncology in 2017.</p>

Du 2021 (Continued)

Healthy donor serum samples were purchased from Innovative Research, LLC (Plymouth, MN).
[2b] Patient serum samples positive for IgG to HBV/HCV/HIV/RSV were purchased from Antibody Systems, Inc (Hurst, TX).
Patient serum samples positive for IgG to HAV/CMV/EBV/Rubella/Influenza B were purchased from ProMedDx (Norton, MA). Patient serum samples positive for IgG to Influenza A were purchased from Dx Biosamples, LLC (San Diego, CA).

Characteristics:

[2a] Healthy donors (n = 138)
[2b] Cross-reactivity (n = 88)
HIV n = 4
Hepatitis A virus n = 7
Hepatitis B virus n = 4
Hepatitis C virus n = 4
Respiratory syncytial virus n = 5
Influenza A n = 5
Influenza B n = 13
Cytomegalovirus n = 16
Epstein-Barr virus n = 13
Rubella n = 17

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Source: NA

Characteristics: NA

Index tests

Test name: QuantiVirus™ anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG test

Manufacturer: DiaCarta Inc, 2600 Hilltop Dr. Richmond, CA 94806, United States

Antibody: IgG

Antigen target: spike-protein 1 (S1) RBD

Evaluation setting: Laboratory test performed in lab

Test method: Fluorescence immunoassay

Phycoerythrin fluorescence of each well in a 96-well microplate was measured on Luminex 200 or MAGPIX® instrument for Median Fluorescence Intensity (MFI)

Timing of samples: 0-7 days pso: 13/107

8-14 days pso: 13/107

> 14 days pso: 81/107

Samples used:

[1] Serum

[2a] Serum and plasma

[2b] Serum

Test operator: Lab personnel

Definition of test positivity: Median Fluorescence Intensity (MFI). Interpretation of the testing results was performed by calculating the MFI ratio of each sample to the average MFI of two blank wells.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Not stated

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Du 2021 (Continued)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] Pre-pandemic (time not stated for all sources)

Samples used: [2] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [2] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Not stated

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Virological Methods

Author COI: The authors reported no declarations of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and set-			High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Du 2021 (Continued)

ting do not match the review
question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results in-
terpreted without knowledge
of the results of the reference
standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it
pre-specified?

Unclear

**Could the conduct or inter-
pretation of the index test
have introduced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that the
index test, its conduct, or in-
terpretation differ from the
review question?**

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards like-
ly to correctly classify the tar-
get condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard
results interpreted without
knowledge of the results of the
index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does
not incorporate the index test

Yes

**Could the reference stan-
dard, its conduct, or its inter-
pretation have introduced
bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that the
target condition as defined
by the reference standard
does not match the ques-
tion?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate in-
terval between index test and
reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard?

No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Du 2021 (Continued)

Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Egger 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 3-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] confirmed COVID-19 patients (64 patients, 104 samples) [2] Healthy blood donors (n = 200) and [3] ICU patients (n = 256)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Between 15th of March 2020 and 10th of April 2020, of all SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (from respiratory specimens) confirmed COVID-19 patients, that were treated in one of the two tertiary care hospitals, Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz and Ordensklinikum Linz Barmherzige Schwestern in Linz Austria, blood samples for clinical routine that were sent to central laboratory were included in the present study. [2] Cohorts of 200 consecutive plasma samples from healthy blood donors and [3] 256 consecutive plasma samples of ICU patients from Linz Intensive Care Unit (LICU) study were recruited prior to COVID-19 outbreak (Dec 3, 2019).</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] prospective for COVID patients, [2] and [3] retrospective for healthy blood donors/ICU patients</p> <p>Sample size: 520 (64) patients; 560 (104) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Unclear</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatients (Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz and Ordensklinikum Linz Barmherzige Schwestern)</p> <p>Location: Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz and Ordensklinikum Linz Barmherzige Schwestern, Linz</p> <p>Country: Austria</p> <p>Dates: COVID patients: 15th of March-10th of April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: unclear</p> <p>Demographics: unclear</p> <p>Exposure history: unclear</p>

Egger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors

Source: recruited at Red Cross organisation in Linz Austria - 31 Jan-13 Feb 2008

Characteristics: Cohort of healthy blood donors, 200 consecutive plasma samples that were stored -80degrees C and had 1 freeze/thaw cycle

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic ICU patients

Source: Medical intensive care unit of the Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz, Austria, recruited from August 9th 2009 to February 8th 2010

Characteristics: Cohort of the Linz Intensive Care Unit (LICU) study; baseline samples of patients admitted to medical ICU of Konventhospital Barmherzige Brueder Linz, Austria, between 9 Aug 2009 and 8 Feb 2010, plasma aliquots store -80degrees C and one freeze/thaw cycle

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay

[B] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM (reagent lot number P630C) and IgG (reagent lot number P621C) enzyme linked immunosorbent assay

Manufacturer:

[A] Roche Diagnostics

[B] Epitepe Diagnostics Inc., San Diego, CA, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgA, IgM, IgG (total SARS-CoV-2 antibody assay [IgA, IgM, and IgG] detecting predominantly, but not exclusively, IgG)

[B] IgM or IgG

Antigen target:

[A] and [B] recombinant nucleocapsid protein (N)

Evaluation setting: laboratory

Test method:

[A] electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (fully automated)

[B] ELISA

Timing of samples:

< 5 days to > 15-22 days since symptom onset

< 5 days pso: 34/104

5-10 days pso: 35/104

11-15 days pso: 17/104

16-22 days pso: 18/104

Samples used:

[A] and [B] plasma

Test operator:

[A] and [B] unclear (seemed to be lab personnel)

Definition of test positivity:

[A] COI > or = 1.0 positive; COI < 1.0 negative [results were reported as numeric values in form of a cut-off index (COI; signal sample/cut-off) as well as in form of a qualitative results non-reactive (COI < 1.0; negative) and reactive (COI ≥ 1.0; positive)].

[B] Single run: If the patient sample optical density (OD) was below the positive cut-off, the result was reported negative;

If the patients sample OD was equal or above the positive cut-off the patient was reported as positive.

Egger 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Blinding reported: [A] and [B] Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: [A] yes (performed following the manufacturer's instructions) [B] unclear (did not use the thresholds as reported in the IFU)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: respiratory specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: not reported</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] and [3] pre-pandemic samples</p> <p>Samples used: [2] and [3] NA as pre-pandemic samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2] January 31st to February 13th 2008 [3] August 9th 2009 to February 8th 2010</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, done prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: no</p> <p>Missing data: Not reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: samples for COVID patients, patients for healthy blood donors/ICU patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Roche Diagnostics provided reagents for Elecsys® Anti-SARS-CoV-2 measurements free of charge. Benjamin Dieplinger and Thomas Mueller have received speaking fees from Roche Diagnostics.</p> <p>Publication status: published</p> <p>Source: Clinica Chimica Acta</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that they had no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Egger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes	
Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Egger 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Egger 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Fafi-Kremer 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of antibody kinetics in individuals who had recovered from mild COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Single-group study estimating sensitivity only: [1] hospital staff with mild PCR-confirmed COVID-19 (n = 160); included doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, dentists, medical students, orderlies, hospital assistants, and hospital administrative staff</p> <p>Recruitment: Likely consecutive; described including 'all' eligible staff within specific dates</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not explicitly stated, but likely prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 160 (160)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion was conditional of informed consent. Excluded 2 patients who were hospitalised</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Tertiary hospital staff; cluster infected following outbreak Suggested code as 'outpatient' or 'community' as they were not inpatient; or even as contacts or outbreak investigation (need new covariate)</p> <p>Location: Strasbourg University Hospitals</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: 6-8 April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Severity: all described as mild disease; symptoms classified as minor 5 (3%) or major 155/160 (97%) (cough, fever, dyspnoea, anosmia and ageusia)</p> <p>Demographics: Age, median (IQR): 32 (26-44) Sex: 50/160 (31.2%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Contact with COVID-19 patients: yes 74/160 (46.3%), no 80/160 (50%), missing 6/160 (3.7%). Level of exposure to COVID-19 patients: none 10/75 (13.5%), some 27/75 (36.5%), high 37/75 (50%).</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: COVID-19 BSS IgG/IgM [Data for a second in-house test (flow cytometry based) were reported but not included in the review]</p> <p>Manufacturer: Biosynex</p> <p>Antibody: IgG and IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: S-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC test, evaluated in lab setting</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow assay</p> <p>Timing of samples: Time between symptom onset and sample collection: median 24 days (IQR 21 to 28) 13-20 days: 29/160 (18%) 21-27 days: 83/160 (52%)</p>

Fafi-Kremer 2020 (Continued)

	28-41 days: 48/160 (30%) Samples used: Serum Test operator: Not stated; presume lab scientist Definition of test positivity: Not stated Blinding reported: Not stated Threshold predefined: Yes (visual result)
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: PCR test (not further specified) Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Time from symptom onset to PCR-positive in days, median (IQR): 2 (1-4) Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier) Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Approx 3 weeks (based on median times reported) All patients received same reference standard: Yes Missing data: None reported Uninterpretable results: None reported Indeterminate results: None reported Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: No specific funds for this work, but the labs where the study was done receive funding from multiple sources (Institut Pasteur, ANRS, Sidaction, Vaccine Research Institute, Labex IBEID, TIMTAMDEN, CHIKViro-Immuno, Gilead HIV cure programme, French Ministry of Higher Education-Research-Innovation, Strasbourg University Hospitals). Publication status: Published article Source: Academic journal Author COI: One author is founder and CSO of TheraVectys; four other authors hold a provisional patent on the S-flow assay; one author reported grants and/or personal fees from Mylan, ViiV Healthcare, Gilead, Abbvie.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fafi-Kremer 2020 (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		

Fafi-Kremer 2020 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Unclear
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Favresse 2020a
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: external validation of a new electrochemiluminescent immunoassay (ECLIA) test that allows the detection of total antibodies</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design: Two groups of samples: [1] patients with a confirmed RT-PCR SARS-CoV-2 diagnosis (n = 97 patients, 140 samples) [2] Non-SARS-CoV-2 sera collected prior to the COVID-19 pandemic with potential cross-reactions (n = 79)</p> <p>Recruitment: Retrospective, no further information</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 219 (140) samples, 176 (97) patients</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear - probably hospital inpatients because of multiple samples for patients</p> <p>Location: Clinique Saint-Luc Bouge (SLBO, Namur, Belgium)</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p> <p>Dates: Unclear. "This retrospective study was conducted from May 6 to 12, 2020", but not clear whether these were recruitment dates</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Between January 2019 and December 2019. Source not stated</p> <p>Characteristics: Potential cross-reactions (cross-reactivity test group) were also analysed.</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Favresse 2020a (Continued)

Samples in this group included:
positive antinuclear antibodies (n = 5),
antithyroglobulin antibody (n = 1),
anti-Treponema pallidum antibodies (n = 2),

antistreptolysin O (n = 1),
antithyroid peroxidase antibodies (n = 4),

chikungunya antibody (n = 1),
direct Coombs (n = 1),
hepatitis B antigen (n = 4),
hepatitis C antibodies (n = 7),
hepatitis E antibodies (n = 4),
HIV antibodies (n = 2),
IgA chlamydia pneumoniae (n = 1),
IgG chlamydia trachomatis (n = 1),
IgG Coxiella burneti (n = 2),
IgM Borrelia (n = 1),
IgM Coxiella burnetii (n = 1),
IgM cytomegalovirus (n = 5),
IgM Epstein-Barr virus viral capsid (n = 5),

IgM mycoplasma pneumoniae (n = 6),
IgM parvovirus B19 (n = 7),
IgM toxoplasma gondii (n = 5),
influenza antibodies (n = 6),
irregular agglutinins (n = 2), and
rheumatoid factor (n = 5).

Index tests

Test name: Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2

Manufacturer: Roche Diagnostics

Antibody: total antibodies (including IgG)

Antigen target: SARS- CoV-2 nucleocapsid

Evaluation setting: Laboratory test conducted in the laboratory

Test method: electrochemiluminescent immunoassay (ECLIA)

Timing of samples: 0- ≥ 28 days after positive RT-PCR test,

0-6 days post-PCR+: 45/140

7-13 days post-PCR+: 35/140

14-20 days post-PCR+: 24/140

21-27 days post-PCR+: 15/140

28+ days post-PCR+: 21/140

0- > 28 days after onset of symptoms

0-6 days pso: 22/129

7-13 days pso: 28/129

14-20 days pso: 26/129

21-27 days pso: 23/129

28+ days pso: 30/129

11 missing data on time pso

Samples used: Serum samples

Test operator: Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity: Two thresholds reported:

[A] According to the manufacturer, a result < 1.0 is considered negative while a result ≥ 1.0 is considered positive

[B] optimal cut-off provided by ROC curve analyses (i.e. > 0.165)

Favresse 2020a (Continued)

	<p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined:</p> <p>[A] The test result is given as a cut-off index (COI). According to the manufacturer, a result < 1.0 is considered negative while a result ≥ 1.0 is considered positive.</p> <p>[B] No for optimised cut-off</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR performed on the LightCycler® 480 Instrument II using the LightMix® Modular SARS-CoV-2 E-gene set (Roche Diagnostics®)</p> <p>Samples used: respiratory samples (nasopharyngeal swab samples)</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 0- ≥ 28 days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No, controls were pre-pandemic</p> <p>Missing data: Among the 97 patients (140 samples), data about time of symptom onset were available for 92 patients (129 samples).</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Roche Diagnostics provided the kits for the validation.</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Clinical Chemistry, Volume 66, Issue 8, August 2020, Pages 1104–6</p> <p>Author COI: J. Douxfils, personal fees from Diagnostica Stago, Roche, Roche Diagnostics, Dai-ichi-Sankyo, and Portola, outside the submitted work. J. Douxfils, chief executive officer and founder of QUALiblood sa</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Favresse 2020a (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk

Favresse 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Favresse 2020b
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Assessment of the longitudinal kinetics of anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies since symptom onset (acute and convalescent-phase infection)

Design: Single-group study estimating sensitivity:
[1] PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 94, providing 150 serum samples)

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 94 (94; 150 samples)

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear

Study performed in a hospital, but unclear if all patients were admitted to an inpatient ward

Location: Clinique St-Luc Bouge, Namur

Country: Belgium

Dates: 21 March to 25 May 2020

Symptoms and severity: All patients had at least one symptom.

Reported symptoms: fever (68.1%), cough (60.4%), fatigue (58.2%), difficulty breathing (45.1%), muscle aches (31.9%), chest pain (6.6%), sore throat (6.6%), and anosmia (6.6%)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Favresse 2020b (Continued)

	<p>No details on severity available</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 [product code not reported]</p> <p>Manufacturer: Roche Diagnostics</p> <p>Antibody: Total antibodies</p> <p>Antigen target: N-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Lab test, done in lab</p> <p>Test method: Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Range day 0 to 63: 0-2 days: 15 (10%); 3-5 days: 6 (4%); 6-8 days: 14 (9.3%); 9-11 days: 10 (6.7%); 12-14 days: 13 (8.7%); 15-17 days: 14 (9.3%); 18-20 days: 7 (4.7%); 21-23 days: 19 (12.7%); 24-30 days: 16 (10.7%); 31-40 days: 15 (10%); 41-63 days: 16 (10.7%).</p> <p>Samples used: Serum or plasma (n for each not reported); collected into serum-gel tubes (BD Vacutainer® 8.5 mL tubes, Becton Dickinson, New Jersey, USA) or lithium-heparin plasma tubes (BD Vacutainer® 4.0 mL tubes) according to standardised operating procedure</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated (presume lab staff); sera and plasma samples stored at -20 °C and thawed 1 h at room temperature on the day of the analysis</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Positive if COI ≥ 1.0</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR; LightCycler® 480 Instrument II (Roche Diagnostics®) using the LightMix® Modular SARS-CoV E-gene set</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Unclear - 5 serum samples were excluded because only one sample per patient per time category was used</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Roche provided the kits for the validation.

Publication status: Published letter

Source: Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: One of the authors is chief executive officer and founder of QUALiblood sa and reported personal fees from Diagnostica Stago, Roche, Roche Diagnostics, Dai-ichi-Sankyo, and Portola, outside the submitted work.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Favresse 2020b (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Fenwick 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute/sub-acute-phase infection Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (93 sera) [2] Non-COVID samples (n = 65); pre-pandemic including 18 samples from patients documented positive for a human coronavirus (E229, OC43, HKU1, or NL63) RT-PCR Recruitment: Not stated Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective Sample size: 158 (93) Further detail: Not stated
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fenwick 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: [1] Hospital inpatients

Location: Not stated (Lausanne University Hospital, Lausanne?)

Country: Switzerland

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Hospitalised patients with severe-to-moderate symptoms

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic

Source: Sampled before November 2019, source not stated

Characteristics: 18/65 samples from patients documented positive for a human coronavirus (E229, OC43, HKU1, or NL63) RT-PCR.

Part of the diverse set of 108 patient sera used for study 2 (which included an additional 43 pre-pandemic patient samples). This diverse set of 108 samples consisted of sera from pregnant women (n = 14), pre-pandemic coronavirus-infected donors (OC43, E229, NL63, and HKU1; n = 19), patients with infectious diseases (HIV, rubella, HSV1, HSV2, RSV, CMV, EBV, influenza, and varicella; (n = 57)), and patients with auto-immune diseases, including lupus (n = 18).

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Not stated
- [B] Not stated
- [C] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 IgG kit
- [D] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG and IgM kits
- [E] Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay

Manufacturer:

- [A] Euroimmun
- [B] Epitope Diagnostis
- [C] Diasorin
- [D] Snibe
- [E] Roche

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgG
- [C] IgG
- [D] IgG
- [E] pan-Ig

Antigen target:

- [A] S1-protein
- [B] N-protein
- [C] S1-protein
- [D] N-protein and S antigen peptide (the Snibe assay was grouped with the N-protein assays in our analysis since it contained only a portion of the S1-protein)
- [E] N-protein

Evaluation setting:

- [A] Lab test performed in lab
- [B] Lab test performed in lab

Fenwick 2021 [A] (Continued)

[C] Lab test performed in lab
[D] Lab test performed in lab
[E] Lab test performed in lab

Test method:

[A] ELISA
[B] ELISA
[C] CLIA
[D] CLIA
[E] ECLIA

Timing of samples: 0 to 33 days post-onset of the symptoms:

0-5 days pso: 8/93
6-10 days pso: 19/93
11-15 days pso: 37/93
16-33 days pso: 29/93

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Service of Immunology and Allergy and Service of Microbiology at the Lausanne University Hospital

Definition of test positivity: Not stated

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: ELISA and CLIA were performed according to the manufacturers' instructions. Optical densities (OD) were measured with a microplate reader (800 TSI, BioTek, USA). Each sample was measured in duplicate.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Before November 2019

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Small differences in the number of sera tested across assays were due to the insufficient volume of some samples.

[A] 89/93 COVID samples

[B] 90/93 COVID samples

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated (according to Figure 4, there must have been intermediate results for tests [A], [B] and [C])

Fenwick 2021 [A] (Continued)

Unit of analysis: Not stated

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Funding for this project was provided through the Lausanne University Hospital, through the Swiss Vaccine Research Institute and through the Coronavirus Accelerated R&D in Europe (CARE) IMI project.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Virology

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fenwick 2021 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Fenwick 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fenwick 2021 [B] *(Continued)*

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Fenwick 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Fenwick 2021 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Fenwick 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flinck 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients</p> <p>[1a] Inpatients (120 samples from 13 patients) for seroconversion</p> <p>[1b] Convalescent outpatients (n = 35)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID control samples</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic healthy (n = 161)</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reaction samples (pre-pandemic and current) (n = 43)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1a] Residual plasma samples from patients admitted to Tampere University Hospital or other communal hospitals in Fimlab Laboratories operation region</p> <p>[1b] serum samples from the COVID-19 NAAT positive outpatients were traced and collected for evaluation. All patients had had respiratory tract symptoms</p> <p>[2a] Stored samples from the Chitosan study before the COVID-19 era</p> <p>[2b] Follow-up plasma/serum samples from patients with other diseases. EBV-, HBcAb-, and ANA-positive samples collected in year 2019. RF-positive samples collected in year 2017. The samples from other coronavirus and influenza A/B patients had been collected in April–May 2020.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 359 (155) samples of which 244 (40) had extractable results for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[1a] Hospital inpatients</p> <p>[1b] Hospital outpatients</p> <p>Location: [1a] and [1b] Tampere University Hospital or other communal hospitals in Fimlab Laboratories operation region, Tampere</p> <p>Country: Finland</p>

Flinck 2021 [A] (Continued)

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] aggravated COVID-19 respiratory tract symptoms, i.e. difficulty breathing

[1b] All these patients had had respiratory tract symptoms including rhinitis, cough, sore throat, chest pain, and/or difficulty breathing, with or without fever

Demographics:

[1a] Age 55 years (median), range 20–79; 8/13 males

[1b] Age 47 years (median), range 11–95; 12/35 males

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic healthy

Source: [2a] Part of the Chitosan study before the COVID-19 era (cited study published in 2005)

Characteristics: [2a] Apparently healthy adults [age 45 years (mean), range 32–65; 72 males] with mildly to moderately increased total cholesterol

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Cross-reaction panel

Source: EBV-, HBcAb-, and ANA-positive samples had been collected in year 2019, and RF-positive samples in year 2017 before the COVID-19 pandemic

The samples from other coronavirus and influenza A/B patients had been collected in April–May 2020

Characteristics: Human coronavirus OC43: n = 13

Human coronavirus NL63: n = 2

Human coronavirus: 229E: n = 1

Human coronavirus OC43 and human bocavirus: n = 1

Influenza A virus: n = 5

Influenza A and B virus: n = 1

Acute Epstein-Barr virus: n = 5

Hepatitis B core antibody positive: n = 5

Antinuclear antibody positive: n = 5

Rheumatoid factor positive: n = 5

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Elecsys® Anti-SARS-CoV-2 test

[B] LIAISON® SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG

Manufacturer:

[A] Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany

[B] DiaSorin S.p.A., Saluggia, Italy

Antibody:

[A] Total antibodies

[B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] spike-protein S1 and S2 antigens

Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Lab test performed in lab

Test method:

[A] Not stated (should be ECLIA)

[B] Not stated (should be CLIA)

Flinck 2021 [A] (Continued)

Timing of samples:

[1a] Not stated [3-40 days pso (figure 1) for 83/120 samples]

[1b] At least 16 days after positive NAAT

Samples used:

[1a] Residual EDTA plasma, stored -20 °C

[1b] Residual plasma/serum samples

[2a] Serum samples stored at -20 °C

[2b] Plasma/serum samples

Test operator: Lab personnel (Fimlab Laboratories, Tampere, Finland)

Definition of test positivity:

[A] COI = 1 (Fig 1)

[B] Not stated (AU/mL)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Not stated

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

[1] In-house real-time reverse-transcription (RT)-PCR test detecting E-gene target sequence (using Charite Berlin protocol; [Corman 2020](#)); Allplex™ 2019-nCoV Assay (Seegene Inc., Seoul, South Korea) detecting target sequences E, N, and RdRp; or Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 Assay (Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, IL) detecting target sequences N and RdRp. The used RT-PCR method had been chosen based on the availability. The primary COVID-19 diagnosis was based on 1 RT-PCR result.

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[1a] Not stated

[1b] At least 16 days before index test

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Pre-pandemic or not stated

Samples used:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Pre-pandemic or not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Pre-pandemic or not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1a] Not stated

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flinck 2021 [A] (Continued)

[1b] At least 16 days

[2] Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: yes (only 83 of 120 samples from seroconversion panel analysed)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: [1a] Samples

[1b] Patients

[2a] Patients

[2b] Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: The study was supported by Tampere Tuberculosis Foundation and Competitive State Research Financing of Expert Responsibility area of Tampere.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease

Author COI: No conflicts of interest

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flinck 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

knowledge of the results
of the reference standard?

If a threshold was used,
was it pre-specified? Unclear

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards
likely to correctly classify
the target condition? No

Were the reference standard
results interpreted
without knowledge of the
results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard
does not incorporate the
index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate
interval between index
test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard? No

Were all patients included
in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive
a reference standard? No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flinck 2021 [A] (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Flinck 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flower 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of convalescent-phase COVID-19 in patients who did not require hospitalisation</p> <p>Design: Two-group design with separate estimates of sensitivity and specificity: [1] Adult NHS workers (clinical or non-clinical) who had previously tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by PCR, but not hospitalised (276 patients with 314 samples); all 21d from symptom onset or positive swab test (whichever was earlier) and not hospitalised. [2] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (n = 500)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Participants (adult NHS workers across 4 hospitals in 2 London NHS trusts) were enrolled once they were at least 21 days from the onset of symptoms, or positive swab test (whichever was earlier); Study advertisement through trust communications [2] Sera from pre-pandemic healthy controls as part of the Airwaves study from UK police personnel</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Prospective; [2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: COVID patients: n = 276 (314 samples); Controls: n = 500</p> <p>[NB Only data from Phase I used as Phase II used ELISA-based reference standard]</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Workers from four hospitals in two London NHS trusts (patients who did not need admission; at least 21 days from the symptom onset or PCR-positive, whichever was earlier); coded as community</p> <p>Location: Four hospitals in two London NHS trusts</p> <p>Country: UK</p>

Flower 2020 [A] (Continued)

Dates: Cases were recruited between 1 and 29 May 2020.

Symptoms and severity: self-assessed severity based on its effect on daily life: Asymptomatic (7), mild (56), moderate (163), severe but not hospitalised (87)

Demographics: Age: median (q1, q3) = 37 (29-47); female n = 221, Total n = 315

Exposure history: Not stated (all NHS staff)

Non-Covid group 1: pre-pandemic controls

Source: Serum samples from Airwaves study (UK police officers) - pre-pandemic (prior to August 2019; specified November 2019 though)

Characteristics: Not stated (police officers)

Index tests

Test name: Phase I:

- (A) Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (lateral flow method);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene (lateral flow);
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics COVID-19 TOTAL Ab Device;
- (D) Biopanda COVID-19 Rapid Antibody test;
- (E) Biosure COVID-1 Antibody Self-Test.

Manufacturer:

- (A) Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (Guangzhou, China);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd;
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics;
- (D) Biopanda;
- (E) Biosure (Mologic).

Antibody:

- (A) IgG/M combined;
- (B) IgG & M;
- (C) IgG & M;
- (D) IgG & M;
- (E) IgG only.

Antigen target:

- (A) S;
- (B) S1, S2 and N;
- (C) S;
- (D) S and N;
- (E) N

Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT and in lab for comparison

Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay

Timing of samples: After 21 days of symptom onset; median (q1, q3) duration = 44 (35-53) days; range 21-100 days

Samples used: LFIA self-tests with finger-prick capillary blood; provided on the same day venous whole blood and serum samples for laboratory analysis.

***Review team chose serum samples tested in laboratory for main analyses as largest number of samples per test**

Test operator: Self-test (participant interpretation) and observed by a member of the team (trained interpreter observation), finger prick participant self-read and finger prick trained observer-read
Lab test on serum and whole blood samples: Initially, scoring was performed independently by two technicians, but this practice ceased after inter-rater scoring was found to be almost perfect by 7-point categorical score (Kappa = 0.81)

Flower 2020 [A] (Continued)

Definition of test positivity: By the presence of IgG band (if two separate lines are there for IgG and IgM separately, $n = 3$ kits OR if only one line to detect IgG only, $n = 1$ kit) or presence of combined IgG + IgM band ($n = 1$ kit). Manufacturer instructions were followed. Intensity of the result band(s) from 0 (negative) to 6 according to a standardised scoring system on a visual guide. Invalid tests were repeated. A photograph of the completed test was emailed to the study team.

For consistency, in the three kits which had separate IgM and IgG bands ([B], [C], [D]), only IgG was counted as a positive result (i.e. 'MG' or 'G' but not 'M', distinct from manufacturer guidance).

[E] Commercial Biosure kit comes in box with device holder and reading card. Clinic self-tests in this study were performed with the device alone.

Blinding reported: Yes for lab analyses, no for self-test

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: For sensitivity, tests were compared against two standards:

- (A) PCR-confirmed clinical disease (via swab testing) and
- (B) positivity in patients with either a positive S-ELISA and/or hybrid DABA in the laboratory

Samples used:

- (A) Swab, no further details
- (B) not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear (at least 21 days from the symptom onset or PCR-positive, whichever was earlier)

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Yes (not all patients were included in the analysis)

Not all 276 participants received all index tests:

238/276 received one POCT, 38/276 received two different POCTs (314 finger prick tests and 314 sera for lab tests).

Also missing data for whole blood analyses

Uninterpretable results: Not reported (Possibly none as invalid tests were repeated)

Indeterminate results: Invalid tests were repeated.

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This work was supported by funding from The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NIHR Biomedical Research Centre of Imperial College NHS Trust. GC is supported by an NIHR Professorship. WB is the Action Medical Research Professor. AD is an NIHR senior investigator. DA is an Emeritus NIHR Senior Investigator. HW is an NIHR Senior Investigator. RC holds IPR on the hybrid DABA

Flower 2020 [A] (Continued)

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Author COI: All authors have completed the ICMJE uniform disclosure form at www.icmje.org/coi_disclosure.pdf and declared: no financial relationships with any organisations that might have an interest in the submitted work in the previous three years; no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?			
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?			
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?			
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation			

Flower 2020 [A] (Continued)

differ from the review question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

No

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Flower 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Flower 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	<p>Test name: Phase I: (A) Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (lateral flow method); (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene (lateral flow); (C) Fortress Diagnostics COVID-19 TOTAL Ab Device; (D) Biopanda COVID-19 Rapid Antibody test; (E) Biosure COVID-1 Antibody Self-Test. Manufacturer: (A) Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (Guangzhou, China); (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd; (C) Fortress Diagnostics; (D) Biopanda; (E) Biosure (Mologic).</p> <p>Antibody: (A) IgG/M combined; (B) IgG & M; (C) IgG & M; (D) IgG & M; (E) IgG only.</p> <p>Antigen target: (A) S; (B) S1, S2 and N; (C) S; (D) S and N; (E) N.</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT and in lab for comparison</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: After 21 days of symptom onset;</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flower 2020 [B] (Continued)

median (q1, q3) duration = 44 (35-53) days; range 21–100 days

Samples used: LFIA self-tests with finger-prick capillary blood; provided on the same day venous whole blood and serum samples for laboratory analysis

Test operator: Self-test (participant interpretation) and observed by a member of the team (trained interpreter observation), finger prick participant self-read and finger prick trained observer-read

Lab test on serum and whole blood samples: Initially, scoring was performed independently by two technicians, but this practice ceased after inter-rater scoring was found to be almost perfect by 7-point categorical score (Kappa = 0.81)

Definition of test positivity: By the presence of IgG band (if two separate lines are there for IgG and IgM separately, n=3 kits OR if only one line to detect IgG only, n=1 kit) or presence of combined IgG + IgM band (n=1 kit). Manufacturer instructions were followed. Intensity of the result band(s) from 0 (negative) to 6 according to a standardised scoring system on a visual guide. Invalid tests were repeated. A photograph of the completed test was emailed to the study team.

For consistency, in the three kits which had separate IgM and IgG bands ([B], [C], [D]), only IgG was counted as a positive result (i.e. 'MG' or 'G' but not 'M', distinct from manufacturer guidance).

[E] Commercial Biosure kit comes in box with device holder and reading card. Clinic self-tests in this study were performed with the device alone.

Blinding reported: Yes for lab analyses, no for self-test

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: For sensitivity, tests were compared against two standards: (A) PCR-confirmed clinical disease (via swab testing) and (B) positivity in patients with either a positive S-ELISA and/or hybrid DABA in the laboratory

Samples used:

(A) Swab, no further details
(B) not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

Methodological quality

Item

Authors' judgement

Risk of bias

Applicability concerns

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Flower 2020 [B] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled? Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided? No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions? Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference High

Flower 2020 [B] (Continued)

standard does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Flower 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests Test name: Phase I:
(A) Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (lateral flow method);
(B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene (lateral flow);
(C) Fortress Diagnostics COVID-19 TOTAL Ab Device;
(D) Biopanda COVID-19 Rapid Antibody test;
(E) Biosure COVID-1 Antibody Self-Test.

Manufacturer:

(A) Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (Guangzhou, China);
(B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd;
(C) Fortress Diagnostics;
(D) Biopanda;
(E) Biosure (Mologic).

Antibody:

(A) IgG/M combined;
(B) IgG & M;
(C) IgG & M;
(D) IgG & M;
(E) IgG only.

Antigen target:

(A) S;
(B) S1, S2 and N;

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flower 2020 [C] (Continued)

(C) S;
D) S and N;
(E) N.

Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT and in lab for comparison

Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay

Timing of samples: After 21 days of symptom onset; median (q1, q3) duration = 44 (35-53) days; range 21-100 days

Samples used: LFIA self-tests with finger-prick capillary blood; provided on the same day venous whole blood and serum samples for laboratory analysis

Test operator: Self-test (participant interpretation) and observed by a member of the team (trained interpreter observation), finger prick participant self-read and finger prick trained observer-read

Lab test on serum and whole blood samples: Initially, scoring was performed independently by two technicians, but this practice ceased after inter-rater scoring was found to be almost perfect by 7-point categorical score (Kappa = 0.81).

Definition of test positivity: By the presence of IgG band (if two separate lines are there for IgG and IgM separately, n=3 kits OR if only one line to detect IgG only, n=1 kit) or presence of combined IgG + IgM band (n=1 kit). Manufacturer instructions were followed. Intensity of the result band(s) from 0 (negative) to 6 according to a standardised scoring system on a visual guide. Invalid tests were repeated. A photograph of the completed test was emailed to the study team.

For consistency, in the three kits which had separate IgM and IgG bands ([B], [C], [D]), only IgG was counted as a positive result (i.e. 'MG' or 'G' but not 'M', distinct from manufacturer guidance).

[E] Commercial Biosure kit comes in box with device holder and reading card. Clinic self-tests in this study were performed with the device alone.

Blinding reported: Yes for lab analyses, no for self-test

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flower 2020 [C] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flower 2020 [C] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Flower 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Patient characteristics and setting

Index tests

Test name: Phase I:

- (A) Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (lateral flow method);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene (lateral flow);
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics COVID-19 TOTAL Ab Device;
- (D) Biopanda COVID-19 Rapid Antibody test;**
- (E) Biosure COVID-1 Antibody Self-Test.

Manufacturer:

- (A) Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (Guangzhou, China);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd;
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics;
- (D) Biopanda;**
- (E) Biosure (Mologic).

Antibody:

- (A) IgG/M combined;
- (B) IgG & M;
- (C) IgG & M;
- (D) IgG & M;
- (E) IgG only.

Antigen target:

- (A) S;
- (B) S1, S2 and N;
- (C) S;
- (D) S and N;**
- (E) N.

Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT and in lab for comparison

Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay

Timing of samples: After 21 days of symptom onset; median (q1, q3) duration = 44 (35-53) days; range 21-100 days

Samples used: LFIA self-tests with finger-prick capillary blood; provided on the same day venous whole blood and serum samples for laboratory analysis

Flower 2020 [D] (Continued)

Test operator: Self-test (participant interpretation) and observed by a member of the team (trained interpreter observation), finger prick participant self-read and finger prick trained observer-read

Lab test on serum and whole blood samples: Initially, scoring was performed independently by two technicians, but this practice ceased after inter-rater scoring was found to be almost perfect by 7-point categorical score (Kappa = 0.81)

Definition of test positivity: By the presence of IgG band (if two separate lines are there for IgG and IgM separately, n=3 kits OR if only one line to detect IgG only, n=1 kit) or presence of combined IgG + IgM band (n=1 kit). Manufacturer instructions were followed. Intensity of the result band(s) from 0 (negative) to 6 according to a standardised scoring system on a visual guide. Invalid tests were repeated. A photograph of the completed test was emailed to the study team.

For consistency, in the three kits which had separate IgM and IgG bands ([B], [C], [D]), only IgG was counted as a positive result (i.e. 'MG' or 'G' but not 'M', distinct from manufacturer guidance).

[E] Commercial Biosure kit comes in box with device holder and reading card. Clinic self-tests in this study were performed with the device alone.

Blinding reported: Yes for lab analyses, no for self-test

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment		
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment		
Comparative			
Notes			
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Flower 2020 [D] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Flower 2020 [E]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Patient characteristics and setting

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Flower 2020 [E] (Continued)

Index tests

Test name: Phase I:

- (A) Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (lateral flow method);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene (lateral flow);
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics COVID-19 TOTAL Ab Device;
- (D) Biopanda COVID-19 Rapid Antibody test;
- (E) Biosure COVID-1 Antibody Self-Test.**

Manufacturer:

- (A) Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech (Guangzhou, China);
- (B) Menarini Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd;
- (C) Fortress Diagnostics;
- (D) Biopanda;
- (E) Biosure (Mologic).**

Antibody:

- (A) IgG/M combined;
- (B) IgG & M;
- (C) IgG & M;
- (D) IgG & M;
- (E) IgG only.**

Antigen target:

- (A) S;
- (B) S1, S2 and N;
- (C) S;
- (D) S and N;
- (E) N.**

Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT and in lab for comparison

Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay

Timing of samples: After 21 days of symptom onset; median (q1, q3) duration = 44 (35-53) days; range 21–100 days

Samples used: LFIA self-tests with finger-prick capillary blood; provided on the same day venous whole blood and serum samples for laboratory analysis

Test operator: Self-test (participant interpretation) and observed by a member of the team (trained interpreter observation), finger prick participant self-read and finger prick trained observer-read

Lab test on serum and whole blood samples: Initially, scoring was performed independently by two technicians, but this practice ceased after inter-rater scoring was found to be almost perfect by 7-point categorical score (Kappa = 0.81)

Definition of test positivity: By the presence of IgG band (if two separate lines are there for IgG and IgM separately, n=3 kits OR if only one line to detect IgG only, n=1 kit) or presence of combined IgG + IgM band (n=1 kit). Manufacturer instructions were followed. Intensity of the result band(s) from 0 (negative) to 6 according to a standardised scoring system on a visual guide. Invalid tests were repeated. A photograph of the completed test was emailed to the study team.

For consistency, in the three kits which had separate IgM and IgG bands ([B], [C], [D]), only IgG was counted as a positive result (i.e. 'MG' or 'G' but not 'M', distinct from manufacturer guidance).

[E] Commercial Biosure kit comes in box with device holder and reading card. Clinic self-tests in this study were performed with the device alone.

Blinding reported: Yes for lab analyses, no for self-test

Flower 2020 [E] (Continued)

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the refer-			High

Flower 2020 [E] (Continued)

ence standard does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Fragkou 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Hospitalised confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 26) [2] Asymptomatic healthcare volunteers with negative rRT-PCR (n = 18) Group [2] had < 25 samples and was excluded from our review.</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 44 (26) of which 16 (16) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Hospitalised symptomatic patients with rRTPCR-confirmed COVID-19 infection [2] Hospital asymptomatic volunteers, with no clinical symptoms for the past month, with negative SARS-CoV-2 rRT-PCR at the day of sampling and no reported "close contact" history (based on the ECDC definitions for confirmed cases and close contacts) [1] and [2] adults (≥ 18 years old) No additional exclusion criteria were applied.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Attikon University Hospital, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece</p> <p>Country: Greece</p> <p>Dates: 30th March 2020 and 6th April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Mild: 8/26; moderate: 8/26; severe and/or critical: 10/26</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Fragkou 2020 (Continued)

Demographics: 65.9 ± 15.4 years old, male 57.7%

0-7 days pso (n = 5): 81.6 ± 11.8 years

7-14 days pso (n = 11): 68.2 ± 9.4 years

> 14 days pso (n = 10): 55.5 ± 15.2 years

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic healthy

Source: Asymptomatic healthcare volunteers from a tertiary teaching hospital between 30th March 2020 and 6th April 2020

Characteristics: Adults; hospital staff; no clinical symptoms for the past month, with negative SARS-CoV-2 rRT-PCR at the day of sampling and no reported "close contact" history (based on the ECDC definitions for confirmed cases and close contacts)

45.6 ± 10.1 years old, male 33.3%

Index tests

Test name: (COVID-19) IgG/IgM Test Kit

Manufacturer: Lansion Biotechnology Co., Ltd. (Nanjing, PR China)

Antibody: IgG and IgM

Antigen target: Not stated

Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POC (actual clinical setting)

Test method: dry fluorescence immunoassay via a portable analyser

Timing of samples:

< 7 days: 5/26

7-14 days: 11/26

> 14 days: 10/26

Samples used: Capillary whole blood: finger-prick, 5 µL of whole blood was collected in a micropipette and delivered on a test strip.

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

Manufacturer's cut-off ≥ 0.04 mIU/mL for both IgG and IgM antibodies; cut-off of IgM ≥ 0.05 mIU/mL and IgG ≥ 0.10 mIU/mL; cut-off of IgM ≥ 0.08 mIU/mL and IgG ≥ 0.19 mIU/mL

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes for manufacturer's cut-off, no for the other cut-offs

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: rRT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2: using the VIASURE SARS-CoV-2 Real Time PCR Detection Kit (CerTest Biotec SL, Zaragoza, Spain)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and/or oropharyngeal swabs; lower respiratory tract samples (e.g. bronchoalveolar lavage or aspirates, sputum, etc.) were also accepted.

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: rRT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 and clinical symptoms, using the VIASURE SARS-CoV-2 Real Time PCR Detection Kit (CerTest Biotec SL, Zaragoza, Spain)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and/or oropharyngeal swabs

Fragkou 2020 (Continued)

	Timing of reference standard: negative SARS-CoV-2 rRT-PCR at the day of sampling		
	Blinded to index test: unclear		
	Incorporated index test: no		
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] Not stated [2] Same day		
	All patients received same reference standard: yes		
	Missing data: Not stated		
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated		
	Indeterminate results: No		
	Unit of analysis: Patients		
Comparative			
Notes	<p>Funding: For PCF: Supported by Doctorate scholarship by the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), Partnership Agreement (PA) 2014-2020, co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Social Fund-ESF) through the Operational Programme "Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020"</p> <p>Consumables, test strips and the reader were provided for free by Lanson Biotech.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: In Vivo</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.</p>		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fragkou 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fragkou 2020 (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Fujigaki 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of three antibody tests for identification of acute and convalescent-phase SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study estimating sensitivity: residual samples from PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 29, providing 99 samples)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 29 (29)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient setting (all hospitalised)</p> <p>Location: Fujita Health University Hospital, Toyoake, Aichi</p> <p>Country: Japan</p> <p>Dates: 28 February to 15 April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated (however, all patients were hospitalised, so likely had symptoms)</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age 52.9 y (SD 21.9); 14, 48% male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette</p> <p>[B] COVID-19 IgM/IgG Duo</p> <p>[C] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Detection Kit</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Hangzhou AllTest Biotech Co., Ltd., China</p> <p>[B] SD BIOSENSOR, Korea</p> <p>[C] Vazyme Biotech Co., Ltd., China</p> <p>Antibody: All tests: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: All tests: Unclear</p> <p>Evaluation setting: All tests: POC tests, likely done in lab (samples were residual and had been frozen)</p> <p>Test method: All tests: Lateral flow immunoassay - colloidal gold (CGIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Fujigaki 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Day 0 to 35;
day 0-7: 18 patients; 27 samples
day 8-14: 22 patients; 39 samples
day 15-21 18 patients; 28 samples
day > 21 4 patients; 5 samples

Samples used: Serum (residual and frozen prior to testing)

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: As per manufacturer: visual-based

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based

Target condition and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no more details available)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: At the time or prior to hospital admission (not further specified)

Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes, although different RT-PCR assays could have been used.

Missing data: None reported; some participants provided only one sample while others provided up to 12.

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Presented per sample in the paper; extracted on a per patient basis by review team using Fig 1 and Fig 2 and including one sample per patient per week post-symptom onset (any positive result over-rode negative results in same week)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: No funding reported
Nichirei Biosciences Inc. and Shionogi & Co., Ltd respectively provided the 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette and COVID-19 IgM/IgG Duo kits and the 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Detection Kit.

Publication status: Pre-print article

Source: Pre-print server (medRxiv)

Author COI: One of the authors received immunochromatographic anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody detection kits from Nichirei Biosciences Inc. and Shionogi & Co., Ltd, none of which was related to this work.

Methodological quality

Item

Authors' judgement

Risk of bias

Applicability concerns

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fujigaki 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fujigaki 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Fujigaki 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Fujigaki 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Fujigaki 2020 [C] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Gao 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Single-group study estimating sensitivity [1] Patients with confirmed COVID-19 (n = 38) Recruitment: unclear Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 38 (38) Inclusion and exclusion criteria: COVID-19 confirmed by New Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control Program (5th edition) published by the National Health Commission of China
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: hospital inpatient Location: Second People's Hospital of Fuyang Country: China Dates: 22 January 2020-28 February 2020 Symptoms and severity: 3/38 described as in severe or critical conditions; 35/38 described as mild cases Sex: 55.3% (21/38) male Age: median age 40.5 years (IQR 31.0-49.5 years), range 15-75 years Exposure history: NR
Index tests	Test name: Colloidal Gold Antibodies Test Manufacturer: Innovita Biological Technology Co., Ltd Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: NR Test method: CGIA Timing of samples: days 0-15+ Samples used: serum Test operators: NR Definition of test positivity: visible line Blinded to reference standard: NR Threshold predefined: yes
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases: participants met the criteria of the New Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control Program (5th edition) published by the National Health Commission of China. Samples used: NR Timing of reference standard: NR Blinded to index test: yes Incorporated index test: no
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: yes: 0-7 days (n = 13), 8-14 days (n = 8) and ≥ 15 days (n = 23) after onset of symptoms All participants received the same reference standard: yes Missing data: NR Uninterpretable results: NR Indeterminate results: NR Unit of analysis: results reported for participants. 38 participants included and 76 serum samples collected in total from these 38 participants. Median number of samples collected from each participant was 8.

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Gao 2020a (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: The Science and Technology Bureau of Fuyang
Publication status: accepted manuscript (peer reviewed)
Source: Journal of Medical Virology
Study author COI: none reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		

Gao 2020a (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Gao 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Single-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity
[1] confirmed COVID-19 cases
Recruitment: consecutive (inferred). From all confirmed cases admitted to hospital
Prospective or retrospective recruitment of cases: retrospective (appeared)
Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 22 participants (corresponding to 37 samples)
Inclusion and exclusion criteria: not clearly defined; described all participants having typical ground-glass opacity of the lung on CT but not clear if this was part of eligibility

Patient characteristics and setting Setting: hospital inpatient
Location: Fifth Hospital of Shijiazhuang
Country: China
Dates: from 21 January-24 February 2020
Symptoms and severity: typical ground-glass opacity in lung was observed in CT scan results of all participants. At the time the paper was written all participants had recovered and been discharged from hospital.
Sex: 14/22 male (64%)
Age: 40 (4-72) years
Exposure history: 11 participants had recent history of travel to epidemic areas, and the remaining 10 had close contacts with their family members, who were confirmed to be infected by 2019-nCoV.

Index tests [Gao 2020b \[A\]](#) is test [A] from the following entry:

Test name: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA
Manufacturer: Beier Bioengineering Company (Beijing, China)
Ab targets: IgG and IgM
Antigens used: spike (S) and nucleocapsid (N) proteins of 2019-nCoV
Test method: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA

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Gao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Timing of samples: [1] early stage (1-7 days pso) 10/37 samples (27%), [2] middle stage (8-14 days pso) 13/37 samples (35%); [3] late stage (14-24 days pso) 14/37 samples (38%)
Samples used: serum
Test operators: laboratory staff
Definition of test positivity:

[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.

[B] Visible line

[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result.
Blinded to reference standard: NR
Threshold predefined:

[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.

[B] Positive results showed the appearance of both control line and testing line.

[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result.

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases: RT-PCR assay (2019-nCoV RNA Test Kit, Daan Gene Company, China) Samples used: nasal and pharyngeal swab specimens Timing of reference standard: on admission (most likely) Blinded to index test: yes, index tests performed on already-confirmed cases (inferred) Incorporated index test: no Reference standard for non-cases: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: yes All participants received the same reference standard: yes Missing data: timing of reference standard test Uninterpretable results: Indeterminate results: Unit of analysis: samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: NR Publication status: published letter Source: Chinese Medical Journal Study author COI: none

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Gao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Gao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Gao 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Index tests	<p>Gao 2020b [B] is test [B] from the following entry:</p> <p>Test name: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA Manufacturer: Beier Bioengineering Company (Beijing, China) Ab targets: IgG and IgM Antigens used: spike (S) and nucleocapsid (N) proteins of 2019-nCoV Test method: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA Timing of samples: [1] early stage (1-7 days pso) 10/37 samples (27%), [2] middle stage (8-14 days pso) 13/37 samples (35%); [3] late stage (14-24 days pso) 14/37 samples (38%) Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.</p> <p>[B] Visible line</p> <p>[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result. Blinded to reference standard: NR Threshold predefined:</p> <p>[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.</p> <p>[B] Positive results showed the appearance of both control line and testing line.</p> <p>[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result.</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Comparative	

Gao 2020b [B] (Continued)

Notes

Gao 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Index tests	<p>Gao 2020b [C] is test [C] from the following entry:</p> <p>Test name: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA Manufacturer: Beier Bioengineering Company (Beijing, China) Ab targets: IgG and IgM Antigens used: spike (S) and nucleocapsid (N) proteins of 2019-nCoV Test method: [A] CLIA; [B] GICA; [C] ELISA Timing of samples: [1] early stage (1-7 days pso) 10/37 samples (27%), [2] middle stage (8-14 days pso) 13/37 samples (35%); [3] late stage (14-24 days pso) 14/37 samples (38%) Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.</p> <p>[B] Visible line</p> <p>[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result. Blinded to reference standard: NR Threshold predefined:</p> <p>[A] samples with an concentration ≥ 8 arbitrary unit (AU)/mL were considered positive.</p> <p>[B] Positive results showed the appearance of both control line and testing line.</p> <p>[C] The absorbance at 450 nm (A450 nm) of each well was determined and the cut-off value was 0.10 + A negative control. A value > cut-off value was considered a positive result.</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Gao 2020b [A])
Comparative	
Notes	

Garnett 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Validation of an automated platform, the Vitros Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Total antibody assay, for screening of previous exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in our patient population. Comparison serum analysis of
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Garnett 2020 (Continued)

known COVID-19 patients, healthy controls and COVID-19-negative but positive for another respiratory viral infection.

3-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease

Design:

[1] patients previously diagnosed with COVID-19 by RT-PCR (n = 79)

[2] healthy volunteers with no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19 (n = 57)

[3] patients previously tested to be negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR, but positive for another respiratory viral infection by molecular analysis (n = 14)

Group [3] was excluded from our review as it contained < 25 samples.

Recruitment:

[1] and [2] Specimens for validation were obtained with informed consent from healthy volunteers and known patients with COVID-19 under an approved protocol from our local institutional review board.

[3] Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: [1], [2] and [3] Unclear

Sample size: 150 (79) of which 136 (79) were eligible for our review

Further detail:

[1] Previously diagnosed with COVID-19 by reverse transcription–polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) methods at our hospital or by molecular methods at other local laboratories within our large academic medical centre

[2] Negative for SARS CoV-2 by RT-PCR and who had no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19

[3] Known to be positive for other viruses by molecular testing (including influenza A virus, influenza B virus, respiratory syncytial virus, adenovirus, rhinovirus, or other coronaviruses) but negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR

Patient characteristics
and setting

Setting: Unclear.

Location: Known positive patients were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 by RT-PCR methods at Texas Children's Hospital clinical laboratories, or at other institutions in the Texas Medical Center
This sentence changed in the published paper to "Known positive patients were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 by reverse transcription–polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) methods at our hospital or by molecular methods at other local laboratories within our large academic medical center."
Houston, Texas from affiliations

Country: USA

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Patients "were RT-PCR-positive for SARS CoV-2 and/or admitted to the COVID ICU"

Not stated in publication

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Healthy controls

Source: Not stated

Characteristics: healthy volunteers who were negative for SARS CoV-2 by RT-PCR and who had no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19

Index tests

Test name: Vitros (VITROS®) Anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total assay

Manufacturer: Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Raritan, NJ

Publication only stated "Ortho Clinical Diagnostics", no city or state

Garnett 2020 (Continued)

Antibody: total IgG and IgM

Antigen target: solid-phase SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein antigen

Evaluation setting: Laboratory test - Vitros (VITROS®) Anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total assay used on the Vitros 5600 automated chemistry analyser (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Raritan, NJ)

Test method: Unclear. "The Vitros (VITROS®) Anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total assay (CoV2T, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Raritan, NJ) detects total IgG and IgM directed against SARS-Cov-2, and was evaluated for use on the Vitros 5600 automated chemistry analyzer (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Raritan, NJ). The CoV2T assay uses a solid-phase SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein antigen to capture antibodies in the patient specimen, and horse-radish peroxidase-labelled recombinant SARS-CoV-2 antigen as a detection reagent."

Agree that the test method was unclear from the text. I have checked online and it seems to be a CLIA method.

Timing of samples: 0 to 35 days after onset of symptoms for 55 COVID patients (methods say 0-35 days after positive PCR, possibly for all 79 COVID patients)

Categorised as:

< 3 days pso: 17/55,

4-7 days pso: 7/55,

8-13 days pso: 8/55

and > 13 days since first reported symptom: 23/55

Samples used: Serum and plasma

Test operator: Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity: The assay is qualitative and reports results as reactive or nonreactive based on a manufacturer-defined signal/cut-off (s/c) ratio of 1.00 as the decision limit

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: manufacturer-defined signal/cut-off (s/c) ratio of 1.00 as the decision limit

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR. Threshold not stated (samples were tested on different days and by different operators)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes - prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] healthy volunteers who were negative for SARS CoV-2 by RT-PCR and who had no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19 (samples were tested on different days and by different operators)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: None

55/79 included in seroconversion study ("Seroconversion in our patient population was assessed by correlation of chart review of 55 patients known to be positive for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR and known date of symptom onset...") so 24/79 no data on symptom onset?

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Garnett 2020 (Continued)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: EG and JJ were supported by the Ching Nan Ou Fellowship Endowment. Some of the validation kits used in this study were provided by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, but they maintained no involvement in study design or validation, and were not privy to any of the data or interpretation.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed); now published paper

Source: medRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.09.20126474>
Journal (American Journal of Clinical Pathology)

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Garnett 2020 (Continued)

If a threshold was used,
was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Garnett 2020 (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of multiple diagnostic tests for acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19 and evaluation of antibody kinetics</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>Group [1]: PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 229 samples); published report included 107 patients (187 samples) with virus neutralisation antibodies detected by PRNT50 (all PRNT \geq 20); Supplementary Data file included data for a further 42 samples with PRNT < 20</p> <p>Group [2]: Patients with other infections (n = 147 reportedly included but results for 157 samples reported in Supplementary Data file and in Tabl 1 of published report for EUROIMMUN assays only)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 254 (107)</p> <p>Samples: 386 (229); as reported in Supplementary Data file</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed; outpatient and inpatient (all COVID-19 patients admitted to Erasmus MC were asked for permission to use their clinical data and left-over patient material for COVID-19 research purposes)</p> <p>Location: Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam</p> <p>Country: Netherlands</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Of 229 samples in Supplementary Data file: 71, 31% mild (non-hospitalised); 55, 24% moderate (hospitalised); 103, 45% ICU</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: Patients with exposure to human coronaviruses (HCoV-229E, NL63 or OC43), SARS, MERS), or with a range of other respiratory viruses (adenovirus, human metapneumovirus, influenza A/B, RSV A/B, rhinovirus, bocavirus, parainfluenza virus 1 and 3, enterovirus, EBV, CMV)</p> <p>Source: Lab stocked samples. Collection period was not stated but likely pre-pandemic.</p> <p>Characteristics: No more details available</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 total Ig ELISA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [B] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 IgM ELISA
- [C] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA assay
- [D] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA assay
- [E] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
- [F] Rapid SARS-CoV-2 Antibody (IgM/IgG) Test (Test lots S2020021505 and GJ20030288)
- [G] (GICA) (Test lot 20200416WI5513C)
- [H] COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette (Test lot 2003309)

Manufacturer:

- [A], [B]: Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise Co., Ltd., China
- [C], [D]: EUROIMMUN Medizinische Labordiagnostika AG, Lübeck, Germany
- [E] DiaSorin, Saluggia, Italy
- [F] InTec Products Inc.
- [G] Cellex Inc.
- [H] OrientGene Biotech / Healgan, China

Antibody:

- [A]: Total IgG
- [B]: IgM
- [C]: IgG
- [D]: IgA
- [E]: IgG
- [F] - [H]: IgM, IgG

Antigen target:

- [A], [B]: RBD
- [C], [D]: S1 domain of the spike-protein
- [E]: S1 and S2 domains of the spike-protein
- [F]: S and N proteins
- [G]: N-protein
- [H]: S and N proteins

Evaluation setting:

- [A]-[E]: Lab tests, done in lab
- [F]-[H]: POC tests, likely done in lab.

Test method:

- [A]-[D]: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
- [E]: Chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)
- [F]-[H]: Lateral flow immunoassay (CGIA)

Timing of samples: Median 16 days pso (calculated from Suppl Data file), range 4 to 73 days
The number of samples tested varied for each assay, and results were presented per sample but not per patient, so a clear breakdown by time was hard.

Samples used: Serum (COVID-19 cases); serum or plasma (non-COVID-19 samples)

Test operator: Not stated; presumably lab staff as all specimen were stored at -20 °C until use

Definition of test positivity:

- [A, B] Wantai ELISAs, OD ratio > 1;
 - [C,D] Euroimmun ELISAs, OD ratio > 1.1;
 - [E] DiaSorin Liaison IgG > 15 AU/mL;
 - [F to H] presence of visible lines.
- For assay [E] samples with values between 12 and 15 on initial test, were retested as per manufacturer IFU, and considered positive if value >= 12 for a second time.

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no more details available)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Group [2]: Other infection or condition controls (timing not reported) no testing

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: 2.3 weeks prior to serum collection "Sera (for index test) were collected from 2–3 weeks upon the respiratory infection, and during the acute phase of CMV or EBV."

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No - multiple assays were likely used to test patients from Group [1]. Group [2] received no reference standard (unclear if pre-pandemic or not)

Missing data: The number of samples tested per assay reportedly varied due to limited sample volume and limited availability of the LFAs at the time of the evaluation; however some discrepancies between data reported in paper (Tabl 1) and data provided in Suppl Data file (Fig 1) could not be explained by limited sample volume (e.g. LFAs reported for 9 control samples in published report but 79 samples in data file).

Of 229 available samples from COVID-19 cases and 157 samples from non-COVID-19 cases, results were available for:

[A] 229/146

[B] 227/146

[C + D] 90/157

[E] 202/137

[F to H] 131/79 (NB Tabl 1 of paper reported data for 98 control samples for all LFAs)

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work partially was funded through EU COVID-19 grant RECOVER.

Publication status: Published article

Source: Nature Communications

Author COI: Authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?

Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided?

No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?

Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?

Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [A] (Continued)

without knowledge of
the results of the index
tests?

The reference standard
does not incorporate the
index test

Yes

**Could the reference
standard, its conduct,
or its interpretation
have introduced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that
the target condition as
defined by the refer-
ence standard does not
match the question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate
interval between index
test and reference stan-
dard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive
the same reference stan-
dard?

No

Were all patients includ-
ed in the analysis?

No

Did all participants re-
ceive a reference stan-
dard?

Unclear

Were results presented
per patient?

No

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [E] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [G] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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GeurtsvanKessel 2020 [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Graham 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of prior infection (sero-prevalence in nursing home residents)</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (PCR+) (n = 94)</p> <p>[2] PCR- residents (n = 147)</p> <p>PCR- residents (n = 147) were not included in our review as they did not have an adequate reference standard (PCR tests performed too late or not correctly swabbed).</p> <p>Recruitment: Testing was performed as part of an outbreak investigation with Public Health England and verbal consent obtained from residents (or their relative/friend as appropriate) who had a RT-PCR result available.</p> <p>All residents available and consenting to testing from 4 UK nursing homes</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 241 (94) samples of which 94 (94) samples were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: All residents of 4 UK Nursing Homes with rt-PCR results available and informed consent</p> <p>[1] All rt-PCR-positive residents</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent (Nursing home residents)</p> <p>Location: 4 UK Nursing Homes (West London Nursing Homes)</p> <p>Country: UK</p> <p>Dates: June 2020</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Graham 2021 (Continued)

	<p>Symptoms and severity: Convalescent (around 2 months after outbreak) [Of 158 PCR+ residents, 43% had no identifiable symptoms in the preceding two-week period. 35% of antibody-positive residents (62 of 173) had been asymptomatic in the two-week ascertainment window prior to PCR testing during the outbreak. Not stated for the 94 included COVID cases]</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated (high-dependency nursing home residents)</p> <p>Exposure history: All nursing home residents</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Abbott Architect nucleocapsid IgG assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: Abbott</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: N-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Lab test performed in lab</p> <p>Test method: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of samples: Not stated (convalescent, around 2 months after diagnosis)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated (as part of an outbreak investigation with Public Health England)</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Not stated (samples with binding ratios near to the cut-off were confirmed on an in-house receptor binding domain double antigen bridging assay to determine final status)</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Not stated</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR testing for all residents, with re-testing one week later in those testing negative</p> <p>Samples used: Oropharyngeal and nasal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Around 2 months (PCR+ in April 2020, index test in June 2020)</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: yes (147 PCR- residents not included in our review)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Samples with binding ratios near to the cut-off were confirmed on an in-house receptor binding domain double antigen bridging assay to determine final status.</p> <p>Number not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	

Graham 2021 (Continued)

Notes

Funding: UK DRI Centre for Care Research and Technology for funding the work

Publication status: Published letter

Source: Journal of Infection

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		

Graham 2021 (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Gudbjartsson 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection, current convalescent-phase infection, and prior infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID cases (1237 patients; 2102 samples; possible overlap of patients between [1a] and [1b])</p> <p>[1a] Hospitalised (48 patients; 249 samples)</p> <p>[1b] Recovered (1215 patients; 1853 samples)</p> <p>[2] PCR- or not tested</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic: 2017 (n = 472)</p> <p>[2b] Early 2020 (n = 470)</p> <p>[2c] Health Care (n = 18,609)</p> <p>[2d] Reykjavik (n = 4843)</p> <p>[2e] Vestmannaeyjar (n = 663)</p> <p>[2f] Quarantine (n = 4222)</p> <p>Only groups [1b] and [2a] were eligible for our review.</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] From February 28 to May 1, 1797 patients were found to be SARS-CoV-2 positive by qPCR.</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] (Continued)

We collected samples from a group of hospitalised qPCR-positive persons and invited all qPCR-positive persons who had recovered from infection to donate samples, both shortly after recovery and again approximately 3 months after recovery (a total of 2102 samples from 1237 persons).

[1a] 48 out of 101 (48%) hospitalised Icelandic COVID-19 patients during their hospital admission

The most common reason for missing samples was that the patient had been discharged before commencement of the study, followed by the patient not consenting to participate in the study.

[1b] We invited all qPCR-positive persons to give a blood sample after recovery (defined as at least two weeks from qPCR diagnosis and one week after end of symptoms) and again on July 1, on average 100 days after diagnosis with qPCR.

Non-participation was because of refusal or inability to participate because of health or geographic constraints.

[2a] Persons participating in the deCODE health study in the year 2017

[2b] Persons participating in the deCODE health study from February 18 through March 9 2020

[2c], [2d], [2e] Persons who had neither tested qPCR-positive nor been quarantined to evaluate seroprevalence outside quarantine and the spread of the virus in Iceland (the Health Care, Reykjavik, and Vestmannaeyjar sample groups)

[2f] Samples from quarantined persons who had not tested qPCR-positive

Prospective or retrospective: [1a], [1b], [2c], [2d], [2e], [2f] Prospective

[2a], [2b] Retrospective

Sample size: 30,576 (1237) people of which 2325 (1853) samples from 1687 (1215) patients were eligible for our review.

Further detail: Inclusion criteria: either that the person had not been tested positive with qPCR (Neg/NA) (group [2]) or that the person had been positive with qPCR assay (positive) (group 1))

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: [1b] Convalescent/community

Location: Former inpatients or outpatients of Landspítali - The National University Hospital of Iceland (LUH), Reykjavik.

Country: Iceland

Dates: [1b] 3 April to 8 July 2020

Symptoms and severity: [1b] Not stated (1215 of 1797 PCR+ COVID patients included in [1b]:

Of the 1797 confirmed COVID patients, 1746 (97.2%) were treated as outpatients while the remaining 51 (2.8%) patients were admitted to hospital at the time of diagnosis. Now all recovered with at least 1 week without symptoms)

Demographics: [1b] 48% male

Age: Mean 43 (SD 16) years

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Source: Persons participating in the deCODE health study in the year 2017 (2 January to 4 December 2017)

Characteristics: 41% male

Age: mean 57 (SD 16) years

Index tests

Test name: Name not stated

[A] Roche Elecsys chemiluminescence assay

[B] Wantai ELISA

[C] EDI ELISA

[D] EDI ELISA

[E] Euroimmun ELISA

[F] Euroimmun ELISA

Manufacturer:

Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

- [A] Roche International, Basel, Switzerland
- [B] Wantai/Nordic BioSite, Täby, Sweden
- [C] EDI/Eagle Biosciences, Amherst, NH, United States
- [D] EDI/Eagle Biosciences, Amherst, NH, United States
- [E] Euroimmun AG, Luebeck, Germany
- [F] Euroimmun AG, Luebeck, Germany

Antibody:

- [A] Total antibodies
- [B] Total antibodies
- [C] IgG
- [D] IgM
- [E] IgG
- [F] IgA

Antigen target:

- [A] Nucleocapsid (anti-N)
- [B] Spike 1 RBD (anti-S1-RBD)
- [C] Nucleocapsid (anti-N)
- [D] Nucleocapsid (anti-N)
- [E] Spike subunit 1 (anti-S1)
- [F] Spike subunit 1 (anti-S1)

Evaluation setting:

- [A]-[F] Lab tests performed in lab

Test method:

- [A] ECLIA
- [B]-[F] ELISA

Timing of samples: [1b] at least two weeks from qPCR diagnosis and one week after end of symptoms; (text and Fig 2 stated "25 days after diagnosis" for the earliest time point) and again on July 1, on average 100 days after diagnosis with qPCR (487/1215 recovered patients with at least 2 samples at least 30 days apart); up to 4 months after PCR+

Samples used: Serum samples were frozen in aliquots at -80°C.

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: All measurements were done according to manufacturer 's instructions. The ELISA results are expressed as optical density (OD) and the ECLIA results as log light emission.

[C] and [D] For the IgG and IgM anti-N assays, we ran four negative controls per 96 well plate and subtracted the mean OD of the negative controls from the OD. After subtraction of the negative controls, the manufacturer recommended OD thresholds for positive results were 0.198 for the IgG anti-N assay [C] and 0.11 for the IgM anti-N assay [D].

[A] and [B] The manufacturer recommended OD thresholds for positive results were 1 (0 for log(OD)) for the pan-Ig anti-N assay [A] and 0.19 for the pan-Ig anti-S1-RBD assay [B].

[E] and [F] For the IgG and IgA anti-S1 assays, the manufacturer recommended using two negative controls and two calibrator samples per plate and declaring samples positive if they have greater OD than the difference of the mean OD for the calibrator samples minus the mean OD for the negative control samples. The mean threshold was 0.33 for the IgG anti-S1 assay [E] and 0.36 for the IgA anti-S1 assay [F].

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, thresholds for positivity were supplied by the assay manufacturers.

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: Testing for SARS-CoV-2 was performed either at Landspítali – The National University Hospital of Iceland (LUH) or deCODE using similar qPCR methods. LUH: WHO recommended screening method: single probe pan-screening assay for betacoronaviruses, followed by confirmatory measurements for all positive samples using an nCoV-2019 specific assay
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

The broad betacoronavirus assay is based on probes for a conserved region of the E-gene, whereas confirmatory testing assays were done using either nCoV2019 specific probes for the RdRp gene or the TaqMan™ Fast Virus 1-step Master Mix, 2019-nCoV Assay kits v1 from Thermo Fisher.

Samples in the E-gene screening assay with Ct < 35 were considered strong positive and went for confirmatory testing using RdRp, whereas samples with Ct values between 35-37 were considered weak positive and were confirmed using the TaqMan™ Fast Virus method.

Samples with Ct values from 37-40 were classified as inconclusive and were tested again to confirm their status.

deCODE: SARS-CoV-2 screening was performed using qPCR assays in either a singleplex (Method 1) or a multiplex (method 2) format, respectively.

Method 1 uses the three probe TaqMan™ Fast Virus 1-step Master Mix, 2019-nCoV Assay kits v1 and 2019-nCoV control kit from Thermo Fisher.

Method 2 uses the TaqPath™ COVID-19 CE-IVD RT-PCR kit from Thermo Fisher.

Results criteria for methods 1 and 2:

Samples with FAM™ dye Ct 7 values < 37 in at least two of three assays were classified as positive.

Samples with FAM™ dye Ct values between 37 and 40 were classified as inconclusive and their testing repeated.

If repeated testing gave the same result with at least two probes the sample was classified as positive.

If repeated testing gave positive results for only one probe the test was considered inconclusive and a new sample from the subject was requested.

Samples with undetected FAM™ dye Ct values or values equal to 40 in all three assays were classified as negative if the human RNaseP assay was positive (VIC™ dye Ct < 40).

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Samples used: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: [2a] Pre-pandemic, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1b] at least two weeks from qPCR diagnosis
[2] Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: yes (see Table S3: only 1134/1215 and 437/472 samples tested with test [C]; only 1145/1215 and 434/472 samples tested with test [D]), results for tests [E] and [F] not reported, groups [1a], [2b], [2c], [2d]. [2e] and [2f] excluded from review

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: No intermediate results as per manufacturer's instructions

Unit of analysis: [1b] Samples, but for persons with multiple samples, only the results for the most recently obtained sample were used.

[2a] Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] (Continued)

Source: New England Journal of Medicine

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Gudbjartsson 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Gudbjartsson 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Gudbjartsson 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Guede-Lopez 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Multiple groups design to estimate sensitivity and specificity: [1] healthcare workers at Hospital Universitario La Paz, who attended the occupational health consultation for the first time between the 24th March and the 2nd of April referring symptoms compatible with COVID-19 (n = 95) [1a] PCR+ for SARS-COV-2 (n = 55); [1b] PCR- for SARS-COV-2 (n = 40); [2] patients randomly selected who were admitted to the Emergency Department of the Hospital with positive RT-qPCR or high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 (n = 50); [2a] PCR+ for SARS-COV-2 (n = 46); [2b] PCR- for SARS-COV-2 (n = 4); [3] Pre-pandemic patients (n = 20).</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Healthcare workers at Hospital Universitario La Paz, who attended the occupational health consultation for the first time between the 24th March and the 2nd of April referring symptoms compatible with COVID-19 [2] Randomly selected patients who were admitted to the Emergency Department of the Hospital with positive RT-qPCR or high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 [3] Randomly selected patients from 2018</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] and [2] Prospective [3] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 165 (101)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Healthcare workers at Hospital Universitario La Paz, who attended the occupational health consultation for the first time between the 24th March and the 2nd of April referring symptoms compatible with COVID-19 [2] Patients who were admitted to the Emergency Department of the Hospital with positive RT-qPCR or high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 [3] No further details</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[2a] patients attending accident and emergency department, ([2] 47/50 later hospitalised); [1a] Healthcare workers who attended the occupational health consultation for the first time ([1] 93/95 outpatients and 2/95 hospitalised); No separate data for PCR+ cases ([1a] and [2a])</p> <p>Location: [1a] and [2a] Hospital Universitario La Paz (Madrid, Spain)</p> <p>Country: Spain</p> <p>Dates: [1a] and [2a] Serum samples collected between 8th March and 2nd April 2020 [1a] Attended occupational health consultation between 24th March and the 2nd of April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Only reported for all 95 and 50 patients with suspected COVID-19, not for 50 and 46 rt-PCR+ patients separately: [1] Hospitalised 2/95; pneumonia 12/95 [2] Hospitalised 47/50; pneumonia 48/50</p> <p>Demographics: Only reported for all 95 and 50 patients with suspected COVID-19, not for 50 and 46 rtPCR+ patients separately: [1] Healthcare workers; 74/95 female; median age 43 (range 21–79) years [2] ER admissions; 23/50 female; median age 50 (range 28–98) years</p>

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [A] (Continued)

Exposure history:

[1a] Healthcare workers

[2a] Unclear

Non-Covid group 1: [3] Pre-pandemic patients

Source: Pre-pandemic (from 2018), Hospital Universitario La Paz (Madrid, Spain)

Characteristics: Not reported (randomly selected patients, so possibly other diseases)

Non-Covid group 2: [1b] and [2b] Suspected COVID patients with negative PCR result

Source: Hospital Universitario La Paz (Madrid, Spain), occupational health consultation or ER admissions; 8th of March and the 2nd of April 2020

Characteristics:

[1b] 40 healthcare workers

[2b] 4 patients admitted to ER department.

Further demographics only reported for all 95 and 50 patients with suspected COVID-19, not for 40 and 4 rtPCR-patients separately:

[1] Healthcare workers; 74/95 female; median age 43 (range 21–79) years

[2] ER admissions; 23/50 female; median age 50 (range 28–98) years

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Sienna 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test

[B] Wondfo, SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test

[C] Prometheus, 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Test

Manufacturer:

[A] T&D Diagnostics, Sienna, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada;

[B] Wondfo, Luogang District, Guangzhou, China;

[C] Prometheus Bio Inc., Zhejiang, China

Antibody:

[A] IgG and IgM separately;

[B] Total antibody;

[C] IgG and IgM separately

Antigen target: Not reported

Evaluation setting: Designed as POC. Unclear where it was performed

Test method: Lateral flow assay (immunochromatographic assay)

Timing of samples:

[1] Median 5 (range 1–24) days post

[2] Median 11 (range 3–18) days post

[1a] and [2a]

Early stage (first week): n = 41; intermediate stage (second week: n = 48; late stage (third week) n = 9

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Unclear. Interpretation was done by two observers.

Definition of test positivity: After a short time (no longer than 20 min), the interpretation of the results was done by two observers based on appearance of a coloured band according to manufacturer's protocol. Weakly positive results (appearance of a blurred band) was considered as a positive result according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer's protocol

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: [1a] and [1b] RT-qPCR (which detects N, S, E, Orf1ab and RdRp genes); no further details RNA was extracted using an automated system and analysed using selected RT-qPCR commercial kits routinely used for diagnosis of COVID-19.</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated (all COVID suspects in [1] Median 0 (range 0–17) days before index test; All COVID suspects in [2] Median 4 (range 0–13) days before index test)</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear for Group [1a] and [2a]</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: 1b] and [2b] RT-qPCR (which detects N, S, E, Orf1ab and RdRp genes); no further details RNA was extracted using an automated system and analysed using selected RT-qPCR commercial kits routinely used for diagnosis of COVID-19. [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: [1b] and [2b] Nasopharyngeal swabs [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: All COVID suspects [1] Median 0 (range 0–17) days before index test All COVID suspects in [2] Median 4 (range 0–13) days before index test; [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: [1b] and [2b] Unclear [3] yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests:</p> <p>Group [1]: serum samples and nasopharyngeal swabs were collected at the same time in 82 patients, while in the other 13 patients, the average time since the nasopharyngeal swab collection and the serum extraction was 7.5 days; median 0 (range 0-17) days.</p> <p>Group [2] in 48 patients, serum samples were taken days after the swab collection in an average time of 4.3 days, while in two patients, both samples were collected at the same time; median 4 (range 0-13) days.</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes for [1] and [2]; no for [3]</p> <p>Missing data: 20 extra serum samples of randomly selected patients from 2018 not tested with Wondfo® test [B] due to lack of reagents 89 samples, which belonged to the group of healthcare workers, were tested with the three ICT assays, 28 samples (6 from the first and 22 from the second group of patients) were tested with Sienna® [A] and Wondfo® [B] and the other 28 samples from the second group of patients were tested only with Sienna [A].</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Weakly positive results (appearance of a blurred band) was considered as a positive result according to the manufacturer's protocol</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not reported

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Publication status: Published article

Source: European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

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Guedez-Lopez 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Guedez-Lopez 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Haljasmagi 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Detection of acute and convalescent-phase SARS-CoV-2 antibodies</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity: [1] PCR-confirmed hospitalised Covid-19 patients (n = 26) [2] Healthy controls without recent infection or Covid-19 symptoms (fever or cough for last month) (n = 26)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear</p> <p>Sample size: 52 (26)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: Tartu University Hospital</p> <p>Country: Estonia</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not described</p> <p>Demographics: Median age 62 y (range 33-91 y); 18, 51% male [calculated from Suppl Tabl 1]</p> <p>Exposure history: Not described</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Contemporaneous apparently healthy controls</p> <p>Source: Unclear</p> <p>Characteristics: Without recent infection or Covid-19 symptoms (fever or cough) for previous month; age range 23-54 years No further details</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA</p> <p>Manufacturer: Euroimmun, Germany</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: S1</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory, laboratory</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: median 16 days (range 8 to 37 d) Day 8-14 after infection: 9/26 (35%) Day 15-21 after infection: 11/26 (42%) Day 22+ after infection: 6/26 (23%)</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: "According to the manufacturer's recommendations, a ratio < 0.8 is considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 borderline, and ≥ 1.1 positive."</p>

Haljasmagi 2020 (Continued)

	Blinding reported: Unclear
	Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: PCR; no further details
	Samples used: Unclear
	Timing of reference standard: Unclear
	Blinded to index test: Unclear
	Incorporated index test: No
	Definition of non-COVID cases: Unclear, no SARS-CoV-2 testing reported
	Samples used: Unclear, possibly none
	Timing of reference standard: Unclear
	Blinded to index test: Unclear
	Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear
	All patients received same reference standard: No (controls had different reference)
	Missing data: Nothing mentioned
	Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned
	Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned
	Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: "The study was supported by the Estonian Research Council grants [#] (PP) and [#] (K.K.)"
	Publication status: Published letter
	Source: European Journal of Immunology
	Author COI: The authors declared no commercial or financial conflict of interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Haljasmagi 2020 (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Unclear	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Haljasmagi 2020 (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Hamilton 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: A multi-group study with three groups to estimate sensitivity and specificity: [1] patients with laboratory confirmed or clinically suspected COVID-19 enrolled into DISCOVER study (n = 149): [1a] 114 PCR+ hospitalised COVID patients; [1b] 35 PCR-, clinically diagnosed hospitalised COVID patients); [2] healthcare workers at North Bristol NHS Trust with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 (n = 114); [3] pre-pandemic respiratory infection controls (n = 20). Group [3] not eligible for our review as < 25 samples leaving a "Single-group study to estimate sensitivity".</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] For the DISCOVER cohort, patients with confirmed (PCR+) and suspected (PCR-) COVID-19 were prospectively recruited and samples were taken on admission; [2] all healthcare worker who had received a positive PCR for SARS-CoV-2 at the PHE South West regional virology laboratory and went on to have antibody testing as part of as part of NHS England's strategy for healthcare worker antibody testing; [3] pre-pandemic plasma samples of patients with respiratory infection from an established tissue bank (pleural investigation database).</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>Group [1] prospective; Group [2] unclear; Group [3] retrospective.</p> <p>Sample size: 283 (263) samples of which 263 (263) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Patients with COVID-19 enrolled into the DISCOVER study (PCR+ or clinically diagnosed); [2] Healthcare worker at North Bristol NHS Trust with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 (positive PCR for SARS-CoV-2) and antibody testing as part of as part of NHS England's strategy for healthcare worker antibody testing; [3] Pre-pandemic plasma samples of patients with respiratory infection from the Pleural Investigation Database. No further details on exclusions but [1] 18 excluded from DISCOVER cohort; [2] 52 healthcare workers excluded.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[1] Hospitalised patients with COVID-19 [2] Convalescent (majority had not been hospitalised)</p> <p>Location:</p> <p>[1] An NHS hospital in the UK (Southmead Hospital, Bristol) [2] North Bristol NHS Trust - PCR performed in the PHE southwest regional virology lab</p> <p>Country: UK</p>

Hamilton 2020 (Continued)

Dates: Not reported

Symptoms and severity:

[1] mixed severity (all hospitalised); 13 patients (8%) intensive care; 15 patients (9%) died;
[2] Predominantly mild COVID-19 (aware of fewer than 5 hospitalised patients).

Demographics: [1] Median age 58 years, sex not reported; [2] Age or sex not reported

Exposure history:

[1] Not reported
[2] Healthcare workers

Non-Covid group 1: NA

Index tests

Test name: Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

Manufacturer: Abbott

Antibody: IgG

Antigen target: Not reported

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: Not reported (Architect platform)

Timing of samples:

[1] Time was calculated from reported symptom onset date. Median time unclear.

< 5 days pso: 18/149

5-9 days pso: 57/149

10-14 days pso: 28/149

15-20 days pso: 14/149

> 20 days pso: 32/149

> 42 days pso: 30/149

[2] Timing was calculated from the time of the positive PCR test. Median time to test 45 days (range 32-51 days)

Samples used: EDTA plasma (either fresh or stored at -80 C)

Test operator: Not reported

Definition of test positivity: According to manufacturer protocol

Blinding reported: Not reported

Threshold predefined: Not reported

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

[1a] and [2] RT-PCR

[1b] "Clinical diagnosis"

Samples used: Not reported

Timing of reference standard: Not reported

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Hamilton 2020 (Continued)

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] Not reported [2] Median time 45 days (range 32-51 days) post-positive PCR: > 20 days: 114/114 > 42 days: 66/114 All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: Not stated Uninterpretable results: Not reported Indeterminate results: Not reported Unit of analysis: Samples		
Comparative			
Notes	Funding: Not reported Publication status: Published letter Source: Journal of Infection Author COI: Not reported		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hamilton 2020 (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	No	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Harritshoej 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To diagnose convalescent SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Multiple group study to assess sensitivity and specificity: [1] Convalescent patients with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 150); [2] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (for determination of clinical sensitivity); [3] Pre-pandemic patients with auto-immune diseases and acute viral infections (for determination of cross-reactivity).</p> <p>NB: the same set of PCR+ samples were tested across all assays, however different control sample sets were tested across assays and laboratories with minimum overlap, i.e. specificities were not from head to head comparisons.</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] A total of 3692 individuals were contacted via public secure mail and 639 persons responded. Only the first 150 consecutively collected serum samples from 3 May 2020 were chosen without any further selection. [2] and [3] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Total sample size unclear (150 COVID cases) of which 123 samples with time pso > 21 days were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: No further details on exclusions</p> <p>Inclusion: [1] convalescent patients in the Capital Region of Denmark with a confirmed SARS-CoV-2 NAAT result that were identified in the Danish Microbiology Database from February 2020 to April 2020 that were contacted and responded. [2] Archived plasma samples from regional pre-COVID-19 blood donations drawn during the influenza seasons of 2017–2018 and 2018–2019 [3] patients with unspecified auto-immune diseases or archived local samples from patients with acute infections of cytomegalovirus (CMV) or Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) or other acute viral respiratory infections (respiratory syncytial virus, influenza A and B viruses, and adenovirus) based on positive IgM serology obtained prior to January 2020</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent samples (hospitalised and non-hospitalised)</p> <p>Location: Patients were recruited from Capital Region of Denmark based on the Danish Microbiology Database.</p> <p>Country: Denmark</p> <p>Dates: Diagnosis was made from February 2020 to April 2020. Subsequently the samples were obtained from 3 May 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Available for 149 patients only: No symptoms (n = 6, 4%); Mild (at home, well) (n = 37, 24.8%); Moderate (home, bedridden) (n = 75, 50.3%); Severe (hospitalised) (n = 2, 1.3%); Critical (assisted ventilation) (n = 29, 19.5%).</p> <p>Demographics: Median age (q1-q3) = 54 (43-64), range = 18-83 years; male (n = 52), female (n = 97) [*1 missing value]</p> <p>Exposure history: Not reported</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (for determination of clinical sensitivity)</p>

Harritshoej 2021 [A] (Continued)

Source: Archived plasma samples from regional pre-COVID-19 blood donations drawn during the influenza seasons of 2017–2018 and 2018–2019

Characteristics: Unclear (healthy blood donors)

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic patients with auto-immune diseases and acute viral infections (for determination of cross-reactivity)

Source: Samples obtained before January 2020

Characteristics: Patients with unspecified auto-immune diseases (n = 10 to 131) [10 samples were pooled and tested across all assays. The non-pooled samples were tested in selected assays]

Patients with acute infections of cytomegalovirus (CMV) or Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) or other acute viral respiratory infections (respiratory syncytial virus, influenza A and B viruses, and adenovirus) based on positive IgM serology (n = 10 to 37)

Index tests

Test name:

A] Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay;

B] Ortho CD Vitros IgG assay;

C] Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay;

D] Roche Elecsys Total-Ab assay;

E] YHLO iFlash IgG or IgM assay;

F] Abbott Architect IgG assay;

G] Abbott Alinity IgG assay;

H] Euroimmun ELISA IgG assay;

I] Snibe Maglumi IgG/IgM assay;

J] DiaSorin Liaison XL IgG assay;

K] Wantai ELISA IgM assay;

L] Ortho CD Vitros Total-Ab assay;

M] Siemens Vista Total-Ab assay;

Manufacturer:

[A] and [K] Wantai, Beijing, China;

[B] and [L] Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Pencoed, UK;

[C] and [M] Siemens Healthcare, Tarrytown, NY, USA;

[D] Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Germany;

[E] YHLO Biotechnology, Shenzhen, China;

[F] Abbott, Abbott Park, IL, USA;

[H] Euroimmun, Lubeck, Germany;

[I] Snibe, Shenzhen, China;

[J] DiaSorin, Saluggia, Italy;

Antibody:

[A, C, D, L, M] Total-Ab;

[B, E, F, G, H, J] IgG

[E, I, K] IgM;

Harritshoej 2021 [A] (Continued)

Antigen target:

[A, C, K, M] RBD;
[D, F, G] N-based;
[E, I] N-, S-based

[B,H,J,L] S-based

Evaluation setting: Designed and performed as laboratory

Test method: [A, H, K] ELISA; [B, C, , E, F, G, I, J] CLIA

Timing of samples: PSO: 0-7 (n = 0); > 7-14 (n = 7); > 14-21 (n = 13); > 21-42 (n = 49); > 42 (n = 71); Unknown (n = 10)

Corrected data from corresponding author say 123 samples > 21 days pso.

Samples used: [1] Serum; [2] Plasma; [3] Not stated

Test operator: Experienced technicians from 16 participating laboratories

Definition of test positivity: According to manufacturers' guidelines in all tests except CUH-NOVO test, where ROC analysis (prioritising sensitivity) was used to define positivity:

[A, B, K, L] Negative, < 1.1 (S/CO); Positive \geq 1.1 (S/CO);

[C, D] Negative, < 1.0 COI; positive \geq 1.0 COI;

[E] Negative, < 10 AU/mL (IgG), < 8 AU/mL (IgM); Positive \geq 10 AU/mL (IgG), \geq 8 AU/mL (IgM);

[F, G] Negative, < 1.4 (S/C); Positive \geq 1.4 (S/C);

[H] Negative, < 0.8; Borderline, \geq 0.8 to < 1.1; Positive \geq 1.1;

[I] Negative, < 1.0; Positive \geq 1.0;

[J] Negative, < 12 AU/mL; Equivocal, 12-15 AU/mL; Positive \geq 15 AU/mL;

[M] Negative, < 1000 QU; Positive \geq 1000 QU;

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: According to manufacturers' guidelines in all tests except CUH-NOVO test, where ROC analysis (prioritising sensitivity) were used to define positivity

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 PCR, no further details</p> <p>Samples used: Not reported</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not reported</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] and [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: [2] and [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2] and [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Time from positive PCR: 0-7 (n = 1);</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Harritshoej 2021 [A] (Continued)

> 7-14 (n = 15);
> 14-21 (n = 22);
> 21-42 (n = 90);
> 42 (n = 21);
Unknown (n = 1).

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Yes (see numbers in Tabl 3)

Uninterpretable results: Not reported

Indeterminate results: Borderline results of Euroimmun ELISA [K] and DiaSorin Liaison XL [M] assays were interpreted as negative.

Unit of analysis: Patients (for group [3], 10 samples were pooled and tested across all assays)

Comparative
Notes

Funding: The development of the CUH-NOVO SARS-CoV-2 total-Ab ELISA was financially supported by grants from the Carlsberg Foundation (CF20-0045) and the Novo Nordisk Foundation (205A0063505).

Publication status: Published article

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Author COI: R. B. Dessau reported personal fees from a Roche Diagnostics advisory board meeting in 2018 outside this work. All other authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match			High

Harritshoej 2021 [A] *(Continued)*
**the review ques-
tion?**
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as de-

High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Harritshoej 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

**fined by the ref-
erence standard
does not match
the question?**

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an ap-
propriate interval
between index test
and reference stan-
dard?

Unclear

Did all patients re-
ceive the same ref-
erence standard?

No

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analy-
sis?

Yes

Did all participants
receive a reference
standard?

No

Were results pre-
sented per patient?

Yes

**Could the patient
flow have intro-
duced bias?**

High risk

Harritshoej 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Harritshoej 2021 [E] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [H]

Study characteristics

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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Harritshoej 2021 [H] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Harritshoej 2021 [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Harritshoej 2021 [J] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Harritshoej 2021 [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Harritshoej 2021 [L]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Harritshoej 2021 [M]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Harritshoej 2021 [M] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Haselmann 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Detection of antibodies in primarily convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity: [1] PCR-confirmed Covid-19 cases, after end of quarantine (outpatient or home-based, including 6 asymptomatic) or hospitalisation (including 5 ICU cases) (n = 26) [2] Atypical respiratory infection within last 3 months and PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 or not tested (n = 11) [3] Other respiratory viral infection diagnosed (n = 1) [4] Chronic disease (e.g. auto-immune disease) (n = 7) [5] Contact of a Covid-19 patient but negative PCR and no symptoms (n = 2) [6] Healthy controls (n = 4)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 51 (26)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed; home-based or outpatient (quarantining patients); hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: University Medical Center Mannheim, Medical Faculty Mannheim, University of Heidelberg</p> <p>Country: Germany</p> <p>Dates: Unclear</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Cases only: Asymptomatic 6, 23%; mild 9, 35%; severe 8, 31% Treated at home 5, 19%; outpatient 13, 50%; inpatient 3, 12%; ICU 5, 19% Immunocompromised 0 [from Suppl Tabl 2]</p> <p>Demographics: Total sample: Age: median 48.0 years, range 20-73 years Sex: 18/51 male (68%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Unclear</p>

Haselmann 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Non-Covid group 1:

- [2] Atypical respiratory infection, PCR-negative or not tested
- [3] Other respiratory viral infection diagnosed
- [4] Chronic disease (e.g. auto-immune disease)
- [5] Asymptomatic Covid-19 contact; PCR-negative
- [6] Healthy controls

Source:

- [2] Last 3 months
- [3] Not reported
- [4] Not reported
- [5] Not reported
- [6] Not reported

Characteristics:

- [2] Not reported
- [3] Not reported
- [4] Diabetes type I (n = 1), Hashimoto disease (n = 2); rituximab Rx (n = 1); not reported (n = 3)
- [5] Not reported
- [6] Not reported

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA (Lot:E200429AG)
- [B] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA (Lot:P745U)
- [C] Elecsys Anti-SARSCoV-2 (Lot:496298)

Manufacturer:

- [A] Euroimmun, Germany
- [B] Epitope Diagnostics, United States
- [C] Roche, Germany

Additional assays were evaluated but sample numbers did not meet review minimum.

Antibody: All reported as IgG assays, however, Roche Elecsys is a Total Ab assay; author stated result was recorded as IgG only

Antigen target:

- [A] S1 domain of viral spike-protein
- [B] Full-length nucleocapsid protein
- [C] Recombinant protein representing the nucleocapsid antigen

Evaluation setting:

- [A] Laboratory
- [B] Laboratory
- [C] Laboratory

Test method: [A] ELISA; [B] ELISA; [C] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)

Timing of samples: Unclear; median 29 days pso (range 10-47)

Day 10-14: 5, 19%; day 15-21: 5, 19%; day 22-28: 2, 8%; day 29-35: 7, 27%; day 36-42: 2, 8%; day > 42: 5, 19%

[from Suppl [Table 2](#)]

Samples used: Serum (n = 26) and plasma (n = 13)

Test operator: Unclear

Definition of test positivity:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Haselmann 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [A] Ratio of sample absorbance divided by calibrator absorbance ≥ 1.1
[B] The cut-offs used for interpretation of assay results (positive, negative and borderline) have to be calculated according to a provided formula and therefore might differ in every run.
[C] Cut-off index ≥ 1.0

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined:

- [A] As manufacturer
[B] Calculated according to a manufacturer formula and therefore might differ every run
[C] As manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: qRT-PCR; no further details</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] qRT-PCR (for some unreported number) [3] Unclear (likely qRT-PCR as confirmed with other infection) [4] Unclear [5] qRT-PCR [5] Unclear</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unknown</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Missing data: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients - described in terms of patients and no suggestion of multiple samples per patient</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Authors reported no specific funding received</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Clinica Chimica Acta</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that they had no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Haselmann 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Haselmann 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Haselmann 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Haselmann 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Herroelen 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: A comparative analysis of analytical sensitivity was performed of seven commercial SARS-CoV-2 serology assays on 171 sera from 135 subjects with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, composed of 71 patients hospitalised for COVID-19 pneumonia and 64 healthcare workers with paucisymptomatic infections. Specificity was verified on 57 pre-pandemic samples.</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] subjects with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, composed of 71 patients hospitalised for COVID-19 pneumonia and 64 healthcare workers with paucisymptomatic infections (n = 135 patients, 171 samples)</p> <p>[2] pre-pandemic serum samples obtained from patients with PCR-confirmed infection by other HCoV respiratory viruses (n = 7), other pathogens and viruses (n = 42) or presence of auto-immune antibodies (n = 8) (n = 57 samples)</p> <p>[3] healthcare workers who presented WHO-listed COVID-19 symptoms but were not tested by PCR (n = 84, 84 samples) (this group not used in sensitivity/specificity analyses and not extracted. This group was also not mentioned in the published version)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear, but probably mixed. No informed consent from the hospitalised COVID-19 patients (so likely serum samples already available = retrospective), but with written informed consent from participants with paucisymptomatic and suspected SARS-CoV-2 infections (so prospective). Pre-pandemic samples = retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 276 (135) patients with 312 (171) samples of which 228 (171) samples were included in this review (the excluded group [3] was not mentioned in the published version).</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient and home-quarantined</p> <p>Location: Inpatients at AZ Delta General Hospital in Roeselare, Belgium</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p>

Herroelen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Dates: Inpatients = March 1 to April 27, 2020 ; healthcare workers unclear

Symptoms and severity: 71/135 = inpatients admitted for severe COVID-19 pneumonia ; PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infections; very high level of suspicion of COVID-19 pneumonia on chest CT (CO-RADS score = 5)
64/135 = healthcare workers with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection with mild (n = 61) or no (n = 3) WHO-listed COVID-19 symptoms: myalgia (present in 62.5%), fever (60.9%), dry cough (56.2%), dyspnoea (40.6%), severe fatigue (35.9%), headaches (30.0%), loss of smell or taste (26.6%) or diarrhoea (18.8%). These patients were home-quarantined without the need for hospitalisation.

Demographics: Inpatients = 48 males (median age 65 years, IQR 53-80) and 23 females (median age 79 years, IQR 67-86)

Health care workers = Not reported

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic cross-reactivity

Source: Pre-pandemic

Characteristics:

PCR-confirmed infection by other HCoV respiratory viruses (n = 7; HCoV 229E, n = 1; HCoV HKU1, n = 3; HCoV OC43, n = 2; HCoV OC43 + adenovirus, n = 1); other pathogens and viruses (n = 42); presence of auto-immune antibodies (n = 8)

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test
- [B] Innovita 2019-nCoV Ab Test
- [C] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA
- [D] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgA assays
- [E] Anti-SARS-CoV-2-NCP (IgG) assay
- [F] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay for Cobas e601 module
- [G] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG

Manufacturer:

- [A] Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co., Ltd., Zhejiang, China
- [B] Innovita Biological Technology Co., Ltd., Beijing, China
- [C] Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise, Beijing, China
- [D] EUROIMMUN AG (a PerkinElmer Company, Luebeck, Germany)
- [E] EUROIMMUN AG (a PerkinElmer Company, Luebeck, Germany)
- [F] Roche Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland
- [G] DiaSorin, Saluggia, Italy

Antibody:

- [A] IgM and IgG antibodies to recombinant N- and S-proteins
- [B] IgM and IgG antibodies to undisclosed SARS-CoV-2 epitopes
- [C] all antibody isotypes (IgM, IgA, IgG) against the RBD domain of the S1-protein
- [D] IgA and IgG antibodies against the S1-protein
- [E] IgG to the N-protein
- [F] all antibody isotypes (IgM, IgA, IgG) against the N-protein
- [G] IgG antibodies against S1/S2 proteins

Antigen target:

- [A] recombinant N- and S-proteins
- [B] undisclosed SARS-CoV-2 epitopes
- [C] RBD domain of the S1-protein
- [D] S1-protein
- [E] N-protein
- [F] N-protein
- [G] S1/S2 proteins

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Herroelen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Evaluation setting:

- [A] POC, assessed in laboratory
- [B] POC, assessed in laboratory
- [C] Laboratory test, assessed in laboratory
- [D] Laboratory test, assessed in laboratory
- [E] Laboratory test, assessed in laboratory
- [F] Laboratory test, assessed in laboratory
- [G] Laboratory test, assessed in laboratory

Test method:

- [A] solid phase immunochromatographic assay
- [B] colloidal gold lateral flow assay
- [C] ELISA double-antigen sandwich immunoassay
- [D] indirect ELISA
- [E] indirect ELISA
- [F] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)
- [G] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: Inpatients = Serum samples ranged from 0 to 39 days after patient-reported symptom onset.

Healthcare workers = Serum samples ranged from 11 to 54 days after patient-reported symptom onset

< 10 days pso: 53/171

10-20 days pso: 42/171

> 20 days pso: 76/171

Samples used: [A]-[G] Serum

Test operator: [A]-[G] Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] considered positive if a line was observed for either IgM, IgG or both
- [B] considered positive if a line was observed for either IgM, IgG or both
- [C] Samples with a cut-off ratio (absorbance of the sample at 459 nm divided by 0.19 higher than 0.9 were considered positive, classifying gray zone results 0.9-1.1 as positive.
- [D] cut-off = 0.8 units, classifying gray zone results 0.8-1.1 units as positive
- [E] cut-off = 0.8 units, classifying gray zone results 0.8-1.1 units as positive
- [F] cut-off = 1 Cut-off Index
- [G] cut-off = 12 AU/mL, classifying gray zone results between 12 and 15 AU/mL as positive

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: All serology assays were used according to the manufacturers' protocol using the cut-offs specified.

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: PCR: Allplex 2019-nCoV assay (Seegene, Seoul, Korea) for E/N/RdRP genes on nasopharyngeal swab

Threshold not reported

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Done prior index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Herroelen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: yes (specificity results for most tests for only 56 of 57 samples, also missing samples for sensitivity)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This work was supported by a private donation by board members of Fagron (Nazareth, Belgium), a healthcare company, to RADar, the teaching and education initiative of AZ Delta General Hospital, to be used as unconditional research grant for data collection, collaborative collaboration and open access publication. The sponsor had no influence on the study design, data interpretation and drafting of the manuscript.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed); now published

Source: medRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.09.20124719>

Journal (American Journal of Clinical Pathology)

Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interest.

Not stated in published version

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Herroelen 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its in-

Low risk

Herroelen 2020 [A] (Continued)

**terpretation have
introduced bias?**

**Are there concerns
that the target
condition as de-
fined by the ref-
erence standard
does not match
the question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an ap-
propriate interval
between index test
and reference stan-
dard?

Unclear

Did all patients re-
ceive the same ref-
erence standard?

No

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analy-
sis?

Yes

Did all participants
receive a reference
standard?

No

Were results pre-
sented per patient?

No

**Could the patient
flow have intro-
duced bias?**

High risk

Herroelen 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Herroelen 2020 [B] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Herroelen 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Herroelen 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Herroelen 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Herroelen 2020 [E] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Herroelen 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Herroelen 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Hoffman 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>(1) PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients or convalescents (n = 29)</p> <p>(2) healthy volunteers with no known history of SARS-CoV-2 infection/COVID-19 (n = 24),</p> <p>(3) pre-pandemic anonymous blood donor sera from healthy adults (n = 80)</p> <p>[also reported 20 serum samples from babies (6–12 months) collected before or during 2018; not included in review]</p> <p>Recruitment: Not reported</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not reported</p> <p>Sample size: 133 (29)</p> <p>Further detail: no more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear</p> <p>Location: Not reported; author institution is Uppsala University Hospital, Uppsala</p> <p>Country: Sweden</p> <p>Dates: not reported</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: not reported</p> <p>Demographics: not reported</p> <p>Exposure history: not reported</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: (2) healthy volunteers</p> <p>Source: unclear; appeared to be contemporaneous</p> <p>Characteristics: Not reported</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Pre-pandemic serum samples</p> <p>Source: Before or during 2018; Uppsala Biobank</p> <p>Characteristics: Not reported; healthy</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette [GCCOV-402a, Lot: 2003242]</p> <p>Manufacturer: Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co Ltd, Huzhou, Zhejiang, China</p> <p>Antibody: SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies IgG/IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC test; evaluated in laboratory</p> <p>Test method: LFA</p> <p>Timing of samples: 9-17 days pso (n = 10); 18-29 days (n = 19)</p> <p>Samples used: Capillary blood samples or serum</p>

Hoffman 2020 (Continued)

	Test operator: not reported Definition of test positivity: Visible line Blinding reported: not reported Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: PCR-confirmed - no further details Samples used: not reported Timing of reference standard: not reported Blinded to index test: Not reported; likely conducted first Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] No reference standard [3] Pre-pandemic sera Samples used: Serum Timing of reference standard: [2] Not reported [3] 2018 Blinded to index test: Yes Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: not reported All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: none reported Uninterpretable results: none reported Indeterminate results: none reported Unit of analysis: patients (1 sample per patient)
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: This work was supported by the Swedish Research Council (VR, grant numbers 2016-02596, 2017-05807 and 2018-02569). The rapid tests that have enabled this study were donated to us by the Swedish company Noviral AB (organization number: 559175-7942). Publication status: published paper (published online 14 April 2020) Source: Infection Ecology & Epidemiology Author COI: The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hoffman 2020 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hoffman 2020 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Hogan 2020a [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID cases (51 samples) [2] Non-COVID samples (62 samples), current PCR-</p> <p>Recruitment: Between April 15 and June 1, 2020, residual serum samples ordered for routine medical management of inpatients at the University of Kansas Hospital Samples were collected for two groups: [1] serum samples from patients who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by an RT-PCR assay; [2] serum samples from randomly selected patients who had tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 by an RT-PCR assay within 48 hours prior to collection. All available serum samples from PCR-positive patients and randomly selected PCR-negative patients that were older than 18 years with adequate residual volume for parallel testing were included.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 113 (51) of which 79 (17) were eligible for our review.</p> <p>Further detail: [1] Hospital inpatients who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by an RT-PCR assay, [2] Hospital inpatients who had tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 by an RT-PCR assay within 48 hours prior to collection. [1] and [2] older than 18 years with adequate residual volume for parallel testing</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City</p> <p>Country: Kansas, USA</p> <p>Dates: Between April 15 and June 1, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated (all hospitalised, likely "greater average patient acuity")</p> <p>Demographics: 0-6 days post-PCR+ (n = 17); 71% (12/17) female; median age 71 (IQR 52-77) years 7-13 days post-PCR+ (n = 17); 53% (9/17) female; median age 64 (IQR 42-74) years 14+ days post-PCR+ (n = 17); 53% (9/17) female; median age 64 (IQR 55-69) years</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hogan 2020a [A] (Continued)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Current non-COVID patients with other diseases

Source: University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City, Kansas (USA) between April 15 and June 1, 2020

Characteristics:

Hospital inpatients, adults: 63% (39/62) female; median 53 (IQR 35-70) years; patient samples representative of the current local circulating viruses among individuals with healthcare contacts

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG

[B] Elecsys anti-SARS CoV-2 total antibody

[C] Access SARS-CoV-2 IgG

Manufacturer:

[A] DiaSorin S.p.A., Saluggia, Italy

[B] Roche Diagnostics, Rotkreuz, Switzerland

[C] Beckman Coulter, Inc., Minnesota, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] Total antibodies

[C] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] S1 and S2 subunits of the spike-protein

[B] N-protein

[C] receptor binding domain (RBD) of the S1-protein

Evaluation setting: Lab tests performed in lab

Test method:

[A] indirect CLIA

[B] ECLIA

[C] CLIA

Timing of samples: 1-45 days overall (median: 9) post-PCR+:

0-6 days (median 5) post-PCR+: 17/51

7-13 days (median 9) post-PCR+: 17/51

14+ days (median 18) post-PCR+: 17/51

Combined samples were represented by the day farthest from the patient's positive PCR test.

Samples used: Residual serum samples were centrifuged, aliquoted, and frozen at -30 °C for 1 to 46 days.

Samples were sequentially thawed and maintained at 2-8 °C for < 14 days prior to testing.

Test operator: Clinical Laboratory Scientists

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Reported in arbitrary units per millilitre (AU/mL). A result of < 15 was considered negative while a result of ≥ 15.0 was considered positive.

[B] Results were expressed as a cut-off index (COI). A result of < 1.0 was considered non-reactive while a result of ≥ 1.0 was considered reactive.

[C] The light signal was compared to the cut-off value and was expressed as a signal to cut-off ratio (S/CO). A result of < 0.8 was interpreted as non-reactive while a result of ≥ 1.0 was considered reactive. Results between 0.8 and 1.0 (inclusive) were considered equivocal.

For the purposes of analysis, equivocal results were treated as negative.

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hogan 2020a [A] (Continued)

Blinding reported: No, clinical Laboratory Scientists were not specifically blinded to the clinical status or PCR results of the patients.

Threshold predefined: [A], [B], [C] yes, according to manufacturer's instructions

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: FDA EUA RT-PCR assay (Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 assay (Abbott Diagnostics Inc, Scarborough, ME), performed on the Abbott m2000 instrument, or the Simplex COVID-19 Direct assay (DiaSorin Molecular LLC, Cypress CA), following manufacturer's instructions

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs collected in either UTM or PBS

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: FDA EUA RT-PCR assay (Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 assay (Abbott Diagnostics Inc, Scarborough, ME), performed on the Abbott m2000 instrument, or the Simplex COVID-19 Direct assay (DiaSorin Molecular LLC, Cypress CA), following manufacturer's instructions)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs collected in either UTM or PBS

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] 1-45 days overall (median: 9) post-PCR+: 0-6 days (median 5) post-PCR+: 17/51
7-13 days (median 9) post-PCR+: 17/51
14+ days (median 18) post-PCR+: 17/51
Combined samples were represented by the day farthest from the patient's positive PCR test.

All patients received same reference standard: yes

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: [C] For the purposes of analysis, equivocal results were treated as negative. 1 equivocal result for 0-6 days post-PCR+

Unit of analysis: Each sample represented a unique patient.

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer-reviewed)

Source: medRxiv preprint

Author COI: None declared.

Methodological quality
Item
Authors' judgement
Risk of bias
Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Hogan 2020a [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear	
Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowl-	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hogan 2020a [A] (Continued)

edge of the results of
the index tests?

The reference standard
does not incorporate
the index test

Yes

**Could the reference
standard, its conduct,
or its interpretation
have introduced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns
that the target condi-
tion as defined by the
reference standard
does not match the
question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropri-
ate interval between in-
dex test and reference
standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive
the same reference
standard?

Yes

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analysis?

No

Did all participants re-
ceive a reference stan-
dard?

Yes

Were results presented
per patient?

Yes

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Hogan 2020a [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Hogan 2020a [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Hogan 2020a [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Horber 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (186 samples from 58 patients)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples (n = 123)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic samples collected before December 2019 (n = 88)</p> <p>[2b] Samples with potential cross-reactive antibodies (n = 35)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>([1] Routine blood samples of hospitalised COVID patients;</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic intensive care patients;</p> <p>[2b]</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] and [2b] Unclear</p> <p>[2a] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 309 (186) samples of which 255 (132) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Hospitalised rt-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients;</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic (before December 2019) intensive care patient;</p>
------------------	---

Horber 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2b] Not stated (samples with other acute viral and bacterial or fungal infections not suspicious of COVID-19).

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: University Hospital Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany

Country: Germany

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: All hospitalised COVID-19 patients (most of the patients were critically ill and treated on the intensive care unit)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic, other diseases

Source: [2a] Intensive care patients before December 2019

Characteristics: Intensive care patients (n = 88).

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Cross-reactivity

Source: Patients with laboratory-confirmed acute infections, time not stated.
Possibly all from University Hospital Tübingen

Characteristics:

Potential cross-reactive antibodies (n = 35): acute infections with influenza A virus (n = 5), human respiratory syncytial virus (n = 1);
common cold coronaviruses (NL63: n = 1; HKU-1 + NL63: n = 1; NL63 + 229E: n = 1)
IgM antibodies against human cytomegalovirus (n = 5) and varicella zoster virus (n = 2), samples from patients with respiratory symptoms not suspicious of COVID-19 disease (n = 11), samples containing antibodies (n = 6) against chlamydia pneumoniae (IgG, IgA and/or IgM) or candida albicans (IgG and/or IgA); samples positive for rheumatoid factor (n = 2)

Index tests

Test name:

[A] SARS-CoV-2 Total (COV2T)
[B] Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2
[C] SARS-CoV-2-ELISA (IgG)

Manufacturer:

[A] Siemens Healthineers
[B] Roche Diagnostics
[C] Euroimmun

Antibody:

[A] Total antibodies (IgG and IgM)
[B] Antibodies (including IgG)
[C] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] S1-protein Receptor Binding domain (RBD)
[B] N-protein
[C] S1 spike-protein

Evaluation setting: Lab tests performed in lab

Horber 2020 [A] (Continued)

Test method:

[A] CLIA

[B] ECLIA

[C] ELISA

Run on fully automated platforms

Timing of samples:

Median time between positive PCR result and blood sample collection was 19 days (interquartile range: 12–29 days)

0–6 days post-PCR+: 23/186

7–13 days post-PCR+: 31/186

14+ days post-PCR+: 132/186

Samples used: Plasma

Test operator: Institute for Clinical Chemistry and Pathobiochemistry at the University Hospital Tübingen

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Cut-off index (COI); < 1.0 negative; ≥ 1.0 positive; optimised: COI > 0.75

[B] Cut-off index; < 1.0 negative; ≥ 1.0 positive; optimised: COI > 0.095

[C] Ratio; < 0.8: negative; 0.8– < 1.1: borderline; ≥ 1.1: positive; optimised: > 0.958

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Results of antibody measurements were evaluated according to the manufacturers' cut-off indices or ratios as positive or negative for the Roche and Siemens assays and as positive, borderline or negative for the Euroimmun assay.

The study also used optimised cut-offs (receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis and Youden index were used to identify optimised thresholds (cut-off indices)).

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: rt-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Oro- and/or nasopharyngeal swab

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated, none? Other laboratory confirmed acute infections

Samples used:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated, none?

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Median time between positive PCR result and blood sample collection was 19 days (interquartile range: 12–29 days).

Horber 2020 [A] (Continued)

All patients received same reference standard: unclear/no for [2b]

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: yes (for test [C], 2/23 sampled 0-6 days post-PCR+ and 3/35 cross-reaction samples borderline). For analyses, treated once as negative and once as positive

Unit of analysis:

[1] Samples

[2] Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: None declared.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Horber 2020 [A] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Horber 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Horber 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Hu 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Single-group study to estimate sensitivity for detecting active or prior infection Confirmed COVID-19 patients (211) Recruitment: NR; likely retrospective. Consecutive or otherwise NR
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: inpatient Location: Chongqing Three Gorges Central Hospital, Chongqing Country: China

Hu 2020a (Continued)

Dates: 23 January-3 March

Index tests	Test name: Magnetic Chemiluminescence Enzyme Immunoassay (MCLIA) kit Manufacturer: Bioscience Co., Ltd (Chongqing, China) Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: N and S (nucleoprotein and a peptide from the SARS-CoV-2 S-protein)
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases: Chinese CDC guidelines (Trial Version 6); included RT-PCR Samples used: NR Timing of reference standard: unclear; appeared that repeat PCR undertaken during hospitalisation; 74/211 met discharge criteria during study period (normal temperature, significantly improving respiratory symptoms and chest radiology plus 2 repeat negative PCRs with ≥ 1 -day interval) Was it blind to index test: unclear
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: yes All participants received the same reference standard: yes Missing data: none described; however text stated 993 samples but only 409 reported for IgM and 507 for IgG Uninterpretable results: none described
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: funded by Chongqing Education Board “new coronavirus infection and prevention” emergency scientific research project (KYYJ202006YYJ202006). Chongqing Science and Technology Bureau “new crown pneumonia epidemic emergency science and technology special” the fourth batch of projects. Famous teacher project of Chongqing talent plan Publication status: preprint Source: medRxiv Study author COI: none declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High

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Hu 2020a (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Unclear

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? Low concern

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Hu 2020b [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase Covid-19 infection

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Hu 2020b [A] (Continued)

Design: Single or multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity (design unclear), including:
participants who visited Huangshi Central Hospital during specified time period, described as

[1] PCR-positive COVID-19 group (n = 68)

[2] Suspected Covid group (PCR-negative but with fever and other respiratory symptoms) (n = 9)

[3] Group with other diseases and negative PCR (n = 101)

Study authors considered group [2] and [3] as disease-negative.

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Unclear; presumed retrospective given time period from early in the pandemic

Sample size: 178 (68)

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear; no details

Location: Huangshi Central Hospital, Hubei Province

Country: China

Dates: January and February 2020

Symptoms and severity: Unclear

Demographics: Age: range 30 years to 90 years; no mean available

Sex: 36/68 (53%) male

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Suspected group

Source:

Characteristics: Age: range 2 months to 64 years; no mean available

Sex: 7/9 (78%) male

Non-Covid group 2: Negative group

Source:

Characteristics: Age: range 2 years to 94 years; no mean available

Sex: 48/101 (48%) male

Index tests

Test name:

[A] YHLO SARS-COV-2 IgM

[B] YHLO SARS-COV-2 IgG

Manufacturer: [A] [B] Shenzhen YHLO Biotech Co. Ltd.

Antibody: [A] IgM, [B] IgG

Antigen target: [A] [B] Nucleocapsid protein, spike-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: Chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: < 7 days after symptom onset: 12/68 (18%)

7-14 days after symptom onset: 25/66 (37%)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hu 2020b [A] (Continued)

	<p>> 14 days after symptom onset: 31/68 (46%)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Cut-off value for positive was 10 arbitrary units/mL</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR detecting open reading frame lab (ORFlab) and nucleocapsid protein (N) genes</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: As for cases; unclear if single or > 1 negative PCR result</p> <p>Samples used: Unclear</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No; possibility that serology may have influenced final diagnosis of 9 suspect cases</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: The author(s) received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)</p> <p>Source: medRxiv</p> <p>Author COI: The authors confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Hu 2020b [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hu 2020b [A] (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Hu 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Hubbard 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection, current convalescent-phase infection, prior infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (216 samples, 43 patients)</p> <p>[1a] Hospital inpatients (193 samples from 20 patients)</p> <p>[1b] Convalescent plasma donors (23 patients)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples (385 samples)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic samples (170 samples)</p> <p>[2b] Hospital inpatients with negative COVID molecular diagnostic test (215 samples from 155 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p>
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Hubbard 2021 [A] (Continued)

[1a] and [2b] Remnant serum and lithium heparin plasma specimens collected for clinical purposes from hospitalised patients with and without confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection

[1b] Paired serum and lithium heparin plasma specimens collected were collected at least 14 days after resolution of symptoms.

[2a] Remnant serum and lithium heparin plasma specimens collected for clinical purposes between September 2017 and June 2019

Prospective or retrospective:

[2a] Retrospective

[1a], [1b] and [2b] Unclear, prospective? (no longer than 3 weeks frozen storage of samples)

Sample size: 601 (216) samples

Further detail:

[1a] Hospital inpatients with previously documented positive SARS-CoV-2 molecular diagnostic result

[1b] at least 14 days after resolution of symptoms from individuals with a documented positive SARS-CoV-2 molecular diagnostic result

[2a] Remnant serum and plasma specimens collected for clinical purposes between September 2017 and June 2019

[2b] Hospital inpatients with negative SARS-CoV-2 molecular diagnostic result on the same day or 1 day prior to serum or plasma specimen collection

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting:

[1a] Hospital inpatients

[1b] Convalescent plasma donors

Location: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health System, Lebanon, NH

Country: New Hampshire, USA

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] All hospitalised

[1b] All convalescent (at least 14 days after resolution of symptoms)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic

Source: Remnant serum and lithium heparin plasma specimens collected for clinical purposes between September 2017 and June 2019. Possibly all from the same hospital lab (Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health System, Lebanon, NH)?

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Current non-COVID

Source: Hospital inpatients with negative SARS-CoV-2 molecular diagnostic result; Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health System, Lebanon, NH; time not stated

Characteristics: Hospital inpatients so possibly other diseases

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[B] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay

Hubbard 2021 [A] (Continued)

Manufacturer:

[A] Abbott Laboratories Diagnostics Division

[B] Roche Diagnostics

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] Total antibodies

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] N-protein

Evaluation setting: Lab tests performed in lab

Test method:

[A] Chemiluminescence, on an Architect i1000 instrument

[B] Chemiluminescence; on a Cobas e801 instrument

Timing of samples:

[1a] Not stated (could work out from Fig 1 and Tabl 1; 14+ days post-PCR+: 10/193)

[1b] Convalescent (14+ days symptom-free)

Samples used: Remnant serum and plasma samples, removed from refrigerated storage within 7 days of collection, aliquoted into sealed plastic tubes and frozen at -80C until further use no longer than 3 weeks in frozen storage for [1] and [2b], or at -20C for [2a]

Test operator: Lab personnel

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Results were reported in a qualitative fashion with a signal/calibrator (S/C index) of < 1.4 interpreted as negative and ≥ 1.4 interpreted as positive.

[B] cut-off index (COI) of < 1.0 interpreted as nonreactive and ≥ 1.0 interpreted as reactive

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Not stated, possibly yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

[1a] All patients included in this study were tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection with one of 3 molecular diagnostic methods:

the CDC format laboratory developed test, the Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 m2000 assay, or the Diasorin Simplexa COVID-19 assay.

[1b] SARS-CoV-2 molecular diagnostic result (as [1a]?)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[1a] -1 to 12 days pso

[1b] Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

Hubbard 2021 [A] (Continued)

[2b] All patients included in this study were tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection with one of 3 molecular diagnostic methods:
the CDC format laboratory developed test, the Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 m2000 assay, or the Diasorin Simplexa COVID-19 assay.

Samples used:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[2b] Reference standard on same day or one day before index test

All others not stated (could get numbers for [1a] from Fig 1 and Tabl 1)

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: NA as no intermediate range

Unit of analysis:

[1a] Samples

[1b] Patients

[2a] Not stated

[2b] Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: No sponsor was declared.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Applied Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: Employment or Leadership: None declared.

Consultant or Advisory Role: M.A. Cervinski, Roche Diagnostics.

Stock Ownership: None declared.

Honoraria: None declared. Research Funding:

None declared.

Expert Testimony: None declared.

Patents: None declared

Methodological quality
Item
Authors' judgement
Risk of bias
Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Hubbard 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hubbard 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

the results of the index tests?

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Hubbard 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Hubbard 2021 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Imai 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity: [1] Patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19, including 74 symptomatic and 38 asymptomatic (total n = 112) [2] Pre-pandemic samples from patients at Saitama Medical University Hospital (n = 48)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not reported</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not reported</p> <p>Sample size: 160 (112)</p> <p>Further detail: NO further details</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Self-Defense Forces Central Hospital and Saitama Medical University Hospital</p> <p>Country: Japan</p> <p>Dates: [1] February 11 to March 31, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 74, 66% symptomatic (fever, cough, nasal discharge, diarrhoea, malaise, dyspnoea, tachypnoea, peripheral capillary oxygen saturation < 93%, and need for oxygen therapy)</p> <p>Demographics: Median age (IQR) 67 y (45–74 y); 64 (57.1%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not reported</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic samples</p> <p>Source: Saitama Medical University Hospital; April to October 2019</p> <p>Characteristics: not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: One Step Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) IgM/IgG Antibody Test</p> <p>Manufacturer: Artron, Burnaby, Canada</p> <p>Antibody: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC; evaluation setting not reported (appeared to be lab-based)</p> <p>Test method: LFA</p> <p>Timing of samples: day of admission and during hospitalisation (within 1 week (n = 90), 1–2 weeks (n = 25), and > 2 weeks after onset (n = 24))</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Imai 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: the presence of both the control line and the IgM or IgG anti-body line indicated a positive result for IgM or IgG antibody, respectively.</p> <p>Blinding reported: no</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer's instructions.</p>
Target condition and reference stan- dard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-qPCR for SARS-CoV2</p> <p>Samples used: pharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard:</p> <p>[1] Of the 74 symptomatic patients, median time from onset to admission was 5 days (IQR, 2–7 days);</p> <p>[2] Of the 38 asymptomatic patients, median time from the first RT-qPCR-positive day to admission was 5 days (IQR, 3–6 days).</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples; reported in two time periods</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or nonprofit sectors</p> <p>Publication status: Published</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflicts of interests.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Imai 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Imai 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Jaaskelainen 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity: [1] COVID-19-positive patients (n = 47) [2] Non-COVID-19 (n = 37 patients) [3] Probable COVID-19 patients (according to WHO definition) who had tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 by NAT (n = 13)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Restrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 97(47) but 84(37) could be used for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: [1] Diagnosed with COVID-19 by RT-PCR [2] Patients diagnosed with seasonal human coronaviruses or other respiratory viruses or viral infections, either pre-pandemic or RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 Excluded: [1][2] Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital</p> <p>Location: Helsinki University Hospital</p> <p>Country: Finland</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Mild symptoms 9/37, moderate symptoms 15/37, severe symptoms 13/37</p> <p>Demographics: [1] 23/40 (57.5%) males, median age 56 years (range: 24–77 years)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Non-COVID-19 patients</p>

Jaaskelainen 2020 (Continued)

Source: 2019-2020, source not stated

Characteristics: 15/37 (%) male, median age: 53 years (range: 5-87 years). Patients diagnosed with seasonal human coronaviruses (OC43, NL63, 229E) or other respiratory viruses by nucleic acid tests (n = 11) and samples from patients who had been diagnosed as having adenovirus, enterovirus, influenza A, influenza B, parainfluenza, or respiratory syncytial (RSV) virus infections, through routine IgG antibody testing in 2019 (n = 26). Samples from 2019 were assumed to be from SARS-CoV-2 negative patients, while samples obtained in 2020 were from patients who had been tested for SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid and found negative.

Index tests	<p>Test name: SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgA ELISA</p> <p>Manufacturer: Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany</p> <p>Antibody: IgG, IgA</p> <p>Antigen target: S1-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: 1-23 days pso</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 inconclusive and ≥ 1.1 positive</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Probably (commercial test), ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 inconclusive and ≥ 1.1 positive.</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic or RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 0-14 days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: no</p> <p>Missing data: [1] One patient with a single sample taken before symptom onset was not further investigated.</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: not stated</p>

Jaaskelainen 2020 (Continued)

Indeterminate results: Indeterminate results classed as positive for analysis

Unit of analysis: samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Rapid Communication

Source: Euro Surveillance

Author COI: COI declared: None declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

Jaaskelainen 2020 (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Jin 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>2-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 43); reported separately for 27 patients while still PCR-positive and for 34 patients after becoming PCR-negative (excluded from review)</p> <p>[2] Patients admitted with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection, in whom the disease was eventually excluded in the hospital and who quarantined at home, were included as a control group (n = 33)</p> <p>Recruitment: unclear</p> <p>Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 76 (43)</p> <p>Inclusion and exclusion criteria: suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection (fever or any respiratory symptoms, especially in those with a history of travel to Wuhan or exposure to an infected case within 2 weeks)</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Jin 2020 (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: hospital inpatients Location: Xixi Hospital of Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province Country: China Dates: January 2020-4 March 2020 Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19 patients: 27/43 (63%) fever; 26/43 (61%) cough; [2] non-COVID-19 patients: 24/43 (73%) fever; 15/33 (46%) cough. Sex:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19 patients: 17/43 (40%) male; [2] Non-COVID-19 patients: 22/33 (67%) male. Age:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19 patients: median age 47 (IQR 34–59) years; [2] non-COVID-19 patients: median age 31 (IQR 26–38) years. Exposure history: [1] NR; [2] NR</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: The SARS-CoV-2 IgM and IgG CLIA kits Manufacturer: Shenzhen YHLO Biotech Co., Ltd (China) Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: N-protein, S-protein Test method: CLIA Timing of samples: 1-55 days pso whilst still in hospital Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory Definition of test positivity: > 10 AU/mL</p> <p>Blinded to reference standard: unclear Threshold predefined: yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard for cases: RT-PCR testing at the Center for Disease Control of Hangzhou Samples used: oral swab or sputum Timing of reference standard: during patient care Blinded to index test: unclear Incorporated index test: no Reference standard for non-cases: 2 consecutive negative RT-PCR 24 h apart</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: between 1 and 32 days Results presented by time period: days pso: 0-5 6% (n = 6); 6-10 12% (n = 12); 11-15 15% (n = 15); 16-20 22% (n = 22); 21-25 22% (n = 22); 26-30 15% (n = 15); 31-55 8% (n = 8) All participants received the same reference standard: yes Missing data: review team excluded serology data for 34 participants after becoming PCR-negative; no data reported for 16 participants while PCR-positive Uninterpretable results: none mentioned Indeterminate results: none mentioned Unit of analysis: participants overall; samples by time period</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: research Project on the Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19 in Hangzhou (establishment of a clinical diagnosis and treatment system for COVID-19 with treatment evaluation) Publication status: published paper Source: academic journal Study author COI: none mentioned</p>

Jin 2020 (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Jin 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Jung 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to establish sensitivity and specificity. [1] Non-COVID cases (57 samples) [1a] Non-COVID cases with negative rt-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 (38 samples) for "clinical specificity", [1b] Non-COVID cases with other diseases (cross-reaction panel, 19 samples) for "analytical specificity". [2] confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 104 samples) for "clinical sensitivity". [2a] Only 42 inpatients for "seroconversion" study had days pso. Of these, only 19 samples had an eligible time split for our review.</p> <p>Recruitment: Not specified</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: prospective (serum/plasma was not frozen but stored for up to 5 days at 4 °C until analysis)</p> <p>Sample size: 161 (104) samples of which 76 (19) samples were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion - [2] COVID-19 confirmed by PCR, [2a] Patients who were repeatedly assessed in our hospital, positive for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR, and had a known date of symptom onset [1a] negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR; [1b] patients with other confirmed viral infections; negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR or no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19 No exclusion criteria defined</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[2] Not specified [2a] Hospital inpatients</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Jung 2020a (Continued)

Location:

[2] Texas Children's Hospital or other in the Texas Medical Center (Baylor St. Luke's and Ben Taub Hospitals), Houston, Texas

[2a] Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, Texas

Country: Texas, USA

Dates: Not specified (before 2020 August)

Symptoms and severity: Not specified

Demographics: Not specified

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [1a] rt-PCR-negative samples (healthy volunteers?)

Source: Not specified

Characteristics: Not specified (negative SARS CoV-2 RT-PCR results)

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Cross-reaction panel

Source: Concurrent, not stated

Characteristics: Samples known to be positive for other viruses by molecular testing (including Influenza A, Influenza B, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), adenovirus, rhinovirus), but negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR (3 samples did not have RT-PCR result, but had no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19)

Index tests

Test name: Ash Laboratories SARS-CoV2 IgG and IgM ELISA Immunoassay

Manufacturer: Ash Laboratories

Antibody: IgG and IgM

Antigen target: nucleocapsid (N) and spike (S) proteins.

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: ELISA (on Dynex-DS2 automated immunoassay system)

Timing of samples: [2a]

< 6 days pso: n = 10,

6-14 days pso: n = 9,

> 14 days pso: n = 24 for [A] and n = 22 for [B].

Samples used: peripheral venous blood; plasma or serum stored for up to 5 days at 4 °C until analysis.

Test operator: Not stated (different operators for [1a] and [2])

Definition of test positivity:

> 12 AU/mL reactive;

< 10 AU/mL non-reactive,

10-12 AU/mL equivocal

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: [2] COVID-19 by RT-PCR or TMA (Transcription-mediated amplification)

Samples used: Not stated

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Jung 2020a (Continued)

Ching 2020a (continued)

	<p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (based on timing of tests)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: contemporaneous</p> <p>[1a] negative SARS CoV-2 RT-PCR results</p> <p>[1b] negative SARS CoV-2 RT-PCR results; 3 samples no known exposure, travel history, or symptoms of COVID-19</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (based on timing of tests)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>		
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: no (rt-PCR and TMA)</p> <p>[1] rt-PCR</p> <p>[2a] rt-PCR</p> <p>Remaining of [2] rt-PCR and TMA</p> <p>Missing data: Yes, number of samples with IgM results lower than for IgG results (see Tables 2 and 3)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: yes, but equivocal samples were considered positive</p> <p>Unit of analysis:</p> <p>[1a] Not stated</p> <p>[1b] Patients</p> <p>[2a] Samples</p>		
Comparative			
Notes	<p>Funding: EG and JJ were supported by the Ching Nan Ou Fellowship Endowment. Some of the validation kits used in this study were provided by Ansh Laboratories, but they did not participate in study design, validation, or data interpretation.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Clinical Chimica Acta 510 (2020) 790–5</p> <p>Author COI: Some of the validation kits used in this study were provided by Ansh Laboratories, but they did not participate in study design, validation, or data interpretation.</p>		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Jung 2020a (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk

Jung 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Kaltenbach 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19 infection

Design: Three-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity:

[1] Symptomatic and post-symptomatic PCR-confirmed Covid-19 patients (n = 341)

[2] PCR-negative symptomatic patients (n = 115)

[3] Pre-pandemic blood donor controls (n = 150)

Recruitment: Unclear; stated RT-PCR-positive 'committed' to participating (total positive at time of study period was 802), and RT-PCR-negative were randomly selected from 4509 negative results

Prospective or retrospective: Prospective

Sample size: 606 (341)

Further detail: No more details available

All RT-PCR-tested individuals were eligible for participation except when they were < 18 years of age, had a severely compromised immune system, were hospitalised at the time of sample collection, or were deceased.

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Community testing facility (hospitalised patients were excluded)

Location: Basel-Landschaft canton; 'Abklarungsstation COVID-19' in Munchenstein

Country: Switzerland

Dates: 11th April 2020 to 22nd April 2020

Kaltenbach 2020 [A] (Continued)

Symptoms and severity:

35 (10%) bedridden during acute disease
62 (18%) required help for their daily activities
244 (72%) had no restrictions on daily activities

Demographics:

Sex: 177/349 (51%) male
Age: only available with the following breakdown:
PCR-positive ≤ 7 days (n = 31): median 45 years range 21-80 years
PCR-positive > 7 days and ≤ 12 days (n = 46): median 51 years, range 20-80 years
PCR-positive > 12 days (n = 272): median 51.5 years, range 17-93 years
[Numbers per group did not seem to correlate with accuracy data by time pso e.g. above added to 77 patients at ≤ 12 days, but Tabl 4 reported only 54 patients at ≤ 14 days]

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: PCR-negative

Source: Negative cohort from same source as positive patients

Characteristics: Sex: 48/111 (43%) male
Age: median 48 years, range 19-87 years

Non-Covid group 2: Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Non-remunerated blood donors from Swiss cantons of Thurgau, Basel, Bern, Waadt and Geneva, taken on 16th and 17th December 2016

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA-IgA (# EI 2606-9601 A)
[B] Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA-IgG (# EI 2606-9601 G)
[C] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM ELISA kit (# KT- 114 1033)
[D] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA kit (# KT-1032)

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun AG, Lubeck, Germany
[B] Euroimmun AG, Lubeck, Germany
[C] Epitope Diagnostics, Inc., USA
[D] Epitope Diagnostics, Inc., USA

Antibody:

[A] IgA
[B] IgG
[C] IgM
[D] IgG

Antigen target: Unclear

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] ELISA
[B] ELISA
[C] ELISA
[D] ELISA

Timing of samples:

Kaltenbach 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

≤ 14 days: 54/345 (16%)
 15-20 days: 52/345 (15%)
 ≥ 12 days: 239/345 (69%)

Samples used:

[1] and [2] Serum
 [3] and [4] Serum and plasma
 Serum and plasma for all tests (some results in Suppl file)

Test operator: Unclear

Blood collection was performed by a medical assistant or nurse; samples either transferred to the diagnostic lab or directly processed on site in the make-shift laboratory

Definition of test positivity: [A] and [B] $OD \geq 1.1 \times OD$ of the calibration sample
 [C and [D] "defined IgG- and IgM-specific cut-off values relative to the average OD of three negative controls (ODNC) as follows: $OD \text{ sample} \geq (1.1 \times x) \times ODNC$ is interpreted as positive"

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Samples used: Unclear

Timing of reference standard: Unclear

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] PCR
 [3] Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Unclear

Timing of reference standard: Unclear

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Nothing mentioned

4 PCR-negative found to be positive on both Euroimmun IgG and IgA and Epitope Diagnostics (EDI) IgG, considered FN PCR results were excluded.

Study further reported variable numbers in each group in different parts of the paper.

e.g. 341 patients in group [1] in the methods section, but 349 patients in Tabl 1 and 345 in Tabl 4

e.g. 115 PCR-negative patients in group [2] in the methods section but 111 in Tabl 1

e.g. total sample size 606 in methods section but 605 in table 3 and 607 in figure 1

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: "All samples with uncertain result were considered negative for the analysis"

[A] 27 (15 FN, 12 TN) uncertain results/345 (4%)

[B] 14 (12 FN, 2 TN) uncertain results/345 (3%)

[C] 37 (35 FN, 2 TN) uncertain results/345 (10%)

[D] 23 (16 FN, 7 TN) uncertain results/345 (5%)

Kaltenbach 2020 [A] (Continued)

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This study was sponsored by Jurg Sommer, head of the "Amt fur Gesundheit". FR is funded by the NCCR 'Molecular Systems Engineering'. Funding for JD from the two Cantons of Basel through project grant [X] granted by the ETH Zurich is acknowledged.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv

Author COI: Nothing stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Kaltenbach 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Kaltenbach 2020 [B]
Study characteristics
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Kaltenbach 2020 [B] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kaltenbach 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kaneko 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity, [1] COVID-19 patients (87 samples from 51 patients), [2] Pre-pandemic controls (patients with other disease) (n = 100).</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Prospective [2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 187 (87) samples</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kaneko 2021 (Continued)

Further detail: Inclusion -
[1] patients with acute COVID-19 infection confirmed by RT-PCR who were admitted to Musashino Red Cross Hospital and Tokyo Medical and Dental University Medical Hospital, between March and May 2020;
[2] noninfected patients admitted to Musashino Red Cross Hospital and Tokyo Medical and Dental University Medical Hospital with other diseases in August and September 2019, before the spread of COVID-19 infection.
No exclusion criteria

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: Musashino Red Cross Hospital and Tokyo Medical and Dental University Medical Hospital</p> <p>Country: Japan</p> <p>Dates: March to May 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: All hospitalised All of the patients had clinical symptoms such as fever, cough, diarrhoea, malaise, and/or tachypnoea, no asymptomatic patients with COVID-19.</p> <p>Demographics: median age 63 (25-95) years, 37 (72.5%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Musashino Red Cross Hospital and Tokyo Medical and Dental University Medical Hospital, August to September 2019</p> <p>Characteristics: Admitted for other disease, such as hepatitis C virus infection</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p>
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Index tests	<p>Test name: SARS-Cov-2 IgM/IgG Ab assay; 2019-nCoV Ab Test Cassette (Colloidal Gold)</p> <p>Manufacturer: Innovita, Beijing, China</p> <p>Antibody: IgM/IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: antigen used not described</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC test, unclear how it was used</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold) (CGIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: different time points 0-4 days pso: 2/87 4-7 days pso: 6/87 8-14 days pso: 38/87 15-28 days pso: 23/87 > 28 days pso: 18/87</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>[1] Serum samples [2] serum samples stored at -80°C</p>
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Kaneko 2021 (Continued)

	<p>Test operator: not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: visible line The presence of only the control (C) line indicated a negative result; the presence of both the control line (C) and the IgM or IgG antibody (T) line indicated a positive result for IgM or IgG Ab, respectively.</p> <p>Blinding reported: No</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 in accordance with the nationally recommended method in Japan.</p> <p>Samples used: Pharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic, other disease</p> <p>Samples used: None (pre-pandemic)</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes (presumed based on timing)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis:</p> <p>[1] Samples (87 samples from 51 patients)</p> <p>[2] Not stated (100 samples)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Medical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: None</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Kaneko 2021 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the refer-	High

Kaneko 2021 (Continued)

ence standard does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Knauer 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase and convalescent infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID cases (NAAT-positive) [2] Suspected COVID, NAAT-negative patients</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 529 (529) samples from 366 NAAT-tested individuals (unclear how many COVID cases, ranged from 71 to 206 NAAT-positives per test) Eligible for our review were: [A] 204 (21) samples [B] 265 (60) samples [C] 228 (57) samples [D] 114 (11) samples [E] 261 (125) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion - prior patients with nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, no exclusion criteria</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: Not stated</p> <p>Country: Canada</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p>

Knauer 2020 [A] (Continued)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Suspected, NAAT-negative patients

Source: Not stated (concurrent)

Characteristics: Unclear

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Source: NA

Characteristics: NA

Index tests
Test name:

[A] DiaSorin SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
[B] EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG
[C] EUROIMMUN Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA
[D] Epitepe Diagnostics Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM
[E] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Total Assay

Manufacturer:

[A] DiaSorin
[B] Euroimmun
[C] Euroimmun
[D] Epitepe
[E] Roche

Antibody:

[A] IgG
[B] IgG
[C] IgA
[D] IgM
[E] Total antibodies

Antigen target:

[A] S1/S2 from test name
[B] - [E] Not stated

Evaluation setting: [A] - [E] Laboratory test (ELISA) performed in lab

Test method: All ELISA

[A] on Liaison XL
[B] and [C] on the EUROIMMUN Analyzer-1
[D] Manual
[E] on the Cobas e801

Timing of samples:

< 7 days after positive NAAT,
8-14 days after positive NAAT,
> 14 days after positive NAAT,
28 days post-positive NAAT (n = 11 to 61).

Samples used: Residual plasma samples, stored frozen at -20 °C

Test operator: Not stated

Knauer 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Definition of test positivity: All samples were tested in duplicate over the entire ELISA plate to evaluate any potential variability. Cut-off not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not specified</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Not specified, possibly yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Roche cobas SARS-Cov-2 NAAT, threshold not stated but included inconclusive results</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Roche cobas SARS-Cov-2 NAAT, threshold not stated but included inconclusive results</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests:</p> <p>[2] Not stated [1] ≤ 7 to > 14 days post-positive NAAT</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated but not all samples measured with all tests</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Borderline results in assays [B], [C] and [D] Borderline = result could not be clearly classified as positive or negative; borderline results were evaluated as positive for ELISA assays.</p> <p>Unit of analysis:</p> <p>[1] Serial samples for NAAT-positive cohort [2] Not stated</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Academic Medical Organization of Southwestern Ontario (AMOSO)</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Clinical Biochemistry</p> <p>Author COI: Not stated</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Knauer 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled? Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided? No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions? Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Yes

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Unclear

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the refer- High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Knauer 2020 [A] (Continued)

ence standard does not match the question?

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Knauer 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Knauer 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Knauer 2020 [C] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Knauer 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Knauer 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Ko 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only [1] Confirmed COVID cases (51 samples from 29 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear</p> <p>Sample size: 52 (52)</p> <p>Further detail: Patients with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infections by RT-PCR. Nothing else stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Tertiary care hospitals (8 inpatients) or life treatment centre (21 outpatients)</p> <p>Location: Not stated</p> <p>Country: Korea</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 8 pneumonic COVID-19 patients (hospitalised); 21 mild febrile without pneumonia.</p> <p>Demographics: 17 female, 12 male Age range 23-80 years Mild febrile (n = 21): 8 (38.1%) male; mean age 32.2 years</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Not stated</p> <p>Manufacturer: Wells Bio Inc., Seoul, Korea</p> <p>Antibody: IgG, IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT, unclear how used</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay principle</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>Range 4-56 days pso 4-6 days pso: 3/52 7-13 days pso: 6/52 14-20 days pso: 6/52 21-27 days pso: 10/52 28+ days pso: 27/52</p> <p>Samples used: Serum (also used plasma and whole blood for evaluation of test performance according to the types of blood specimens; but this experiment was only done in 2 patients)</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated (test results were interpreted at the time of test and confirmed by the 2 investigators' agreement based on pictures)</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p>

Ko 2021 (Continued)

1) positive, if the IgG or IgM band showed similar intensity with the control band;
2) weakly positive, if the IgG or IgM band was clearly visible, but much fainter than the control band;
3) very weakly positive, if the IgG or IgM band was visible with very faint intensity; and
4) negative, if the IgG or IgM band was invisible, while the control band was visible. Test results were interpreted at the time of test, and finally confirmed by the two investigators' agreement (J.-H.K. and K.R.P) based on the pictures.

Blinding reported: No (cases only)

Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: confirmed by RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Weakly positive and very weakly positive bands were classed as positive.</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Weakly positive and very weakly positive bands were classed as positive.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None received</p> <p>Wells Bio Inc., Seoul, Korea for donated pilot kits</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper (Short communication)</p> <p>Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Ko 2021 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ko 2021 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Kohmer 2020a [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of multiple COVID-19 diagnostic tests</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>Group [1] PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 33)</p> <p>Group [2]: Other known infections (SARS, other coronaviruses, EBV, CMV) (n = 17)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated, but likely retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 50 (33)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Both in- and outpatient (most cases were hospitalised)</p> <p>Location: University Hospital, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Frankfurt</p> <p>Country: Germany</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Most cases were moderate to severe (numbers not available)</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: Other known infections (SARS, other coronaviruses, EBV, CMV)</p> <p>Source: Timing not specified, but 3 were SARS cases (2003)</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Vircell COVID-19 ELISA IgG</p> <p>[B] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kohmer 2020a [A] (Continued)

[C] FaStep (COVID-19 IgG/IgM) rapid test cassettes

Manufacturer:

[A] Vircell Spain S.L.U., Granada, Spain

[B] EUROIMMUN AG, Germany

[C] Assure Tech (Hangzhou) Co., Ltd, (China)

Antibody: [A] IgG; [B] IgG; [C] IgG and IgM

Antigen target:

[A] S and N-protein

[B] S-protein

[C] not stated

Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Lab test; done in lab; [C] POC test; likely done in lab but unclear

Test method: [A] and [B] Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA); [C] Lateral flow immunoassay

Timing of samples: Time since symptom onset not reported.

For Group [1], time since PCR done: 17/33 (52%) collected 5-9 days after PCR; 16/33 (48%) collected 10-18 days after PCR

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Index < 0.4 = negative, 0.4-0.6 = equivocal, > 0.6 = positive;

[B]: Ratio < 0.8 = negative, 0.8-1.1 = equivocal, ≥ 1.1 = positive;

[C]: Visual line

Blinding reported: Not stated, but probably no

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: Group [1]: PCR (not further specified)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes (done before index test)

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Group [2]: No testing

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: NA

Blinded to index test: NA

Incorporated index test: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

Group [1]: index test done 5-18 days after PCR

Group [2]: NA

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kohmer 2020a [A] (Continued)

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Yes. Test [A] only had 13 negative cases in analysis, others had 24.

Uninterpretable results: None

Indeterminate results: None

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None reported

Publication status: Published article

Source: Academic journal

Author COI: None reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	

Kohmer 2020a [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Kohmer 2020a [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kohmer 2020a [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020a [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of clinical performance of multiple COVID-19 tests</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity Group [1]: Symptomatic PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 45) Group [2]: Other known infections (other coronaviruses, EBV, CMV) including some pre-pandemic (n = 37); review team excluded 6 samples with serologically confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection based on PRNT)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated but likely retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 82 (45)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] SARS-CoV-2 IgG [B] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 [C] Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG [D] COVID-19 VIRCLIA IgG MONOTEST [E] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kohmer 2020b [A] (Continued)

[F] Virotech SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG

Manufacturer:

- [A] Abbott GbmH, Wiesbaden, Germany
- [B] Roche Diagnostics International AG, Rotkreuz, Switzerland
- [C] DiaSorin Deutschland GmbH, Dietzenbach, Germany
- [D] Vircell Spain S.L.U., Granada, Spain
- [E] Euroimmun, Lubeck, Germany
- [F] Virotech Diagnostics GmbH, Russelsheim, Germany

Antibody:

All tests except for [B]: IgG

[B]: total antibody

Antigen target:

- [A] N-protein
- [B] N-protein
- [C] S1 and S2-protein
- [D] S1 and N-protein
- [E] S1-protein
- [F] N-protein

Evaluation setting: All lab tests, done in lab

Test method:

- [A] Chemiluminescent microparticle assay (CMIA)
- [B] Electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)
- [C] Chemiluminescent immunoassay (CLIA)
- [D] Chemiluminescent immunoassay (CLIA)
- [E] Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
- [F] Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)

Timing of samples: No info regarding time since symptom onset.

Group [1A]: collected 2-49 days after PCR-positive test. Not stated for the others.

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] positive if index S/C ≥ 1.4
- [B] positive if signal sample/cut-off ≥ 1.0
- [C] positive if ≥ 15 AU/mL; equivocal if 12-15 AU/mL
- [D] positive if AI ≥ 1.6 ; equivocal if AI 1.4-1.6
- [E] positive if ratio ≥ 1.1 ; equivocal if ratio 0.8-1.1
- [F] positive if Index > 1.1 ; equivocal if Index 0.9-1.1

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer. However, specified they allocated Euroimmun equivocal as negative (post hoc)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: Groups [1A] and [1B]: PCR (not further specified)

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)

Kohmer 2020b [A] (Continued)

Summary 20205 [4] (continued)

	<p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Group [2] and [3]: No testing</p> <p>Samples used: Group [2] and [3]: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Group [2] and [3]: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Group [2] and [3]: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: Group [2] and [3]: NA</p>		
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Group [1A]: index tests done 2 to 49 days after PCR-positivity (unknown for 4 cases)</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: None (but not all index tests were used on all samples to assess specificity)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Yes, for [B]: 2 "equivocal" results, considered as negative</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>		
Comparative			
Notes	<p>Funding: None reported</p> <p>Publication status: Published article</p> <p>Source: Academic journal</p> <p>Author COI: One author received speaker's fee from Euroimmun (manufacturer of one of the index tests).</p>		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Kohmer 2020b [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Kohmer 2020b [A] (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Kohmer 2020b [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020b [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020b [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Kohmer 2020b [D] *(Continued)*

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020b [E]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kohmer 2020b [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kohmer 2020b [F] (Continued)

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Korte 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (159 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Potential participants were identified in the public health database and voluntary participation was based on the informed consent and documented positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 159 (159) patients with 558 (558) samples</p> <p>Further detail: [1] Patients with a history of a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated (convalescent)</p> <p>Location: Public health database</p> <p>Country: Switzerland</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: 52.2% females, 47.8% males</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] and [B] "anti-spike protein IgG and IgA" [C] "anti-nucleocapsid IgG" Names not stated</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] and [B] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany; [C] Epitope Diagnostics, San Diego, USA</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] IgG [B] IgA [C] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] Spike-protein [B] Spike-protein [C] Nucleocapsid-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: [A]-[C] Laboratory tests performed in lab</p> <p>Test method: [A]-[C] ELISA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Korte 2021 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Timing of samples: antibody tests were performed every week in the first month and then after another four weeks in the second month.</p> <p>Range: 2-10 weeks after a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: According the recommendations of the manufacturer.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated but COVID cases only</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 PCR test</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: antibody tests were performed every week in the first month and then after another four weeks in the second month.</p> <p>Range: 2-10 weeks after a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Funding came from the Center for Laboratory Medicine, the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology St. Gallen (Empa) and the Canton of St. Gallen</p> <p>Publication status: Published letter</p> <p>Source: Journal of Infection</p> <p>Author COI: Not stated</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Korte 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Korte 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Korte 2021 [B]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Korte 2021 [C]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Kowitdamrong 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection, current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID cases (118 patients with 213 samples);</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID controls (n = 171);</p> <p>[2a] COVID suspects with negative PCR (n = 49);</p> <p>[2b] Concurrent patients with other respiratory infections (n = 20);</p> <p>[2c] Healthy volunteers (pre-pandemic) (n = 20);</p> <p>[2d] Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors (n = 82).</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective</p> <p>[2a] and [2b] Prospective</p> <p>[2c] Unclear (possibly retrospective)</p> <p>[2d] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 289 (118) participants with 384 (213) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-19 cases defined as those that tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA using real-time reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing of combined nasopharyngeal and throat swab (NT) samples</p> <p>[2a] Plasma samples collected from May 1 to May 31, 2020, from patients under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 with RT-PCR results that were negative for SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>[2b] Serum specimens collected from May 1 to May 31, 2020 from patients with other infections (dengue, HBV, HCV, HIV, mumps, measles, rubella, EBV, CMV, VZV, HSV, and treponema)</p> <p>[2c] Plasma samples collected from healthy volunteers in the laboratory (prior to February 2020)</p> <p>[2d] Plasma samples leftover from healthy blood donors prior to February 2020</p> <p>No exclusion criteria reported</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: Thai Red Cross Emerging Infectious Diseases Clinical Center (TRC-EIDCC, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital) and the Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand</p> <p>Country: Thailand</p> <p>Dates: March 10 to May 31, 2020.</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>mild (upper respiratory symptoms) 59/118, moderate (pneumonia without hypoxia) 27/118, severe (pneumonia with hypoxia) 32/118.</p> <p>Demographics: Adult patients; median age of 38 years (IQR: 27–48); 47 (40%) male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2a] Covid suspects with negative-PCR</p> <p>Source:</p> <p>[2a] collected from May 1 to May 31, 2020, from patients under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 with RT-PCR results that were negative for SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Characteristics: Median age 47 (IQR 28–65) years; 25 (51%) male</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kowitdamrong 2020 [A] (Continued)

Non-Covid group 2:

[2b] Concurrent patients with other diseases

[2c] Pre-pandemic healthy controls

[2d] Pre-pandemic healthy controls

Source:

[2b] Serum specimens collected from May 1 to May 31, 2020 from patients with other infections

[2c] healthy volunteers in the laboratory prior to February 2020

[2d] healthy blood donors prior to February 2020

Characteristics:

[2b] Patients with other infections (dengue, HBV, HCV, HIV, mumps, measles, rubella, EBV, CMV, VZV, HSV, and treponema).

[2c] healthy volunteers in the laboratory

[2d] healthy blood donors.

Index tests

Test name:

[A] anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgA kit

[B] anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG kit

Manufacturer: [A] and [B] EUROIMMUN

Antibody:

[A] IgA

[B] IgG

Antigen target: [A] and [B] S1-protein

Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Lab test performed in lab

Test method: [A] and [B] ELISA

Timing of samples:

0-3 days pso: 37/213

4-7 days pso: 49/213

8-14 days pso: 45/213

15-28 days pso: 21/213

> 28 days pso: 61/213

Samples used: Plasma and serum were aliquoted and stored at -20 °C prior to serological testing.

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Semi-quantitative results were evaluated by calculating the ratio of extinction at 450 nm of each sample over the calibrator.

[A] A cut-off ratio of 1.1 was used for SARS-CoV-2 IgA, as suggested by the package insert.

[B] The borderline cut-off ratio of 0.8 for SARS-CoV-2 IgG was assigned as positive.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Manufacturer's threshold but unclear why they used the borderline threshold for IgG

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 RNA using real-time reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) testing performed in the Department of Microbiology of the Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University. SARS-CoV-2 RNA was detected using the cobas1 SARS-CoV-2 kit (Roche Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland) on a fully automated cobas1 6800 system (Roche Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland) according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Nucleic acid was automatically extracted from 400 µL of the NT

Kowitdamrong 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

specimens in viral transport medium (VTM) along with added internal control RNA (RNA IC). Subsequent real-time RT-PCR was performed automatically by the system, targeting ORF1a/b and E genes specific to SARS-CoV-2 and pan-Sarbecovirus, respectively.

Samples used: combined nasopharyngeal and throat swab (NT) samples.

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] RT-PCR results that were negative for SARS-CoV-2

[2b] Not stated/ None?

[2c] Pre-pandemic (prior February 2020)

[2d] Pre-pandemic (prior February 2020)

Samples used:

[2a] Not stated (possibly as for cases)

[2b] None

[2c] Pre-pandemic

[2d] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Borderline results for IgG classed as positive

Unit of analysis:

[1] A total of 213 samples collected from 118 patients were tested for antibodies against SARS-CoV-2, with 36 patients having 1 sample, 69 patients having 2 samples, and 13 patients having 3 samples.

[2] Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This work was supported by funding to support Biobank from Ratchadapisek Sompoch Fund, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: PLOS One

Author COI: The authors declared that no competing interests existed.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Kowitdamrong 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear	
Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern	
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowl-	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Kowitdamrong 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

edge of the results of
the index tests?

The reference standard
does not incorporate
the index test

Yes

**Could the reference
standard, its conduct,
or its interpretation
have introduced bias?**

High risk

**Are there concerns
that the target condi-
tion as defined by the
reference standard
does not match the
question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropri-
ate interval between in-
dex test and reference
standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive
the same reference
standard?

No

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants re-
ceive a reference stan-
dard?

No

Were results presented
per patient?

No

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Kowitdamrong 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Kowitdamrong 2020 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Krishnamurthy 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-19 cases (303 samples)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples (5262 samples)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (n = 4502)</p> <p>[2b] Other disease controls including auto-immune and infectious diseases (n = 464)</p> <p>[2c] SARS-CoV-2 negative PCR (n = 296)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 5,565 (303) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Individuals with SARS-CoV2 microbiological confirmation from respiratory samples by PCR across multiple healthcare centres: 1. Gunnison Valley hospital, 2. Elite Medical Center, 3. commercial biospecimen laboratories</p> <p>[2a] Samples that were collected prior to the outbreak (January to April 2019)</p> <p>[2b] Disease controls including auto-immune and infectious diseases from third-party specimen providers</p> <p>[2c] Patients with SARS-CoV-2 negative PCR results from respiratory samples by PCR across multiple healthcare centres: 1. Gunnison Valley hospital, 2. Elite Medical Center.</p> <p>Exclusions not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location:</p> <p>1. Gunnison Valley hospital,</p> <p>2. Elite Medical Center, Sunnyvale, CA,</p> <p>3. commercial biospecimen laboratories.</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated (the samples that were tested were ordered by physicians which would have inherent selection bias as to who was getting tested such as biased testing of individuals who were symptomatic)</p> <p>Demographics: Age: Mean 56 (range 17–87) years; 41% male, 59% female</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic healthy controls</p>

Krishnamurthy 2020 (Continued)

Source: Remnant samples, source not stated; January–April 2019

Characteristics: Age: mean 49 (range 17–90) years; 43% male, 57% female

Non-Covid group 2:

[2b] Patients with other diseases

[2c] COVID suspects with negative PCR

Source:

[2b] from third-party specimen providers, time not stated

[2c]

1. Gunnison Valley hospital,
2. Elite Medical Center, Sunnyvale, CA,

Characteristics:

[2b] Age and gender not stated for whole group

Systemic lupus erythematosus (n = 26); Lyme disease (n = 20); CMV (n = 4); Hepatitis C (n = 20)

Syphilis (n = 6); Celiac disease (n = 26); Rheumatoid arthritis (n = 26); ANA (Anti-nuclear antibodies) (n = 79); HBV antibodies (n = 18); HCV antibodies (n = 14); Influenza A antibodies (n = 42)

Influenza B antibodies (n = 26); Respiratory syncytial virus antibodies (n = 52); Common human coronavirus (n = 27); Adenovirus (n = 4); Coxsackie virus (n = 31); Echovirus (n = 28)

Poliovirus (n = 11); Rhinovirus (n = 4)

[2c] Age: Mean 51 (range 12–88) years; 45% male, 55% female

Index tests

Test name: Vibrant COVID-19 Ab

Manufacturer: Vibrant America

Antibody: IgM, IgA and IgG

Antigen target: S1 glycoprotein, Receptor binding domain (RBD), S2 glycoprotein, nucleoprotein

Evaluation setting: Lab test performed in lab (test was only performed at Vibrant America)

Test method: protein microarray technology; chemiluminescence

Timing of samples: Not stated

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Vibrant America Lab

Definition of test positivity: The signal threshold was defined for each antigen by calculating the mean \pm SD of the signal intensity for the same antigen among the healthy controls collected prior to the infection outbreak. The raw data was converted into arbitrary chemiluminescent units (CU) based on each individual antigen cut-off for further analysis.

Blinding reported: no for [2a] as used to determine threshold

Threshold predefined: no

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: microbial RT-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: NP swab results

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Krishnamurthy 2020 (Continued)

- [2a] Pre-pandemic (Jan-April 2019)
[2b] Unclear
[2c] Negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2 (unclear if at least 2 negative PCR tests)

Samples used:

- [2a] Pre-pandemic
[2b] Unclear/none
[2c] NP swab results

Timing of reference standard:

- [2a] Pre-pandemic
[2b] Not stated
[2c] Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients (see [Table 1](#))

Comparative
Notes

Funding: Vibrant America provided funding for this study in the form of salaries for authors [HKK VJ KK TW KER KB].
Elite Medical Center provided support for this study in the form of salary for author IY.
The specific roles of these authors are articulated in the 'author contributions' section. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: PLOS One

Author COI: The authors have read the journal's policy and the authors of this manuscript have the following competing interests: Authors HKK, VJ, KK, TW, KER, and KB are paid employees of Vibrant Sciences or Vibrant America which is a commercial lab and performs commercial antibody testing for the novel coronavirus. Author IY is a paid employee of Elite Medical Center, a commercial organisation. There were no patents, products in development or marketed products to declare. This did not alter our adherence to PLOS One policies on sharing data and materials.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Krishnamurthy 2020 (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its		High risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Krishnamurthy 2020 (Continued)

interpretation have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Lassauniere 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>2-group design estimating sensitivity and specificity for 9 tests</p> <p>Groups:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19-positive group (n = 30) admitted to ICU;</p> <p>[2] non-COVID-19 group (n = 82) including pre-pandemic (2017) blood donors (n = 10); acute viral respiratory tract infections with other coronaviruses (n = 5) or non-coronaviruses (n = 45); dengue virus (n = 9), CMV; n = 2 and Epstein Barr virus (n = 10). 1 additional patient positive for both CMV and Epstein Barr virus.</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] recruited consecutively (all cases in ICU on a single day);</p> <p>[2] unclear</p> <p>Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 112 (30)</p> <p>Inclusion and exclusion criteria: none stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: [1] ICU; [2] biobank samples</p> <p>Location: [1] Hillerød Hospital</p> <p>Country: Denmark</p> <p>Dates: NR</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: NR</p> <p>Sex: 75% (24/32) male</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lassauniere 2020 [A] (Continued)

Age: median 67 years (IQR 52-76)

Exposure history: NR

Index tests

9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry ([Lassauniere 2020 \[A\]](#)), refers to test [A] in the list below:

[A] test name: Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA

Manufacturer: Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise, Beijing, China; Cat # WS-1096

Ab targets: total Ab

Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S-protein RBD

Test method: ELISA

Timing of samples: not reported

Samples used: serum

Test operators: laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: calculated negative control value to 0.160

Blinded to reference standard: no

Threshold predefined: yes

[B] test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA

Manufacturer: Euroimmun Medizinische Labordiagnostika, Lübeck, Germany; Cat # EI 2668-9601 G

Ab targets: IgG

Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S-protein subunit 1 (S1)

Test method: ELISA

Timing of samples: not reported

Samples used: serum

Test operators: laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 borderline, and ≥ 1.1 positive. For analysis 1.1, a more stringent cut-off was used, and all values < 1.1 were considered negative.

Blinded to reference standard: no

Threshold predefined: yes

[C] test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA

Manufacturer: Euroimmun Medizinische Labordiagnostika, Lübeck, Germany; Cat # EI 2606-9601 A

Ab targets: IgA

Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S-protein subunit 1 (S1)

Test method: ELISA

Timing of samples: not reported

Samples used: serum

Test operators: laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 borderline, and ≥ 1.1 positive. For analysis 1.1, a more stringent cut-off was used, and all values < 1.1 were considered negative.

Blinded to reference standard: no

Threshold predefined: yes

[D] Test name: 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test

Manufacturer: Dynamiker Biotechnology, Tianjin, China Cat # DNK-1419-1

Ab targets: IgM, IgG

Antigens used: NR

Test method: CGIA

Timing of samples: not reported

Samples used: serum

Test operators: laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: visible line

Blinded to reference standard: no

Threshold predefined: yes

[E] Test name: OnSite™ COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test

Manufacturer: CTK Biotech, Poway, CA, USA; Cat # R0180C

Ab targets: IgM, IgG

Antigens used: NR

Test method: CGIA

Timing of samples:

Samples used: serum

Test operators: laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: visible line

Blinded to reference standard: no

Threshold predefined: yes

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Lassauniere 2020 [A] (Continued)

[F] Test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Test
 Manufacturer: AutoBio Diagnostics, Zhengzhou, China; Cat # RTA0204
 Ab targets: IgM, IgG
 Antigens used: NR
 Test method: CGIA
 Timing of samples: not reported
 Samples used: serum
 Test operators: laboratory staff
 Definition of test positivity: visible line
 Blinded to reference standard: no
 Threshold predefined: yes
 [G] Test name: Coronavirus Diseases 2019 (COVID-19) IgM/IgG Ab Test
 Manufacturer: Artron Laboratories, Burnaby, Canada; Cat # A03-51-322
 Ab targets: IgM, IgG
 Antigens used: NR
 Test method: CGIA
 Timing of samples: not reported
 Samples used: serum
 Test operators: laboratory staff
 Definition of test positivity: visible line
 Blinded to reference standard: no
 Threshold predefined: yes

Insufficient samples available to report data by time pso for tests [H] and [I], therefore excluded from this iteration of the review

[H] Test name: 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette
 Manufacturer: Acro Biotech, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, USA; Cat # INCP-402
 Ab targets: IgM, IgG
 Antigens used: NR
 Test method: CGIA
 Timing of samples:
 Samples used: serum
 Test operators: laboratory staff
 Definition of test positivity: visible line
 Blinded to reference standard: no
 Threshold predefined: yes
 [I] Test name: 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette
 Manufacturer: Hangzhou Alltest Biotech, Hangzhou, China; Cat # INCP-402
 Ab targets: IgM, IgG
 Antigens used: NR
 Test method: CGIA
 Timing of samples: not reported
 Samples used: serum
 Test operators: laboratory staff
 Definition of test positivity: visible line
 Blinded to reference standard: no
 Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases (including threshold): viral nucleic acid detection (no further detail) in hospital patients Samples used: respiratory Timing of reference standard: during hospital stay Blinded to index test: yes Incorporated index test: no Reference standard for non-cases: pre-pandemic (2017)
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: unclear Results presented by time period: days since onset: 7-13 (n = 7); 14-20 (n = 15); ≥ 21 (n = 8) All participants received the same reference standard: no

Lassauniere 2020 [A] (Continued)

Missing data: some participant samples were not tested with all assays. Only 32 of the 80 control participants were tested with POC assays. Unclear how the 32 were selected
Uninterpretable results: not mentioned
Indeterminate results: borderline results for [2] and [3] were considered test-negative. For POC tests, weak signals for IgM and IgG were considered positive.
Unit of analysis: participants

Comparative

Notes Funding: Danish National Biobank resource, supported by the Novo Nordisk Foundation
Publication status: preprint (not peer reviewed)
Source: medRxiv
Study author COI: none declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the		Unclear risk	

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Lassauniere 2020 [A] (Continued)

index test have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lassauniere 2020 [A] (Continued)

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Lassauniere 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Index tests	<p>9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry (Lassauniere 2020 [B]) refers to test [B]</p> <p>[B] test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA Manufacturer: Euroimmun Medizinische Labordiagnostika, Lübeck, Germany; Cat # EI 2668-9601 G Ab targets: IgG Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S protein subunit 1 (S1) Test method: ELISA Timing of samples: Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity: ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 borderline, and ≥ 1.1 positive. For analysis 1.1, a more stringent cut-off was used, and all values < 1.1 were considered negative. Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])

Lassauniere 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Index tests	<p>Nine tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and six LFIA; this entry (Lassauniere 2020 [C]) refers to test [C]</p> <p>[C] test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA Manufacturer: Euroimmun Medizinische Labordiagnostika, Lübeck, Germany; Cat # EI 2606-9601 A Ab targets: IgA Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S protein subunit 1 (S1) Test method: ELISA Timing of samples:</p>

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Lassauniere 2020 [C] (Continued)

Samples used: serum
Test operators: laboratory staff
Definition of test positivity: ratio < 0.8 was considered negative, ≥ 0.8 and < 1.1 borderline, and ≥ 1.1 positive.
For analysis 1.1, a more stringent cut-off was used, and all values < 1.1 were considered negative.
Blinded to reference standard: no
Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Comparative	
Notes	

Lassauniere 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Index tests	<p>9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry (Lassauniere 2020 [D]) refers to test [D]</p> <p>[D] Test name: 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Manufacturer: Dynamiker Biotechnology, Tianjin, China Cat # DNK-1419-1 Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: NR Test method: CGIA Timing of samples: Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity: visible line Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Comparative	
Notes	

Lassauniere 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

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Lassauniere 2020 [E] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Index tests	9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry (Lassauniere 2020 [E]) refers to test [E] [E] Test name: OnSiteTM COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Manufacturer: CTK Biotech, Poway, CA, USA; Cat # R0180C Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: NR Test method: CGIA Timing of samples: Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity: visible line Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: yes
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Comparative	
Notes	

Lassauniere 2020 [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Index tests	9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry (Lassauniere 2020 [F]) refers to test [F] [F] Test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Test Manufacturer: AutoBio Diagnostics, Zhengzhou, China; Cat # RTA0204 Ab targets: IgM, IgG Antigens used: NR Test method: CGIA Timing of samples: Samples used: serum Test operators: laboratory staff Definition of test positivity: visible line Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: yes
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Lassauniere 2020 [A])

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Lassauniere 2020 [F] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

Lassauniere 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lassauniere 2020 \[A\]](#))

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lassauniere 2020 \[A\]](#))

Index tests 9 tests evaluated, 3 ELISA and 6 LFIA; this entry ([Lassauniere 2020 \[G\]](#)) refers to test [G]

[G] Test name: Coronavirus Diseases 2019 (COVID-19) IgM/IgG Ab Test
Manufacturer: Artron Laboratories, Burnaby, Canada; Cat # A03-51-322
Ab targets: IgM, IgG.
Antigens used: NR
Test method: CGIA
Timing of samples:
Samples used: serum
Test operators: laboratory staff
Definition of test positivity: visible line
Blinded to reference standard: no
Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lassauniere 2020 \[A\]](#))

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lassauniere 2020 \[A\]](#))

Comparative

Notes

Lau 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase Covid-19

Design:

- [1] PCR-confirmed Covid-19 cases (n = 280 patients providing 415 samples)
- [2] Healthy healthcare worker controls (n = 597); 315 with annual southern hemisphere influenza vaccination 4 weeks prior
- [3] Antibody positive for different diseases: dengue (n = 74), hepatitis C (n = 3), hepatitis B (n = 12), syphilis (n = 1), antinuclear antibody (n = 16) double-stranded DNA antibody (n = 4), rheumatoid factor (n = 7)

Recruitment: Not stated

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

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Lau 2020a (Continued)

Sample size: 994 (280)

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear (hospital patients but unclear if inpatient or outpatient)

Location: Changi General Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, Sengkang General Hospital

Country: Singapore

Dates: April to June 2020

Symptoms and severity: Not stated

Demographics: Unclear Not stated

Exposure history: Unclear Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Healthy healthcare workers

Source: Volunteer staff in the same hospital, unclear if same time period as the cases or pre-pandemic; described as 'coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)-naive samples'

Characteristics: No suspicion of Covid-19

Non-Covid group 2: Other disease serum samples

Source: From ambulatory subjects with no suspicion for Covid-19 or acute respiratory illness; unclear timing

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name: ELECSYS anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay.

Manufacturer: Roche Diagnostics, Switzerland

Antibody: Unclear

Not stated; appeared to be total Ab (not specified in IFU either)

Antigen target: Biotinylated SARS CoV-2 specific recombinant antigens and SARS-CoV-2 specific recombinant antigens labelled with ruthenium

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: CLIA (Sandwich immunoassay)

Timing of samples: Timing reported was post-PCR+ve

0-7 days: 189/349 (54%)

7-13 days: 90/349 (26%)

14-20 days: 34/349 (10%)

>= 21 days: 36/349 (10%)

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Unclear

Definition of test positivity: An anti-SARS-CoV-2 index was derived with a reported cut-off index (COI) of 1.0 for positivity.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Lau 2020a (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: PCR; no further details Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, as occurred before index test Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] None; unclear if pre-pandemic [3] Unclear Samples used: Unclear Timing of reference standard: Unclear Blinded to index test: Unclear Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: None reported; NB methods stated 415 samples included from 280 patients but results reported total of 419 samples Uninterpretable results: None reported Indeterminate results: None reported Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Nothing stated Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed) Source: medRxiv Author COI: All authors had nothing to disclose.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

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Lau 2020a (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lau 2020a (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Lau 2020b

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase Covid</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] PCR-positive Covid-19 cases (n = 338) of suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>[2] Healthy healthcare workers (laboratory staff and frontline healthcare workers) with no suspicion for Covid-19 (n = 294)</p> <p>[3] Samples positive for other antibodies including: dengue (n = 46), anti-HCV (n = 3), HBsAg (n = 8), anti-HBc IgM (n = 2), rheumatoid factor (n = 5).</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 696 (338)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear (includes hospital inpatients but unclear if outpatients also included)</p> <p>Location: Changi General Hospital</p> <p>Country: Singapore</p> <p>Dates: April to May 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Healthy healthcare workers</p> <p>Source: Volunteer staff in the same hospital, unclear if same time period as the cases or pre-pandemic; described as 'coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)-naive samples'</p> <p>Characteristics: No suspicion of Covid-19</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Other disease serum samples</p> <p>Source: Unclear timing and source</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: Abbott Laboratories, USA</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p>

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Lau 2020b (Continued)

	<p>Antigen target: Undisclosed epitope on the viral nucleocapsid</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Qualitative chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CLIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Timing was post-PCR+ve: 0-7 days: 155/266 (58%) 7-14 days: 57/266 (21%) 14-21 days: 22/266 (8%) ≥ 21 days: 32/266 (12%)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: The manufacturer cut-off index (COI) of 1.4 was adopted to identify positivity</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Duplex real-time PCR targeting E and N gene</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, as occurred before index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] None; unclear if pre-pandemic [3] Unclear</p> <p>Samples used: Unclear</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Excluded 5/338 with unknown PCR status, 10 PCR-negative, and 57 inpatients "not initially suspected of having COVID-19 but subsequently tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 PCR"</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients Unclear; referred to 'cases' and samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: No funding statement reported</p>

Lau 2020b (Continued)

Publication status: Preprint

Source: MedRxiv

Author COI: All authors had nothing to disclose.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Lau 2020b (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Lau 2020c

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: To diagnose current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection

Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity

[1] Confirmed COVID patients, residual leftover sera (n = 353);

[2] Non-COVID Control -

[2a] Current healthy healthcare workers (HCWs) (n = 262);

[2b] pre-pandemic samples from our staff health screening (HS) programme in 2018 (n = 718);

[2c] Cross-reactivity panel (229/262 HCW volunteers from [2a] with recent influenza vaccination and 97 samples positive for dengue fever or other antibodies).

Group [2a] and parts of [2c] were excluded from our review as they did not have an eligible reference standard.

Recruitment:

[1] Test samples - Anonymised residual leftover sera (from other routine testing, e.g. renal panels, complete blood count) from subjects who had positive RT-PCR at Changi General Hospital between April-June 2020; unclear how recruited

[2a] Excluded from review

[2b] Stored samples from our staff health screening (HS) programme in 2018, unclear how recruited

[2c] Samples of [2a] who had received a flu vaccination within 4 weeks of the antibody test plus samples that tested positive for dengue fever or other antibody-positive subjects

Prospective or retrospective: Both

[1] test samples - retrospective

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Lau 2020c (Continued)

- [2a] control group - prospective
- [2b] pre-pandemic healthy - retrospective
- [2c] not stated for the 97 additional samples

Sample size: 1430 (353) samples of which 1168 (353) were eligible for our review

Further detail: Inclusion:

- [1] Subjects who had positive RT-PCR at Changi General Hospital between April-June 2020;
- [2a] Healthcare workers (HCWs) (laboratory staff, doctors, nurses, and housekeeping staff) volunteers at Changi General Hospital without symptoms of upper respiratory tract infection/fever and two serial anti-body testing 14 days apart;
- [2b] Stored samples from staff health screening (HS) programme in 2018 (Changi General Hospital);
- [2c] HCW volunteers who had received the latest influenza vaccination (southern hemisphere) within four weeks of their first SARS-CoV-2 IgG test (see [2a]) or samples that tested positive for dengue fever or other antibodies [Anti-HCV, Hepatitis B, anti-nuclear antibody (ANA), double-stranded DNA antibody (ds-DNA), rheumatoid factor (RF), syphilis].

Exclusion:

- [1] Test group - PCR-negative samples
- [2] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital (Not stated if inpatients only or also outpatients)

Location: Changi General Hospital, Singapore

Country: Singapore

Dates: April-June 2020

Symptoms and severity: not mentioned (we did not have any data regarding symptom severity in our sensitivity cohort)

Demographics:

Sensitivity group (n = 279)

Age: Mean 50.3 (SD 17.6) range 23 to 98; 234 (83.9%) males, 45 (16.1%) females

Exposure history: not mentioned

Non-Covid group 1:

[2c] Cross-reactivity panel

Source:

[2c] 229/262 from [2a] not eligible for our review

97 additional samples, source and time for additional cross-reactivity samples not stated

Characteristics: [2c] 46 samples that tested positive for dengue fever, 51 other antibody-positive subjects [Anti-HCV – 4, Hepatitis B – 29, anti-nuclear antibody (ANA) – 11, double-stranded DNA antibody (ds-DNA) – 1, rheumatoid factor (RF) – 5, syphilis – 1]

Non-Covid group 2:

[2b] Pre-pandemic healthy adults

Source: stored samples from staff health screening (HS) programme in 2018

Characteristics:

Age: Mean 44.2 (SD 13.4), range 20 to 85; 365 (50.8%) males, 353 (49.2%) females; healthy

Index tests

Test name: Abbott SARS-CoV-2-IgG

Manufacturer: Abbott

Antibody: IgG

Lau 2020c (Continued)

Antigen target: Undisclosed epitope on the viral nucleocapsid

Evaluation setting: laboratory

Test method: qualitative chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay

Timing of samples:

0-6 days post-PCR+: 172/279

7-13 days post-PCR+: 47/279

14+ days post-PCR+: 60/279

Samples used: Serum

[1] Leftover sera (stored at 4 °C for 10 days)

[2a] Serum

[2b] Stored serum

Test operator: not stated

Definition of test positivity: Compared to the mean chemiluminescent signal of a calibrator, an IgG index is derived with a stated cut-off index (COI) of 1.4

Blinding reported: not stated

Threshold predefined: yes by the manufacturer

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR- targets the N and E genes using a Qiagen EZ1 extraction system and Rotor Gene Q amplification system.

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, performed prior to index test (74 patients who were not initially suspected of having COVID-19 but tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR in their subsequent work-up had samples for antibody test taken prior PCR+ test but these were excluded from analyses).

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] NA as excluded from review;

[2b] Pre-pandemic (2018);

[2c] Not stated for the additional 97 cross-reactivity samples.

Samples used:

[2a] NA as excluded from review;

[2b] Pre-pandemic;

[2c] Not stated.

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] NA as excluded from review;

[2b] Pre-pandemic;

[2c] Not stated.

Blinded to index test: yes, performed prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No for [1], [2b] and eligible 97 samples from [2c]

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] 0-6 days: 172/279; 7-13 days: 47/279; 14+ days: 60/279; [2b] and remaining [2c] not stated

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Lau 2020c (Continued)

All patients received same reference standard: No [1] rtPCR, [2b] pre-pandemic, [2c] not stated.

Missing data: Out of 353 RT-PCR samples, 74 were excluded as these inpatients were not initially suspected of having COVID-19 but tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR in their subsequent work-up. Of the remaining 279 samples, only 60 were eligible for our review (at least 14 days post-PCR+).

From our review, we also excluded group [2a] and 229 samples of group [2c].

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: samples ([1] 279 samples from 160 individual SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR-positive patients; [2c] patients; [2b] not stated)

Comparative
Notes
Funding:

We thank Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd and Abbott Diagnostics, Singapore, for sponsoring the test kits used in this study.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinica Chimica Acta, Elsevier

Author COI: None

The authors declared that they had no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
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Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
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Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
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Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
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Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
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Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
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DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
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Lau 2020c (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval be-

Unclear

Lau 2020c (Continued)

tween index test and reference standard?

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Lau 2020d

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To diagnose Covid-19 acute-phase infection and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Test group - Confirmed COVID patients, residual leftover sera (n = 415)</p> <p>[2] Control group (n = 715):</p> <p>[2a] Non-Covid control; current healthy healthcare workers (HCWs) (n = 597);</p> <p>[2b] Cross reactivity group- 315 HCWs from group [2a] who received their annual influenza vaccination 4 weeks prior to testing and 118 non-Covid patients who had antibody positive samples [dengue, hepatitis C (HCV), hepatitis B (HBV), syphilis, antinuclear antibody (ANA), double-stranded DNA antibody (anti ds-DNA), rheumatoid factor (RF)] from ambulatory patients (n = 433)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Test samples: Residual serum samples from cases with suspected or confirmed infection from April to June 2020. Recruited from 3 institutions in Singapore: Changi General Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, and Sengkang General Hospital, 415 excess serum samples (from 280 individual patients)</p> <p>[2a] Control group: 597 samples from consenting healthy (no self-reported respiratory symptoms) healthcare workers (HCWs) were collected (laboratory staff, nurses, and housekeeping staff)</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reactivity group: non-Covid samples. Except for dengue, all other samples for cross-reactivity analysis were from excess serum samples from before November 2019. Plus 315 from group [2a] who had their annual influenza jab 4 weeks prior to the antibody test.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Both</p> <p>[1] test samples - retrospective</p> <p>[2a] Healthy HCWs group - prospective</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reactivity - retrospective, prospective for HCWs with influenza vaccination, unclear for dengue fever patients</p> <p>Sample size: 1130 (415) of which 785 (70) were eligible for our review (279 + 66 confirmed COVID cases without eligible time split excluded)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Subjects who had positive RT-PCR from April to June 2020, from 3 institutions in Singapore: Changi General Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, and Sengkang General Hospital.</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lau 2020d (Continued)

[2a] Healthcare workers (HCWs) consenting healthy (no self-reported respiratory symptoms) (laboratory staff, nurses, and housekeeping staff)

[2b] HCWs with recent influenza vaccination, samples that tested positive for dengue fever or other antibodies [Anti-HCV, Hepatitis B, anti-nuclear antibody (ANA), double-stranded DNA antibody (ds-DNA), rheumatoid factor (RF), syphilis]. Except for dengue, all other samples for cross-reactivity analysis were from excess serum samples from before November 2019.

Exclusion:

[1] Test group - PCR-negative samples

[2] Not stated

[3] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital (Not stated if inpatients only or also outpatients)

Location: Changi General Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, and Sengkang General Hospital

Country: Singapore

Dates: [1] Test samples - from April to June 2020

Symptoms and severity: not mentioned

Demographics:

Data for 349 samples included in analyses:

Age 49.8 (95% CI 47.7 to 51.8), range 23-97 years; 282 males, 67 females

Exposure history: Not mentioned

Non-Covid group 1: [2b] cross-reactivity group

Source: excess serum samples from before November 2019 (except for dengue) and samples from healthy HCWs who recently received influenza vaccination

Characteristics: dengue N = 74, HCV N = 3, HBV N = 13, syphilis N = 1, ANA N = 16, anti-ds-DNA N = 4, and RF N = 7

315 healthy HCWs with recent influenza jab

Non-Covid group 2: [2a] current, healthy HCWs

Source: Not mentioned, possibly HCWs (laboratory staff, nurses, and housekeeping staff) from the same 3 hospitals in Singapore

Characteristics: 597 consenting healthy (no self-reported respiratory symptoms) healthcare workers (HCWs)

Characteristics only for [2a] and [2b] combined (n = 715):

Age 40.4 (95% CI 38.9 to 41.9), range 19-81 years; 126 males, 589 females

Index tests

Test name: Roche Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay

Manufacturer: Roche

Antibody: Total antibodies

Antigen target: Undisclosed epitope

Evaluation setting:

Laboratory

Test method: Sandwich immunoassay (where biotinylated SARS-CoV-2 specific recombinant antigens and SARS-CoV-2 specific recombinant antigens labelled with ruthenium form a sandwich complex with anti-SARS-CoV-2).

Electrochemiluminescent-immunoassay

Timing of samples:

0-6 days: 189

Lau 2020d (Continued)

7-13 days: 90
 >= 14 days: 70

Samples used: Serum
 [1] Leftover serum
 [2] Serum
 [3] Stored serum before 2019 or serum

Test operator: Lab personnel from hospital laboratories (For serology, Changi and Sengkang hospitals employed the Roche Cobas e801 while Khoo Teck Puat used the Cobas e602 immunoassay analyser)

Definition of test positivity: cut-off index (COI) of 1.0 for a positive sample

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test systems that targeted at least 2 viral epitopes of SARS-CoV-2

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes performed prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Untested, no reported respiratory symptoms
 [2b] Pre-pandemic, unclear for 74 dengue patients

Samples used:

[2a] Untested
 [2b] Pre-pandemic or untested

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Untested
 [2b] Pre-pandemic or unclear

Blinded to index test: yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1] 0-6 days -189, 7-13 days - 90, 14+ days - 70, 21+ days -36
 [2] Untested
 [3] Pre-pandemic or unclear

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: A total of 415 excess serum samples (from 280 individual patients) that tested positive for SARSCoV-2 by PCR were identified for sensitivity analysis.
 Of these, 66 were residual samples from inpatients not initially suspected of having COVID-19 but who subsequently tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 PCR and were excluded from the sensitivity analysis.
 279 Covid samples excluded from review as no eligible time split.

Uninterpretable results: not stated

Indeterminate results: No cases with indeterminate or missing results were used in our study.

Lau 2020d (Continued)

Unit of analysis:

[1] Samples (349 samples from 205 individual patients)

[2a] Unclear

[2b] Unclear

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Research funding - none declared; Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd sponsored the laboratory testing kits used in this study.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: JALM- Journal of Applied Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: None declared, Honoraria: T.C. Aw, Abbott Diagnostics, Roche Diagnostics, Beckman-Coulter

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Lau 2020d (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lau 2020d (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Li 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infections</p> <p>Design: Single-group study estimating sensitivity alone: 49 NAT-confirmed 2019-nCoV infected patients (hospitalised patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated</p> <p>Sample size: 49 (49)</p> <p>Further detail: no more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: hospitalised patients</p> <p>Location: The Fifth Medical Centre of PLA General Hospital of China</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: December 2019 to February 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 12 (24%) severe; 37 (76%) mild illness; fever (41/49), cough (26/49), fatigue (11/49), dyspnoea (6/49), diarrhoea symptom (0/49); 17 had other systematic diseases (8 hypertension, 5 diabetes, 2 asthma, 1 AIDS, 1 tuberculosis, 1 hepatitis)</p> <p>Demographics: 30, 61% male; median age 43y (IQR: 3 to 79y)</p> <p>Exposure history: 35 patients had been to Wuhan before illness onset or lived in Wuhan city, others had never been to Wuhan recently.</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: [A] SP-based IgG/IgM ELISA; [B] N-protein based IgG/IgM ELISA</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] Hotgen Biotech (Beijing, China); [B] Livzon Group (Guangdong, China)</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] S (Spike);</p> <p>[B] N (Nucleocapsid) protein.</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Li 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Day 2 to 45 pso; 40 samples collected at < 10 days; up to 41 samples > 10 days</p> <p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Test operator: not reported</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: the S/CO values ≥ 1 considered positive results, < 1 negative</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: not reported</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: NAT; no further details</p> <p>Samples used: not reported</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not reported</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, reference standard done before index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>Timing of reference standard:</p> <p>Blinded to index test:</p> <p>Incorporated index test:</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: not reported</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes; all NAT-tested</p> <p>Missing data: none reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: none reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: none reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: 206 serum samples from 49 patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by the Emergency Project for 2019-nCoV of PLA General Hospital (20EP013).</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print</p> <p>Source: Lancet Infectious Diseases</p> <p>Author COI: authors reported no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Li 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Li 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Li 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Lippi 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	1-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity and specificity [1] Suspected Covid-19; subgroup of confirmed cases included Recruitment: consecutive patients Prospective or retrospective recruitment of cases: prospective Sample size (virus/Covid cases): 131 (NR); subgroup of 48 confirmed cases included Inclusion and exclusion criteria: suspected Covid-19 patients hospitalised, in whom NP and OP swabs were collected along with blood samples during hospital stay, for purposes of COVID-19 diagnosis and/or monitoring
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: hospital inpatients Location: University Hospital of Verona Country: Italy Dates: NR Symptoms and severity: NR Sex: 60/131 (46%) male Age: mean 56 ± 21 years

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lippi 2020 [A] (Continued)

Exposure history: NR	
Index tests	<p>2 tests were evaluated; this entry (Lippi 2020 [A]) refers to test [A] in the list below</p> <p>Test name: [A] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG and IgM (2 indirect tests) [B] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA and IgG ELISA</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] SNIBE – Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co., Ltd, Shenzhen, China [B] Euroimmun AG, Lübeck, Germany</p> <p>Ab targets: [A] IgM or IgG ; [B] IgA or IgG</p> <p>Antigens used: [A] CoV-S (spike) and e CoV-N (nucleocapsid); [B] NR</p> <p>Test method: [A] CLIA; [B] ELISAs</p> <p>Timing of samples: NR</p> <p>Samples used: blood, serum or plasma</p> <p>Test operators: NR</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] ≥ 1.10 AU/mL [B] ≥ 1.1 (absorbance of patient sample/absorbance of calibrator)</p> <p>Blinded to reference standard: NR</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes by manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard for cases: RT-PCR (commercial RT-PCR method, Seegene AllplexTM2019-nCoV Assay)</p> <p>Samples used: venous blood</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: during hospital stay</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NR</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Reference standard for non-cases: same reference standard, single-group</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: both during hospital stay</p> <p>Results presented by time period: no</p> <p>All participants received the same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: NR</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: NR</p> <p>Indeterminate results: 36 Inconclusive results</p> <p>Unit of analysis: per patient</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: none declared</p> <p>Publication status: published letter</p> <p>Source: Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</p> <p>Study author COI: study authors stated no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lippi 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lippi 2020 [A] (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? Low risk

Lippi 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lippi 2020 \[A\]](#))

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lippi 2020 \[A\]](#))

Index tests 2 tests were evaluated; this entry ([Lippi 2020 \[B\]](#)) refers to test [B] in the list below

Test name:

[A] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG and IgM (2 indirect tests)

[B] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA and IgG ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] SNIBE – Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co., Ltd, Shenzhen, China

[B] Euroimmun AG, Lübeck, Germany

Ab targets: [A] IgM or IgG ; [B] IgA or IgG

Antigens used: [A] CoV-S (spike) and e CoV-N (nucleocapsid); [B] NR

Test method: [A] CLIA (CLIAs); [B] ELISA

Timing of samples: NR

Samples used: blood, serum or plasma

Test operators: NR

Definition of test positivity:

[A] ≥ 1.10 AU/mL

[B] ≥ 1.1 (absorbance of patient sample/absorbance of calibrator)

Blinded to reference standard: NR

Threshold predefined: yes by manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lippi 2020 \[A\]](#))

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Lippi 2020 \[A\]](#))

Comparative

Notes

Liu 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling 2-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity for diagnosing active disease
[1]. Consecutively-recruited cohort of patients with confirmed or suspected Covid-19 (n = 238; 153 PCR-confirmed)
[2]. Cohort of ordinary patients (n = 70);
[3]. Cohort of randomly sampled healthy blood donors (n = 50) randomly sampled
No further details

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Liu 2020a (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>[1]. Inpatients at General Hospital of Central Theater Command of People's Liberation Army (PLA), China (recruitment dates 6-14 February 2020). Symptoms included fever (87%); dry cough (54%); fatigue (33%). 235/238 (99%) had CT ground glass opacity/patchy shadowing. Exposure history not described. Median age 55 [IQR 38.3-65] years; 58% male</p> <p>[2]. Ordinary patients, characteristics not described.</p> <p>[3]. Healthy blood donors (n = 50), characteristics not described</p>
Index tests	<p>2 Ab tests, blinding NR</p> <p>Both laboratory-based</p> <p>a. ELISA kit (Lizhu, Zhuhai, China). Measured IgG and IgM detected using recombinant (rN) protein of SARS-CoV-2.</p> <p>Test threshold: NR, presumed as per manufacturer</p> <p>b. In-house CLIA</p> <p>Timing: Serum samples acquired 17 (7%) day 0-5; 41 (17%) day 6-10; 21 (9%) day 11-12; 48 (20%) day 13-15; 111 (47%) day \geq 16</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>1. RT-PCR (Daan Gene) targeting ORF1ab and N gene; Ct-value \leq 40 was defined as a positive test result. Pharyngeal swab specimens used</p> <p>Clinical diagnosis of highly-suspected cases according to General Office of National Health Committee notice (General Office of National Health Committee. Office of State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Notice on the issuance of strategic guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infected pneumonia (Fifth edition draft) (2020-02-09) [EB/OL])</p> <p>Timing: clinical diagnosis presumed on admission. RT-PCR sampling - 54 (23%) day 0-5; 71 (30%) day 6-10; 28 (12%) day 11-12; 35 (15%) day 13-15; 50 (21%) day \geq 16</p> <p>2. No reference standard described for 'ordinary' patients or healthy controls</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference NR, but within hospital stay. Data were disaggregated by time point but different participants contributed samples at each time.</p> <p>No missing data, uninterpretable or indeterminate results described</p> <p>Basis for analysis: participants</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China; National Key Research and Development Program of China; and the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation. Wuhan Institute of Virology of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Zhuhai Lizhu Diagnostics Inc. for providing assistance in ELISA detection</p> <p>Conflicts of interest: Zhuhai Lizhu Diagnostics Inc. acknowledged in Funding statement</p> <p>Preprint (not peer reviewed): medRxiv</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2020a (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2020a (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Liu 2020b [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity in acute and convalescent-phase sera 1. RT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 214) 2. Healthy blood donors (n = 100) Retrospective design; recruitment method NR. No further detail
Patient characteristics and setting	[1] Inpatients at General Hospital of the Central Theater Command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), China (recruitment dates 18 January-26 February). Exposure history and participant characteristics not described [2] Healthy blood donors; not further described
Index tests	2 Ab tests, blinding NR; this entry (Liu 2020b [A]) refers to test [A] in the list below Laboratory-based evaluations of ELISA assays measuring IgM and IgG using serum samples: A. rN-based ELISA (Lizhu, Zhuhai, China), using recombinant N-protein B. rS-based ELISA (Hotgen, Beijing, China), using receptor-binding domain of the recombinant S polypeptide (rS) Test thresholds: A. cut-off calculated by summing 0.100 (IgM) or 0.130 (IgG) and the average A450 of negative control replicates. When A450 < cut-off value, the test was considered negative, and when A450 was ≥ cut-off value, the test was considered positive. B. cut-off values (IgM and IgG) calculated by summing 0.250 and the average A450 of negative control replicates. When A450 < cut-off value, the test was considered negative, and when A450 was ≥ cut-off value, the test was considered positive. Samples acquired 0-5 d 22, 10%; 6-10 d 38, 18%; 11-15 d 54, 25%; 16-20 d 55, 26%; ≥ 21 d 45, 21% (32/45 were d 21-30). Person applying the test not described
Target condition and reference standard(s)	[1] RT-PCR (no further detail), using pharyngeal swabs samples. Positivity threshold NR. Samples acquired at a median of 15 d pso (range 0-55 days) 2. Healthy blood donors; no description of timing of serum sample collection
Flow and timing	Sampling for index and reference for cases was conducted within same time frame. No missing data, uninterpretable or indeterminate results described Basis for analysis: participants. Included a single sample per participant with results disaggregated by time pso, but different participants contributed data to each time period
Comparative	
Notes	Supported by the National Natural Science Foundation, the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (2019M664008), and the Wuhan Young and Middle-aged Medical Backbone Talents Training Project (Wuweitong [2019] 87th266) Accepted manuscript (Journal of Clinical Microbiology) No conflicts of interest declared

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2020b [A] (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?			High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Liu 2020b [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Liu 2020b [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Liu 2020b [A])
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Liu 2020b [A])
Index tests	<p>2 Ab tests, blinding NR; this entry (Liu 2020b [B]) refers to test [B] in the list below</p> <p>Laboratory-based evaluations of ELISA assays measuring IgM and IgG using serum samples</p> <p>A. rN-based ELISA (Lizhu, Zhuhai, China), using recombinant N protein</p> <p>B. rS-based ELISA (Hotgen, Beijing, China), using receptor-binding domain of the recombinant S polypeptide (rS)</p> <p>Test thresholds:</p> <p>A. cut-off calculated by summing 0.100 (IgM) or 0.130 (IgG) and the average A450 of negative control replicates. When A450 < cut-off value, the test was considered negative, and when A450 was ≥ cut-off value, the test was considered positive.</p> <p>B. cut-off values (IgM and IgG) calculated by summing 0.250 and the average A450 of negative control replicates. When A450 < cut-off value, the test was considered negative, and when A450 was ≥ cut-off value, the test was considered positive.</p> <p>Samples acquired 0-5 d 22, 10%; 6-10 d 38, 18%; 11-15 d 54, 25%; 16-20 d 55, 26%; ≥ 21 d 45, 21% (32/45 were d 21-30). Person applying the test not described</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Liu 2020b [A])
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment (Liu 2020b [A])
Comparative	
Notes	

Liu 2020c

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To diagnose Covid-19 acute phase infection and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Test group - Confirmed COVID patients, serum from hospitalised patients (n = 206)</p> <p>[2] Control group (n = 270) – Non-Covid pre-pandemic healthy donors</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Test samples - Confirmed Covid patients, samples were collected from patients who were treated in the General Hospital of the Central Theatre Command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) between January 18 and April 4, 2020</p> <p>[2] Control group (n = 270) – randomly collected from healthy blood donors who donated blood in May 2019, in Wuhan, China</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Both</p> <p>[1] Test samples – prospective</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic healthy donors - retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 476 (206)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Subjects who had positive RT-PCR on pharyngeal swab specimens and were treated at the General Hospital of the Central Theatre Command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) between January 18 and April 4, 2020</p> <p>[2] Healthy blood donors who donated blood in May 2019, in Wuhan, China. The healthy blood donors were healthy people without other infection and auto-immune diseases.</p> <p>Exclusion:</p> <p>[1] Test group - PCR-negative samples</p> <p>[2] Those with other infections and auto-immune diseases</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: General Hospital of the Central Theatre Command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), Wuhan, Hubei</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: [1] between January 18 and April 4, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>54 patients were critical cases, 152 patients were non-critical cases.</p> <p>Demographics: [1] Among the patients, 126 (61.1 %) were males, and 80 (38.8 %) were females. The median age of these patients was 57 years (IQR, 43–68 years), ranging from 17 to 91 years.</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated (possibly all from Wuhan area)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Healthy blood donors</p> <p>Source: They donated blood in May 2019, in Wuhan, China.</p> <p>Characteristics: The healthy blood donors were healthy people without other infection and auto-immune diseases.</p> <p>The demographics (including age and gender) of patients and healthy donors were compared, with no significant differences.</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p>

Liu 2020c (Continued)

Characteristics: NA

Index tests	<p>Test name: Chemiluminescence Microparticle Immunoassays (CMIA). Test names not stated</p> <p>[A] IgM-CMIA</p> <p>[B] Ab-CMIA</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] and [B] Xiamen InnoDx Biotech Co., Ltd., China (Xiamen, China)</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] IgM</p> <p>[B] Ab (total antibodies)</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] and [B] RBD (receptor binding domain) of the SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein, S-protein of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Laboratory</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A] chemiluminescence microparticle immunoassays (μ-chain capture immunoassay)</p> <p>[B] chemiluminescence microparticle immunoassay (double-antigens sandwich immunoassay)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Symptom onset</p> <p>0-7 days pso: 26/206</p> <p>8-14 days pso: 70/206</p> <p>15-21 days pso: 72/206</p> <p>> 21 days pso: 38/206</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>[1] Serum</p> <p>[2] Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Lab personnel from hospital laboratories</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: [A] and [B]: A test was determined as positive if the signal/cut-off (S/CO) ratio > 1.0.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes (the cut-off value of IgM and total antibodies were calculated according to the manufacturer's instructions)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR nucleic acid testing kit (Daan, Guangzhou, China)</p> <p>Samples used: [1] pharyngeal swab specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [1] During patient care, timing not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, performed prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] Untested, pre-pandemic healthy blood donors who donated blood in May 2019</p> <p>Samples used: [2] Untested, pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2] Untested, pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>

Liu 2020c (Continued)

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
	All patients received same reference standard: No ([1] PCR, [2] Pre-pandemic samples)
	Missing data: Not stated
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not mentioned (possibly none as test has no borderline range)
	Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes	<p>Funding: We thank Xiamen InnoDx Biotech Co., Ltd., China for providing assistance in CMIA detection. This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (81801984), the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (2019M664008), and the Wuhan Young and Middle-aged Medical Backbone Talents Training Project (Wuweitong [2019] 87th).</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology Elsevier</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared that no conflict of interest existed.</p>
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Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge	Unclear		

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Liu 2020c (Continued)

of the results of the reference
standard?

If a threshold was used, was
it pre-specified? Yes

**Could the conduct or inter-
pretation of the index test
have introduced bias?** Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that the
index test, its conduct, or
interpretation differ from
the review question?** Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards
likely to correctly classify the
target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard
results interpreted without
knowledge of the results of
the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does
not incorporate the index
test Yes

**Could the reference stan-
dard, its conduct, or its in-
terpretation have intro-
duced bias?** Low risk

**Are there concerns that the
target condition as defined
by the reference standard
does not match the ques-
tion?** High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate in-
terval between index test and
reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in
the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a
reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per
patient? Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2020c (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Liu 2021
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute or asymptomatic infection</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID cases (n = 111)</p> <p>[1a] Symptomatic cases (n = 81)</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic cases (n = 30)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID patients (suspected COVID with multiple negative PCR tests) (n = 40)</p> <p>Recruitment: There were 111 patients with positive RT-PCR test results at the time of admission and 40 suspected patients from Feb 3 to Mar 13 were enrolled. The suspected cases were based on clinical manifestation, chest radiography and epidemiology. All suspected patients were eventually "excluded from diagnosis" [and used as non-COVID controls] based on clinical judgement as well as multiple negative RT-PCR tests.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 151 (111) patients, sample size unclear (65 COVID patients had a second blood sample and 54/62 discharged patients gave blood samples again in later check-ups)</p> <p>151 (111) samples seemed to be relevant for our review.</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] rt-PCR-positive cases admitted to Union Jiangbei Hospital, Wuhan, China, from Feb 3 to Mar 13, 2020</p> <p>[2] Suspected patients that were eventually excluded from diagnosis based on clinical judgement as well as multiple negative RT-PCR tests</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Union Jiangbei Hospital, Wuhan, China</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: Feb 3 to Mar 13 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>[1a] Symptomatic (n = 81); 17 (15.5%) severe, 42 (38.2%) common, 22 (20%) mild</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic (n = 30)</p> <p>Demographics:</p> <p>[1a] Age: Median 56 (range 23, 93) years; 48/81 (59.2%) male</p> <p>[1b] Age: Median 56.5 (range 20, 94) years; 22/30 (73.3%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Possibly all from Wuhan/Hubei province</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Suspected COVID cases with negative PCR</p> <p>Source: Union Jiangbei Hospital, Wuhan, China from Feb 3 to Mar 13, 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Age: Median 48.5 (range 23, 98) years; 23/40 (57.4%) male</p>

Liu 2021 (Continued)

	Non-Covid group 2: NA
Index tests	<p>Test name: "COVID-19 IgG Detection Kits"</p> <p>Manufacturer: Hunan Yuanjing Biotechnology Co., Ltd.</p> <p>Antibody: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 spike receptor-binding domain (S-RBD) and N spike-protein as antigens</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Lab test performed in lab</p> <p>Test method: Magnetic Beads Chemiluminescent Immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>[1a] First sample (n = 81): Median 7 days (range 4, 14) after symptom onset</p> <p>[1b] First sample (n = 30): Median 8 days (range 7, 9) after the positive RT-PCR test detection</p> <p>[2] Median 9.5 (range 5, 12) day after symptom onset (n = 40)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: The test results in the sample were expressed in COI. Threshold not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: no</p> <p>Threshold predefined: not stated</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: real-time RT-PCR amplification of SARS-CoV-2 open reading frame 1ab (ORF1ab), nucleocapsid protein (NP) genes fragments using kits (Shanghai BioGerm Biotechnology Co., Ltd)</p> <p>Conditions for amplification were 50 C for 10 min, 95 C for 5 min, followed by 40 cycles of 95 C for 10 s and 55 C for 40 s. The case would be considered to be laboratory confirmed when two targets (ORF1ab, NP) tested positive using specific real-time RT-PCR [19].</p> <p>A cycle threshold value (Ct-value) ≤ 38 was defined as a positive test, and a Ct-value of > 38 was defined as a negative test.</p> <p>Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: real-time RT-PCR amplification of SARS-CoV-2 open reading frame 1ab (ORF1ab), nucleocapsid protein (NP) genes fragments using kits (Shanghai BioGerm Biotechnology Co., Ltd)</p> <p>Conditions for amplification were 50 C for 10 min, 95 C for 5 min, followed by 40 cycles of 95 C for 10 s and 55 C for 40 s. The case would be considered to be laboratory confirmed when two targets (ORF1ab, NP) tested positive using specific real-time RT-PCR [19].</p> <p>A cycle threshold value (Ct-value) ≤ 38 was defined as a positive test, and a Ct-value of > 38 was defined as a negative test.</p> <p>Classed as "Non-COVID" control based on clinical judgement as well as multiple negative RT-PCR tests</p> <p>Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior index test</p>

Liu 2021 (Continued)

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: [1a] and [2] Not stated [1b] Median 8 days (range 7, 9) after the positive RT-PCR test detection All patients received same reference standard: yes Missing data: Not stated Uninterpretable results: Not stated Indeterminate results: Not stated Unit of analysis: Samples but only 1 sample per time split
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: This study was supported by the National Key R&D Programme of China [2019YFF0216303]. Publication status: Published paper Source: Annals of Medicine Author COI: No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author(s).

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowl-	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2021 (Continued)

edge of the results of the
reference standard?

If a threshold was used, was
it pre-specified? Yes

**Could the conduct or in-
terpretation of the index
test have introduced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that
the index test, its conduct,
or interpretation differ
from the review question?**

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards
likely to correctly classify
the target condition? Yes

Were the reference stan-
dard results interpreted
without knowledge of the
results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard
does not incorporate the in-
dex test Yes

**Could the reference stan-
dard, its conduct, or its in-
terpretation have intro-
duced bias?**

Low risk

**Are there concerns that
the target condition as
defined by the reference
standard does not match
the question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate
interval between index test
and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard? No

Were all patients included
in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive
a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per
patient? Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Liu 2021 (Continued)

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Loconsole 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute phase infection</p> <p>Design: Prospective cohort study (n=819) Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] PCR-positive patients - 148 [1a] < 7 days of symptoms - 99 [1b] > 7 days of symptoms - 44 [1c] Asymptomatic patients - 5 [2] PCR-negative patients - 671</p> <p>Recruitment: Consecutive (but convenient)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: Total - 819 PCR +ve - 148</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion - Consecutive patients presenting to the Emergency department between 23 March and 21 April 2020 [1] All patients with a positive PCR [1a] Patients with a positive PCR and symptoms < 7 days [1b] Patients with a positive PCR and symptoms > 7 days [1c] Patients with a positive PCR and no symptoms [2] PCR-negative patients</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Emergency department</p> <p>Location: Policlinico Hospital of Bari, Italy</p> <p>Country: Italy</p> <p>Dates: 2020-03-23 to 2020-04-21</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 721/819 (88%) with respiratory symptoms (undefined). No indication of severity 98/819 (12.0%) no respiratory symptoms.</p> <p>Demographics: Median age - 66 (IQR 52-80) Male - 454/819 (55.4%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p>

Loconsole 2020 (Continued)

Index tests	<p>Test name: SARS-CoV-2 VivaDiagTM serological assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: Vivacheck Biotech, Hangzhou, China</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and/or IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC (All samples were analysed at the Laboratory of Molecular Epidemiology and Public Health of the Hygiene Unit of the Policlinico Hospital Bari, which is the Regional Reference Laboratory for surveillance and diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2)</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold) (CGIA)</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>[1] PCR-positive patients - 148</p> <p>[1a] < 7 days of symptoms - 99</p> <p>[1b] > 7 days of symptoms - 44</p> <p>[1c] Asymptomatic patients - 5</p> <p>Samples used: 10 micL of plasma or whole blood</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Visible line, read at 15 min</p> <p>If the quality control line "C" and the detection IgM and/or IgG lines were coloured, then the test was interpreted as positive for IgM and/or IgG anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated (done at the same time as rt-PCR so maybe yes as results were quicker)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RNA was extracted using the Microlab Nimbus automated extraction system (Seegene, Seoul, Republic of Korea), according to the manufacturer's instructions. A commercial multiplex real-time PCR kit (AllplexTM 2019-nCoV Assay, Seegene, Seoul, Korea) was then used to detect the E, RdRP, and N genes of SARS-CoV-2. Results were considered positive when two or three genes were identified. The WHO Real-time RT-PCR protocol was used to confirm results when samples resulted positive for one gene.</p> <p>Samples used: Nasal and pharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Prospective cohort study</p> <p>[1a] < 7 days of symptoms - 99</p> <p>[1b] > 7 days of symptoms - 44</p> <p>[1c] Asymptomatic patients - 5</p> <p>All patients - on admission to ED</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Contemporaneous</p> <p>[2] Negative SARS-COV2 PCR</p> <p>RNA was extracted using the Microlab Nimbus automated extraction system (Seegene, Seoul, Republic of Korea), according to the manufacturer's instructions. A commercial multiplex real-time PCR kit (AllplexTM 2019-nCoV Assay, Seegene, Seoul, Korea) was then used to detect the E, RdRP, and N genes of SARS-CoV-2. Results were considered positive when two or three genes were identified. The WHO Real-time RT-PCR protocol was used to confirm results when samples resulted positive for one gene.</p> <p>Samples used: Nasal and pharyngeal swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: No respiratory symptoms - 93</p>

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Loconsole 2020 (Continued)

0-7 days pso - 415
> 7 days pso - 52
Unknown time with symptoms - 111
Performed on admission to ED

Blinded to index test: Not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Simultaneous

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated, possibly none (If the quality control line "C" was not coloured, the test was interpreted as invalid and repeated)

Indeterminate results: None

Unit of analysis: One sample per patient

Comparative
Notes

Funding: None
This research received no external funding.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: International Journal of Environmental Research & Public Health

Author COI: None
The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		Low risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Loconsole 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

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Loconsole 2020 (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Long 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity for diagnosing acute phase infection</p> <p>Design: RT-PCR-positive confirmed cases (n = 285). No further detail of inclusion or exclusion criteria</p> <p>Additional cohorts reported but not extracted included:</p> <p>a. follow-up cohort in RT-PCR-positive confirmed cases sampling every 3 days (n = 63 subset of cross-sectional study); did not provide accuracy data</p> <p>b. cohort of RT-PCR-negative suspects (n = 52); did not provide full accuracy data (specificity only could be extracted)</p> <p>c. cohort of asymptomatic contacts of 2 confirmed cases; only included 16 PCR+</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Participants: Inpatients at 3 hospitals, Chongqing Three Gorges Central Hospital (TGH) (n = 158), Yongchuan Hospital Affiliated to Chongqing Medical University (YCH) (n = 75), and The Public Health Center of Chongqing (PHCC), China (n = 52), recruited 5 February 2020</p> <p>Median age 47 years (IQR 34-56 years); 55.4% male. 39/285 (14%) severe or critical in ICU. 103/285 (36%) patients had an history of exposure to transmission sources.</p>
Index tests	<p>One Ab test, blinding NR</p> <p>Laboratory-based evaluated of magnetic CLIA kit (Bioscience (Chongqing) Co., Ltd), measuring IgM and IgG in serum samples, using recombinant antigen containing nucleoprotein and a peptide from S-protein</p> <p>Test threshold not described; presume interpretation according to manufacturer's instructions</p> <p>Sample timing: 67/363 (18%) day 2-7 from symptom onset; 149 (41%) day 8-13; and 147 (40%) day 14+</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>RT-PCR using nasal and pharyngeal swab specimens during hospital stay. No further detail. Threshold for positivity NR</p> <p>Single negative PCR for absence of infection</p> <p>Timing of reference standard sampling NR</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference NR. Data were disaggregated by time period but different participants contributed samples at each time point.</p> <p>Missing data: 23 participants with no information on time point were excluded leaving 363 samples from 262 participants.</p> <p>No uninterpretable or indeterminate results reported</p> <p>Basis for analysis: samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funded by Emergency Project from the Science & Technology Commission of Chongqing; The Major National S&T programme grant from Science & Technology Commission of China</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Long 2020 (Continued)

No conflicts of interest declared; 1 study author from BioScience Co. Ltd, Chongqing, China
Preprint paper (not peer reviewed)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Long 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Lou 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	2-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity and specificity [1] n = 80 confirmed COVID cases [2] n = 300 healthy people enrolled from the community Recruitment: Prospective or retrospective recruitment of cases: Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 380 (80) Inclusion and exclusion criteria: willing to donate blood
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: inpatient Location: First affiliated hospital of Zhejiang University Country: China Dates: 19 January-9 February 2020 Symptoms and severity: n = 26. Critical case = any one of a) ARDS or oxygen saturation < 93% and needing mechanical ventilation invasively or non-invasively; b) shock; c) complication of organ failure requiring ICU support N = 54 non-critical case (not meeting criteria a) or b) or c) above) Sex: 38.7% female Age: 55 years (IQR 45-64) Exposure history: for 45/80: incubation period (defined as interval between earliest date of SARS-CoV-2 exposure (unambiguous close contact with confirmed COVID-19 case) and earliest date of symptom onset) range 0-23 days, median 5 (IQR 2-10)
Index tests	3 tests evaluated, data by time point reported only for test [A]; tests [B] and [C] were excluded [B] Beijing Wantai - SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM/Total Ab CGIA; [C] Xiamen InnoDx Biotech SARS-CoV-2 CLIA Test name: [A] SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM/Total Ab ELISA; Manufacturer: [A] Beijing Wantai; [C] Ab targets: Ab; IgM; IgG Antigens used: IgM and Ab: RBD of the SARS-CoV-2 S-protein; IgG: indirect immunoassays using recombinant nucleoprotein of SARS-CoV-2

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lou 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Test method: ELISA, CLIA; LFIA Timing of samples: between 0 and 29 days pso Samples used: serum Test operators: NR Definition of test positivity: NR Blinded to reference standard: unclear Threshold predefined: yes
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases: confirmed case should meet 3 criteria: 1) fever and/or respiratory symptoms; 2) abnormal lung imaging findings; and 3) positive result of the nucleic acid of SARS-CoV-2 Samples used: deep sputum Timing of reference standard: on admission Blinded to index test: unclear Incorporated index test: unclear Reference standard for non-cases: NR
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: yes All participants received the same reference standard: unclear Missing data: [1] 36, 71 and 58/80 contributed to 0-7, 8-14 and 15-29 days pso estimates of sensitivity for tests [A], [B] and [C] only [2] Not all control group participants were tested by all index tests (range 100-300/300) Uninterpretable results: NR Indeterminate results: NR Unit of analysis: participant
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: China National Mega-Projects for Infectious Diseases and the Science and Technology Major Project of Xiamen Publication status: preprint Source:Pre-print server (medRxiv) Study author COI: none declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

Lou 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Unclear

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Unclear

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lou 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Lou 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Lynch 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To report the evolution of antibody responses, and compare the magnitude of convalescent antibody responses to patients with critical and non-critical COVID-19 disease</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study [1] COVID +ve patients [1a] ICU patients [1b] non-ICU patients [1c] convalescent plasma donors (non-ICU) [2] pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 613 (533)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion [1a] remnant serum or plasma samples from routine clinical laboratory testing [1b] and [1c] remnant serum or plasma samples from routine clinical laboratory testing at ZSFG hospital and COVID-19 convalescent plasma donors No exclusion criteria [1c] Potential donors over 18 years of age with a self-reported positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test result were screened for allogeneic blood donation eligibility.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed 94 SARS-CoV2 RT-PCR-positive patients, 62 (66%) admitted to the hospital and 32 outpatients</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lynch 2021 (Continued)

Location: Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital

Country: USA

Dates: Not specified

Symptoms and severity: ICU admission - 26/94 (28%)

Non-ICU admission - 36/94 (38%)

Outpatient - 32/94 (34%)

Demographics: Male - 64 (68%)

Median age - 49 (39-58)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: NA

Index tests

Test name:

Pylon 3D automated immunoassay system

Manufacturer: ET Healthcare, Palo Alto, CA using Pylon 3D automated immunoassay system

Antibody: IgM and IgG

Antigen target: nucleoprotein and a peptide from spike protein (N and S protein)

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: ELISA (Not stated)

Timing of samples: 1-70 days pso

[1a] Week 2

[1b] Week 4 or later

[1c] Two time periods - 21-40 days and 41-70 days

Samples used: Plasma or serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Mean plus 4 standard deviations (98.6% and 100% specificity for IgM and IgG)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes (based on timing)

Incorporated index test: No (Based on timing)

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic samples, prior to June 2018

Samples used: Blood samples

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes (based on timing)

Lynch 2021 (Continued)

Incorporated index test: No (Based on timing)

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
	All patients received same reference standard: Yes
	Missing data: 52/153 had more than 3 serial samples
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not stated
	Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes	Funding: Funded by departmental discretionary funds. Reagents were donated by ET Healthcare.
	Publication status: Published
	Source: Clinical Infectious Disease
	Author COI: AHBW is on the scientific advisory board for ET Healthcare. Authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Lynch 2021 (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		Unclear risk

MacMullan 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID samples (n = 123) [2] Current, PCR-negative patients (n = 83) [3] Pre-pandemic controls: serum samples collected prior to November 2019 (n = 76)
------------------	---

MacMullan 2020 [A] (Continued)

Group [2] excluded from our review as test accuracy outcomes could not be read from [Figure 1](#)

Recruitment: [3] Purchased from Cureline (Brisbane, CA), and were collected before September 2019 from healthy adults in the USA

Prospective or retrospective:

[1] and [2] Prospective
[3] Retrospective

Sample size: 282 (123) of which 199 (123) were eligible for our review

Further detail: Inclusion:

[1] Samples from symptomatic participants collected more than 21 days post-symptom onset, PCR-positive

[3] Collected before September 2019 from healthy adults in the USA

Exclusions not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Convalescent, setting not stated

Location: Not stated (UCLA?)

Country: USA

Dates: Clinical serum samples collected between April and July 2020

Symptoms and severity: Symptomatic

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Current, PCR-negative

Source: Not stated (UCLA?)

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic healthy

Source: Purchased from Cureline (Brisbane, CA), and were collected before September 2019 from healthy adults in the USA

Characteristics: Healthy adults, USA

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Gold Standard SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA (GSD01-1029 IgA)

[B] Gold Standard SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA (GSD01-1028 IgG)

[C] EuroImmune SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA (EI 2606-9620 IgA)

[D] EuroImmune SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA (EI 2606-9620 IgG)

Manufacturer:

[A] Gold Standard Diagnostics, Davis, US

[B] Gold Standard Diagnostics, Davis, US

[C] EuroImmune, New Jersey, USA

[D] EuroImmune, New Jersey, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgA

[B] IgG

[C] IgA

[D] IgG

MacMullan 2020 [A] (Continued)

Antigen target:

- [A] Nucleocapsid
- [B] Nucleocapsid
- [C] Spike
- [D] Spike

Evaluation setting: [A] - [D] Laboratory

Test method: [A] - [D] ELISA

Timing of samples: > 21 days pso

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Seemed to be scientists at Curative Inc (M.M and A.I. designed and ran experiments, analysed and interpreted data)

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] and [B] Determination of sample positivity cut-off value as an average of the calibrator values multiplied by a lot-specific correction factor
- [C] and [D] Determination of sample absorbance ratio based on sample O.D. divided by the averaged O.D. of the calibrators

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes (based on cut-off values for serum supplied by the manufacturers)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: [1] Curative's oral fluid PCR test, positive for viral RNA was determined as below 35 cycle threshold (CT).

Samples used: Oral fluid (participants coughed hard three times while shielding their cough via mask and/or coughing into the crook of their elbow. They then swabbed the inside of their cheeks, along the top and bottom gums, under the tongue, and finally on the tongue, to gather a sufficient amount of saliva).

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

- [2] Curative's oral fluid PCR test, positive for viral RNA was determined as below 35 cycle threshold (CT).
- [3] Pre-pandemic

Samples used:

- [2] oral fluid (participants coughed hard three times while shielding their cough via mask and/or coughing into the crook of their elbow. They then swabbed the inside of their cheeks, along the top and bottom gums, under the tongue, and finally on the tongue, to gather a sufficient amount of saliva).
- [3] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard:

- [2] Not stated
- [3] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: [2] and [3] yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: [2] and [3] no

MacMullan 2020 [A] (Continued)

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
	All patients received same reference standard: No
	Missing data: yes (exclusion of group [2] from review)
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not stated
	Unit of analysis: Not stated

Comparative

Notes	Funding: Not stated
	Publication status: Published paper
	Source: Scientific Reports - Nature
	Author COI: All authors are, or were at the time of research, employed by Curative Inc, a COVID-19 diagnostics company. L.D., F.E.T. and V.S have partial ownership of Curative Inc.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

MacMullan 2020 [A] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

MacMullan 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

MacMullan 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

MacMullan 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

MacMullan 2020 [D] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Mairesse 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Independent validation - evaluate the analytical and clinical performance of the iFlash® SARS-CoV-2 antibodies (IgM and IgG) chemiluminescence assay (CLIA)</p> <p>Design: Two groups [1] COVID-19 confirmed patients - n = 154 [2] Non-SARS-CoV-2 sera - n = 75</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 253(178)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion - Patients with RT-PCR +ve and COVID symptoms Exclusion - Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated (specimens originated from two hospitals)</p> <p>Location: Saint Nikolaus Hospital, Eupen, Belgium; n = 66, and Clinique St-Luc Bouge, Namur, Belgium; n = 112</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p> <p>Dates: May 15 to 30, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Symptomatic patients, symptoms not described</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Non-SARS-CoV-2 sera (n = 75) - 38 sera from COVID-19 negative healthy subjects and 37 sera from patients with a potential cross-reaction</p> <p>Source: before the COVID-19 pandemic and were stored at -20 °C</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] iFlash® anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgM</p> <p>[B] iFlash® anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] [B] YHLO biotechnology co., LTD, Shenzhen, China</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Mairesse 2020 [A] (Continued)

Antibody: [A] IgM [B] IgG

Antigen target: [A] [B] S and N

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: Chemiluminescence Enzyme Immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: 0-6 days pso n = 45
7-13 d pso - n = 35
14-20 d pso - n = 37
21-27 d pso - n = 29
> 28 d - n = 32

Samples used: Blood (serum stored at -20 c)

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Two definitions
1 Manufacturer cut-off (> 10 AU/mL)
2 ROC curve adapted cut-offs (2.81 AU/mL for IgM; 4.86 AU/mL for IgG)

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: Confirmed RT-PCR and with COVID-19 symptoms
	Samples used: Serum
	Timing of reference standard: Not stated
	Blinded to index test: Yes
	Incorporated index test: No
	Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic
	Samples used: Serum stored at -20 c
	Timing of reference standard: Not stated
	Blinded to index test: Yes
	Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
	All patients received same reference standard: Yes
	Missing data: Antibody kinetics since the onset of symptoms was evaluated in the full cohort of patients for which the information on the onset of symptoms was available - total 154 but periodic results only for a small group
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not stated
	Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes	Funding: Not stated
	Publication status: Published

Mairesse 2020 [A] (Continued)

Source: Clinical Biochemistry

Author COI: None

Authors declared no known competing financial interests or personal relationships.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Mairesse 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Mairesse 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Manalac 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent phase infection

Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Manalac 2020 [A] (Continued)

[1] Covid-19 patients or healthcare workers with RT-PCR-confirmed and/or clinical assessment indicated SARS-CoV-2 infections (n = 97)
 [2] Non-COVID samples (n = 1062)
 [2a] Concurrent, negative controls with no RT-PCR results nor clinical assessment indicating SARS-CoV-2 infections (n = 137), [Excluded as no reference standard]
 [2b] Concurrent cross-reactivity panel with positive serology test results of other infectious diseases or autoimmunity (n = 78)
 [2c] Pre-pandemic samples with other diseases (n = 847)
 No relevant test accuracy results reported for group [2a]

Recruitment: Not stated

Prospective or retrospective:

[1], [2a] and [2b] Unclear
 [2c] Retrospective

Sample size: 1159 (97) of which 956 (31) were eligible for our review

Further detail:

[1] Specimens from patients or healthcare workers with RT-PCR-confirmed and/or clinical assessment indicated SARS-CoV-2 infections;
 [2a] Samples with no RT-PCR results nor clinical assessment indicating SARS-CoV-2 infection;
 [2b] Samples with positive ANA (by ELISA), dsDNA, RF, cyclic-citrullinated peptide IgG, RPR, and positive serology for HAV (IgG), HBV (HBV surface Ab, HBV core Ab), HCV, CMV, VZV, EBV, rubella, rubeola, mumps, HSV, and treponema pallidum, all of which were collected during the current COVID-19 pandemic;
 [2c] Local patient populations seeking clinical care for rheumatoid diseases, thyroid cancer, and therapeutic drug monitoring. Remnant serum samples from rheumatoid disease screening (n = 643; 2011–2013), therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of lamotrigine, levetiracetam, testing for thyroglobulin (Tg), CA125, CA19-9, CEA, AFP, and CA15-3 (n = 94; before October 2019), and serum protein electrophoresis test (n = 110; 2012)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Not stated (Covid-19 patients or healthcare workers; our sample selection consisted of samples collected late in the disease course, mostly during follow up visits)

Location: Not stated (Stanford Health Care?)

Country: USA

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Not stated

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2b] Concurrent other diseases

Source: Source not stated, collected during the current COVID-19 pandemic

Characteristics: positive ANA by ELISA (n = 5), dsDNA (n = 5), RF (n = 3), cyclic-citrullinated peptide IgG (n = 2), and positive serology for HAV (n = 6), HBV (n = 11), HCV (n = 3), CMV (n = 2), VZV (n = 7), EBV (n = 6), rubella (n = 5), rubeola (n = 4), mumps (n = 2), HSV (n = 7), RPR (n = 5), and treponema pallidum (n = 5)

Non-Covid group 2: [2c] Pre-pandemic, other diseases

Source: Local patient populations seeking clinical care for rheumatoid diseases, thyroid cancer, and therapeutic drug monitoring

Manalac 2020 [A] (Continued)

Remnant serum samples from rheumatoid disease screening (n = 643; 2011–2013), therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of lamotrigine, levetiracetam, testing for thyroglobulin (Tg), CA125, CA19-9, CEA, AFP, and CA15-3 (n = 94; before October 2019), and serum protein electrophoresis test (n = 110; 2012)

Characteristics: Samples were from patients ranged in age from 1 to 95 y with 67% female and 33% male. A total of 165 samples were positive for one or more of ANA screening by ELISA or specific autoantibody results, with a positive rate of 25%. The samples with Tg results had 23% positive rate for the concurrent anti-Tg autoantibodies.

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 CMIA IgG [B] Euroimmun anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] Abbott; [B] Euroimmun</p> <p>Antibody: [A] IgG; [B] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] N-protein; [B] S1 domain of viral spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory tests performed in lab</p> <p>Test method: [A] chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CMIA); [B] ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: 14-21 days pso: n = 4; > 21 days pso: n = 27; Unknown: n = 66 ≤ 10 days post-PCR+: n = 8 > 10 days post-PCR+: n = 48 Unknown: n = 41</p> <p>Samples used: Abstract specified "Plasma" [2c] Remnant serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] The assay relies on an assay-specific calibrator to report a ratio of specimen absorbance to calibrator absorbance. The interpretation of result is determined by an index (S/C) value, which is a ratio over the threshold value. The Abbott IgG assay result is positive (index ≥ 1.4) or negative (index < 1.4). [B] The EI IgG or IgA assay result is positive (index ≥ 1.1), borderline (index ≥ 0.8 but < 1.1), or negative (index < 0.8).</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: [A]-[C] by following manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: [1] RT-PCR-confirmed and/or clinical assessment indicated SARS-CoV-2 infections, threshold not stated; clinical criteria not stated</p> <p>Samples used: [1] nasopharyngeal swab</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases:</p> <p>[2b] Concurrent, not tested [2c] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: None</p> <p>Timing of reference standard:</p>

Manalac 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2b] Untested
[2c] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: yes, borderline results for [B] (see [Table 2](#))
[B] 35/847 controls borderline
[1] No borderline result

Unit of analysis:

[1] Patients
[2] Not stated, possibly patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinica Chimica Acta

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do			High

Manalac 2020 [A] (Continued)

**not match the review
question?**

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test re-
sults interpreted without
knowledge of the results
of the reference stan-
dard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used,
was it pre-specified?

Yes

**Could the conduct or
interpretation of the
index test have intro-
duced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns that
the index test, its con-
duct, or interpretation
differ from the review
question?**

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference stan-
dards likely to correctly
classify the target condi-
tion?

No

Were the reference stan-
dard results interpreted
without knowledge of
the results of the index
tests?

Yes

The reference standard
does not incorporate the
index test

Yes

**Could the reference
standard, its conduct,
or its interpretation
have introduced bias?**

High risk

**Are there concerns that
the target condition as
defined by the refer-
ence standard does not
match the question?**

Unclear

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate
interval between index

Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Manalac 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

test and reference standard?

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Manalac 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Marlet 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection

Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity

[1] Confirmed COVID-19 hospital inpatients (63 samples)

[2] Pre-pandemic controls with other diseases (89 patients)

The prospective study was not eligible for our review as < 25 COVID cases. 203 patients: COVID-negative (n = 181), COVID-positive (n = 22)

Recruitment: Not stated

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Marlet 2020 [A] (Continued)

Sample size: 152 (63) of which 102 (13) were eligible for our review

Further detail:

[1] Hospital inpatients with rt-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 between 8th April and 11th May 2020 at Tours University Hospital

[2] Patients from occupational medicine, emergency or pneumology departments or from patients tested positive by RT-PCR for seasonal coronaviruses before the end of 2019

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: Tours University Hospital

Country: France

Dates: Plasma samples collected between April 8th and May 11th 2020

Symptoms and severity: Severe outcome 19/63 (30.2%)

ICU 18/63 (28.6%)

Death 3/63 (4.7%)

Demographics: Age: Median 79 (IQR 67– 90); sex (F:M) 1.52

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic, other diseases

Source: Patients from occupational medicine (n = 30), emergency or pneumology departments (n = 26) or from patients tested positive by RT-PCR (Allplex™ RP3, Seegene) for seasonal coronaviruses (n = 33, OC43, 229E or NL63) between 3–82 weeks before serology sampling before the end of 2019

Characteristics: Age: Median 30 (IQR 11– 54); sex (F:M) 1.17

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Euroimmun ELISA SARS-CoV-2 IgG,

[B] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG,

[C] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA

[D] DiaPro COVID-19 IgG Confirmation

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun

[B] Abbott

[C] Wantai

[D] DiaPro

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG

[C] Total antibody

[D] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] S1

[B] N

[C] S (RBD)

[D] S1, S2, N

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

Marlet 2020 [A] (Continued)

[A] ELISA
[B] CLIA (Alinity-i)
[C] ELISA
[D] ELISA

Timing of samples: 2–36 days after the onset of symptoms:

7–13 days pso: 13 samples

14+ days pso: 45 samples

Samples used: Plasma

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Not stated (performed according to the manufacturer's recommendations)

[A] and [C] Euroimmun IgG and Wantai Ab uninterpretable results were considered negative.

[D] DiaPro IgG confirmation assay was considered positive when Ab against at least two targets (S1, S2 or nucleoprotein) were detected.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, performed according to the manufacturer's recommendations

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR were performed in respiratory samples using Allplex™ 2019-nCoV assay (Seegene, Seoul, Republic of Korea), Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 assay (Abbott Molecular, Illinois, USA) or Bosphore 2019-nCoV detection kit (Anatolia GeneWorks, Istanbul, Turkey) depending on reagents and systems availability.
Among the positive RT-PCR results, inconclusive RT-PCR results were defined as results positive only for one gene (E, ORF1ab or N).

Samples used: Respiratory samples

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: [1] Sensitivity only reported for 13 + 45 = 58 samples but included in the study were 63 samples. They might have excluded samples taken before 7 days pso.

Also exclusion of the prospective study

Uninterpretable results: [A] and [C] Euroimmun IgG and Wantai Ab uninterpretable results were considered negative.

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Marlet 2020 [A] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	<p>Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: Dr. Marchand-Adam reported financial relationships from Boehringer Ingelheim, Roche and Novartis outside the submitted work. Dr. Lemaigen reported financial relationships from Gilead, Pfizer and MSD outside the submitted work.</p>
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Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or in-			Low concern

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Marlet 2020 [A] *(Continued)*
Interpretation differ from the review question?
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Marlet 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Marlet 2020 [B] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Marlet 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Marlet 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Marlet 2020 [D] (Continued)

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Martinaud 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 161)</p> <p>[1a] Confirmed COVID patients for "clinical sensitivity" experiment (n = 101)</p> <p>[1b] Confirmed COVID patients for "analytical accuracy" experiment (n = 60)</p> <p>[2] Cross-reactivity panel (n = 59)</p> <p>[3] Pre-pandemic, healthy donors (n = 500)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 720 (161) of which 682 (123) were eligible for our review.</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1a] PCR-confirmed COVID patients with a medical record of the date of symptomatic onset admitted to Military Medical Center, Percy</p> <p>[1b] Patients positive by RT-PCR and more than 3 weeks after the symptoms onset</p> <p>[2] Sera obtained from patients positive for IgG and IgM against Dengue virus and Chikungunya virus, for HBsAg or anti-HCV, rheumatoid factor, monoclonal proteins, Abs against malaria, Abs against syphilis, IgG and IgM against EBV and IgG against CMV</p> <p>[3] Archived serum samples from healthy donors, obtained in March 2019</p> <p>Exclusions not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[1a] Hospital inpatients</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>Location:</p> <p>[1a] Military Medical Center Percy, Clamart, France</p> <p>[1b] Unclear: Serum samples used in this study were obtained from the Medical Laboratory of the Military Medical Centers Percy (Clamart, France), Bégin (Saint-Mandé, France) and Laveran (Marseille, France) and from the Military Biomedical Research Institute (Marseille, France).</p> <p>Country: [1] France</p> <p>Dates: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: [1a] 58/101 severe (= hospitalised, see results section); 43/101 non-severe</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Cross-reactivity panel</p> <p>Source: Not stated</p> <p>Characteristics: Patients positive for IgG and IgM against Dengue virus (n = 5) and Chikungunya virus (n = 5), for HBsAg or anti-HCV (n = 5), rheumatoid factor (n = 5), monoclonal proteins (n = 10),</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Martinaud 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Abs against malaria (n = 10), Abs against syphilis (n = 10), IgG and IgM against EBV (n = 4) and IgG against CMV (n = 5)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic healthy</p> <p>Source: Healthy blood donors, obtained in March 2019 (possibly from the Blood Donation Screening Laboratory, French Military Blood Institute, Clamart, France)</p> <p>Characteristics: Healthy</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: MosaiQ™ COVID-19 antibody microarray</p> <p>Manufacturer: Quotient</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Spike S1-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Solid-phase photometric immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>[1a] < 14 days pso: 38/101 14-20 days pso: 33/101 > 20 days pso: 30/101 [1b] > 20 days pso: 60 samples</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: yes (as qualitative output)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes (qualitative output)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 infection was confirmed by PCR in samples from the respiratory tract according to French guidelines, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: samples from the respiratory tract (nasopharyngeal)</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases:</p> <p>[2] Unclear [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>[2] Not stated [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard:</p> <p>[2] Not stated [3] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Martinaud 2020 (Continued)

	Incorporated index test: no		
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: no Missing data: Yes (38 COVID samples < 14 days pso and 8 samples from "Analytical accuracy" experiment excluded from our review) Uninterpretable results: Not stated (in another experiment, there were 5 samples flagged with a data reduction error (DRE) making the result unavailable) Indeterminate results: 1 borderline result mentioned in Table 3 . This sample was twice repeated and found negative on both occasions and finally concluded as negative. Unit of analysis: Unclear		
Comparative			
Notes	Funding: Not stated Publication status: Published paper Source: Journal of Clinical Virology Author COI: Not stated		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge	Yes		

Martinaud 2020 (Continued)

of the results of the reference standard?

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

McAulay 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease.</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-positive COVID-19 patients (predominantly hospitalised (n = 62 patients, 352 samples, Seattle cohort)</p> <p>[2] Specificity group: 74 pre-pandemic clinical serum specimens and 31 “cross-reactivity challenge” specimens (27 from individuals with a history of seasonal coronavirus infection within 3 years prior to collection and 4 specimens reactive for rheumatoid factor, HIV-1 antibody, HAV total antibody, HBV core total antibody and surface antibody, HCV antibody and/or HSV2 antibody) (n = 105 people)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Samples were kindly shared by the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle, WA)</p> <p>[2] Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Samples: 457 (352). People: 167 (62)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)–confirmed COVID-19</p> <p>[2] Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: "primarily hospitalised individuals with COVID-19" (Supplementary Table S1)</p> <p>Location: Samples from Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle, WA)</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Specificity cohort (pre-pandemic other disease or concurrent cross-reactivity)</p> <p>Source: [2] 2 sources: 74 excess clinical serum specimens collected and stored in 2018, and 31 “cross-reactivity challenge” specimens collected between March and April 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: [2] 74 pre-pandemic clinical samples: not stated; 31 "cross-reactivity challenge" specimens: 27 from individuals with a history of seasonal coronavirus infection (as determined by a syndromic respiratory PCR test) within 3 years prior to collection (HKU1, n = 13; NL63, n = 6; OC43, n = 6; 229E, n = 2); 2 specimens reactive for rheumatoid factor; 1 reactive for HIV-1 antibody, HAV total antibody, HBV core total antibody and surface antibody, and RPR; and 1 reactive for HCV antibody and HSV2 antibody</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Rapid Response™ COVID-19 Test Cassette (BTNX Inc.) Kit1</p> <p>[B] SARS-COV-2 IgG/IgM Rapid Test (ACON Laboratories)</p> <p>[C] Standard Q COVID-19 IgM/IgG Duo (SD BIOSENSOR)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

McAulay 2020 [A] (Continued)

[D] SARS-CoV-2 IgG immunoassay

Manufacturer:

[A] BTNX Inc.

[B] ACON Laboratories

[C] SD BIOSENSOR

[D] Abbott

Antibody:

[A] IgM/IgG

[B] IgM/IgG

[C] IgG (This kit was supplied as individual IgM and IgG cartridges; only the IgG cartridges were evaluated in this study)

[D] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] Not stated

[B] Not stated

[C] N

[D] N

Evaluation setting:

[A] POC, used in laboratory (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments laboratory setting)

[B] POC, used in laboratory (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments laboratory setting)

[C] POC, used in laboratory (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments laboratory setting)

[D] Lab test used in lab [Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle, WA)]

Test method:

[A] Lateral Flow Immunoassay (LFIA)

[B] Lateral Flow Immunoassay (LFIA)

[C] Lateral Flow Immunoassay (LFIA)

[D] CLIA

Timing of samples: 1 to 31 days post-symptom onset (Supplementary Table S1)

< 7 days pso: 154/352

7-13 days pso: 103/352

14-31 days pso: 95/352

Samples used:

[1] Mixed: 250 plasma, 77 serum, and 21 whole blood specimens (a further four unknown specimens were assumed to be either serum or plasma) received frozen; and underwent either 1 or 2 freeze-thaw cycles prior to testing.

[2] Pre-pandemic samples: 74 serum; Cross-reactivity samples: not stated

Test operator: [A]-[D] Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity: [A]-[D] Visible lines

Blinding reported: [A]-[D] Yes

Threshold predefined: As per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR ("RT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19")

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

McAulay 2020 [A] (Continued)

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic and “cross-reactivity challenge” specimens determined by a syndromic respiratory PCR test

Samples used: Pre-pandemic and not stated

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic and not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated for [1] and pre-pandemic samples from [2]

[2] Cross-reactivity samples:

4 samples on the same day

27 samples: 1-1159 days (within 3 years)

All patients received same reference standard: No - some pre-pandemic

Missing data:

Yes (not all samples tested with tests [C], [D] and [E]:

[C] only included 95 samples 14+ days pso;

[D] only included 50 samples 14+ days pso;

[E] 268/352 samples included in analyses)

Uninterpretable results:

1 invalid result in specificity group excluded

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis:

[1] Samples (Some patients had even several samples taken at the same day)

[2] Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

We would also like to thank the manufacturers for supplying some of the kits (ACON and BTNX kit 1). We also thank Safe Health Systems who supplied some kits (SD and BTNX kit 2) as part of a joint partnership with Mayo Clinic.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed); now published

Source: medRxiv preprint

Journal (Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease)

Author COI: TEG represents Mayo Clinic in a joint venture with Safe Health Systems and has shared intellectual property that may result in royalty sharing.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

McAulay 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of	Yes

McAulay 2020 [A] (Continued)

the results of the index tests?

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

McAulay 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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McAulay 2020 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

McAulay 2020 [C]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

McAulay 2020 [D]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Merrill 2020 [A]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Merrill 2020 [A] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-patients (54 specimens from 32 unique patients)</p> <p>[2] Suspected COVID cases and/or potential cross-reactive with negative PCR (n = 35)</p> <p>[3] Pre-pandemic samples (n = 139)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1]-[3] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 228 (54) of which 204-210 (30-36) were included in our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] and [2] Remnant clinical specimens from individuals with SARS-CoV-2 PCR performed at our institution</p> <p>[3] Specimens collected prior to December 2019 for research and/or clinical assay validation studies</p> <p>Exclusions not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear (inpatients and outpatients?)</p> <p>Location: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC), Iowa City, Iowa, USA</p> <p>Country: Iowa, USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 13 asymptomatic; 41 symptomatic</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Current, PCR-negative (COVID suspects or cross-reactive)</p> <p>Source: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC), Iowa City, Iowa, USA.</p> <p>Time not stated</p> <p>Characteristics: Asymptomatic n = 4; symptomatic n = 10</p> <p>Other coronaviruses (229E, HKU1, NL63, OC43), n = 8</p> <p>Respiratory pathogens: adenovirus n = 2, metapneumovirus n = 1, pneumocystis n = 1, rhinovirus/enterovirus n = 1,</p> <p>Or antibodies to other viruses: HAV n = 1, HBV/HCV n = 4, EBV/CMV n = 2, RF n = 1</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic, healthy or other diseases</p> <p>Source: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC), Iowa City, Iowa, USA. Before December 2019</p> <p>Characteristics: HIV n = 12</p> <p>No other diseases: n = 127</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] DiaSorin Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG</p> <p>[B] Roche Diagnostics Elecsys Anti-SARS-COV-2 assay</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] DiaSorin</p> <p>[B] Roche</p> <p>Antibody:</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Merrill 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

[A] IgG

[B] total antibodies (IgG, IgM, IgA)

Antigen target:

[A] S1 and S2 domains of the
spike (S)-protein

[B] Nucleocapsid (N)-protein

Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Laboratory

Test method:

[A] chemiluminescent immunoassay

[B] electrochemiluminescence immunoassay

Timing of samples: < 7 days pso: 5/54

7-13 days pso: 12/54

> 13 days pso: 12/54

Unknown: 12/54

Asymptomatic: 13/54

< 7 days post-PCR+: 35/54

7-13 days post-PCR+: 13/54

> 13 days post-PCR+: 6/54

Samples used: Plasma samples (lithium heparin and EDTA)

Test operator: Not stated (possibly lab personnel at the Department of Pathology)

Definition of test positivity:

[A] signal of 15 AU/mL or higher indicating a positive result

[B] cut-off index (COI) of 1.0 or higher indicating a positive result

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference
standard(s)

Reference standard: rt-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] rt-PCR, threshold not stated

[3] Pre-pandemic

Samples used:

[2] Not stated

[3] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard:

[2] Not stated

[3] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Merrill 2020 [A] (Continued)

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: [1] < 7 days post-PCR+: 35/54 7-13 days post-PCR+: 13/54 > 13 days post-PCR+: 6/54 [2] and [3] Not stated All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: yes (our review excluded 12 samples that were > 13 days post-PCR and 12 samples but included the group > 13 days post-positive PCR. Unclear how the 6 samples > 13 days post-positive PCR overlap with the other groups) Uninterpretable results: Not stated Indeterminate results: Possibly none as no borderline range Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: No sponsor was declared Publication status: Published paper Source: Journal of Applied Laboratory Medicine Author COI: No authors declared any potential conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			

Merrill 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	No	

Merrill 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Merrill 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection using five tests for detection of SARS-CoV-2 IgG, IgM and IgA antibodies</p> <p>Design: Three-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity: [1] COVID-19 patients confirmed by RT-qPCR and CT-scans (n = 128) [B2] Negative controls. Stored sera from Jan 2018 to Aug 2019 (n = 62) included samples with a potential cross-reaction to the SARS-CoV-2 immunoassays, namely, EBV infection (n = 5), CMV infection (n = 11), M. pneumoniae infection (n = 8), Parvovirus infection (n = 1), HBV infection (n = 1), Bartonella henselae infection (n = 1), Brucella spp infection (n = 1), auto-immune pathologies (Anti-DNA, n = 1; Anti-PL12, n = 1; Anti-Scl-70, n = 1) and, [3] Sera from healthy volunteers (n = 10) obtained during the epidemic period (April 2020)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 200 (128)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear</p> <p>Location: Laboratoire Hospitalier Universitaire de Bruxelles - Universitair Laboratorium Brussel (LHUB-ULB) and the Microbiology Department of Cliniques Universitaires Saint Luc- UCLouvain (CUSL) in Brussels, Belgium.</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Montesinos 2020 [A] (Continued)

Symptoms and severity: No information

Demographics: No information

Exposure history: No information

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Stored sera from Jan 2018 to Aug 2019 (n = 62) . Laboratoire Hospitalier Universitaire de Bruxelles - Universitair Laboratorium Brussel (LHUB-ULB) and the Microbiology Department of Cliniques Universitaires Saint Luc- UCLouvain (CUSL) in Brussels, Belgium

Characteristics: No information

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Contemporaneous healthy

Source: Sera from healthy volunteers (n = 10) obtained during the epidemic period (April 2020)

Characteristics: No information

Index tests

Test name:

[A] 2019-nCov Antibody IgG/IgM

[B] anti-SARS-COV-2 IgA

[C] anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG

[D] anti-SARS-COV-2 IgA or IgG

[E] rapid test cassette

[F] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM

[G] QuickZen COVID-19 IgM/IgG

Manufacturer:

[A] Avioq Bio-Tech

[B] EUROIMMUN

[C] EUROIMMUN

[D] EUROIMMUN

[E] LaboOn Time

[F] Snibe Diagnostic

[G] ZenTech

Antibody:

[A] IgG, IgM, IgG or IgM

[B] to [D] IgG, IgA, IgG or IgA

Antigen target:

[A] magnetic microbeads coated with SARS-CoV-2 recombinant antigen labelled with ABEI

[B to D] recombinant S1 structural protein

[C] to [G] SARS-CoV-2 antigen

Evaluation setting: All laboratory-evaluations

Test method:

[A, E, G] Lateral flow immunoassays; [B to D] Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), [F] chemiluminescent immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: Day 0 to > 15; no further details

Samples used: All evaluated using serum; 10 µL serum used for LFAs

Test operator: Not stated

Montesinos 2020 [A] (Continued)

Definition of test positivity:

[B to D] Ratio of the extinction of samples over the extinction of the calibrator calculated. The ratio interpretation was as follows: < 0.8 = negative, ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1 = borderline, ≥ 1.1 = positive.

[F] The thresholds of positivity for these automated immunoassays were 1.0 AU/mL for IgM and IgG

[A, E, G] Visible line - read and interpreted 10 min after the test

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR and CT scan

Two RT-qPCR kits: RealStar® SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR kit 1.0 (Altona Diagnostics, Hambourg, Germany) at LHUB-ULB; Genesig® Real-Time PCR Coronavirus (COVID-19) (Primerdesign Ltd, Chandlers Ford, United Kingdom) at CUSL

No further detail regarding how CT contributed to diagnosis

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, since it preceded it

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] Pre-pandemic stored samples with known (non-COVID) diagnoses

[3] contemporaneous healthy; no reference standard reported to confirm absence of disease

Samples used: Serum

Timing of reference standard: NA

Blinded to index test: Yes, since it preceded it

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Unclear; not stated whether CT used in all patients or whether +ve CT scan required to define positive

Missing data: No; For ELISA and lateral flow tests all samples were reported in overall result but for CLIA, 2 cases were missing in IgG and IgM analyses, and 6 in IgG/IgM - no reason given

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: No specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors. Manufacturers offered the reagents for validation

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Montesinos 2020 [A] (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Montesinos 2020 [A] (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Unclear

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Montesinos 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Montesinos 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [E] *(Continued)*

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Montesinos 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Muecksch 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Investigate performance of 4 SARS-CoV-2 serological assays in diagnosing prior infection

Design: Single-group study, sensitivity only
[1] Prior RT-PCR-diagnosed SARS-CoV-2 positive (non-hospitalised, relatively mildly symptomatic)

Recruitment: Unclear, NHS Lothian

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 97 (97)

Further detail: Inclusion criteria: Individuals with RT-PCR diagnosed SARS-CoV-2 infection that did not require hospitalisation. Recruits surveyed to determine date of positive PCR test, date of onset of symptoms and if they required hospitalisation. 97 patients who were not hospitalised were included.
Exclusion criteria: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: NHS outpatient clinics

Location: Unclear, NHS Lothian (Abbott and Diasorin), NHS Lanarkshire (Roche), NHS Tayside (Siemens Atellica)
NHS Lothian BioResource

Country: United Kingdom (Scotland)

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Mildly symptomatic, 70% of participants reported at least one of fever, cough or anosmia.

Demographics: Mean age 44.2 years (21-65 y), 70 female (72%) participants

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay
[B] DiaSorin SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay
[C] Roche Anti-SARS-CoV total antibody assay
[D] Siemens SARS-CoV-2 total antibody assay

Manufacturer:

[A] Abbott Laboratories, Illinois, USA
[B] DiaSorin S.p.A., Saluggia, Italy
[C] Roche Diagnostics, Rotkreuz, Switzerland
[D] Siemens Healthcare Ltd, Surrey, United Kingdom

Antibody:

[A] IgG
[B] IgG
[C] total antibody
[D] total antibody

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein
[B] S-protein
[C] N-protein

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Muecksch 2020 [A] (Continued)

[D] RBD of S-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] CMIA

[B] CMIA

[C] ECLIA

[D] CLIA

Timing of samples: Visit [1] (baseline) avg. 40.8 days post-PCR +ve (range 24-61 days),
Visit [2] (two weeks post-baseline) avg. 55.1 days post-PCR +ve (range 40-79 days),
Visit [3] (four weeks post-baseline) avg. 69.8 days post-PCR +ve (range 55-95 days),
Visit [4] (8 weeks post-baseline) avg. 98.4 days (85-110 days)

Samples used: Convalescent serum

Test operator: Laboratory staff

[NHS Lothian (Abbott and Diasorin),

NHS Lanarckshire (Roche),

NHS Tayside (Siemens Atellica)]

Definition of test positivity: (All the assays generate a qualitative positive/negative result based on assay-dependent signal thresholds. Each assay gives a qualitative positive or negative result, based on assay specific thresholds)

[A] S/C

[B] AU/mL

[C] COI

[D] AU

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Not stated, possibly yes ("assay specific thresholds", unclear if this meant manufacturer recommended thresholds)

Target condition and reference
standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Unclear

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: 24-110 days post-PCR +ve

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Not stated (97 * 3 = 291 samples + 28 with a 4th sample = 319 samples, there seemed to be no samples missing but no flow diagram provided)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding:

Muecksch 2020 [A] (Continued)

This work was supported by the NHS and Grants from the National Institutes of Allergy and infectious Diseases R37AI640003 (to PDB) and R01AI078788 (to TH). There were no study sponsors. The funders played no role in the design, analysis or reporting of this research.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: Pre-print medRxiv

Author COI: Authors declared no support from any organisation or financial relationships with any organisations that might have an interest in the submitted work in the previous three years, or no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Muecksch 2020 [A] (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	No	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Muecksch 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Muecksch 2020 [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Muecksch 2020 [C]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Muecksch 2020 [D]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [A]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Comparison of sensitivity of 7 commercial antibody tests to detect acute or convalescent-phase SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity of 7 commercial antibody tests</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 97)</p> <p>[1a] asymptomatic (n = 20)</p> <p>[1b] symptoms score 1-6 (n = 43)</p> <p>[1c] symptoms score 7-14 (n = 34)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (n = 100)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Recruited hospitalised and ambulatory patients, as well as healthy contacts of COVID-19 patients selected randomly</p> <p>[2] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 197 (97) samples of which 173 (73) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] At least one-week pso or post-RT-PCR +ve</p> <p>[2] anonymous serum samples collected before COVID-19 pandemic and stored in SYNLAB Estonia from healthy persons for various health control laboratory tests</p> <p>Exclusions not stated</p> <p>Setting: Kurressaare Hospital inpatients, ambulatory patients and healthy contacts of COVID patients. Samples sent to SYNLAB Estonia central laboratory for testing</p> <p>Location: Kurressaare Hospital, Island of Saaremaa, Estonia</p> <p>Country: Estonia</p> <p>Dates: Serum samples collected between April 28 and May 07 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Varied, 19.6% hospitalised, 44% recorded 1-6 symptoms, 35% recorded 7+ symptoms, 20.6% asymptomatic.</p> <p>Demographics: Median age 59 years (21-100 years), 32% male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic, healthy persons</p> <p>Source: Anonymous serum samples collected before COVID-19 pandemic (dates not stated), stored in SYNLAB Estonia</p> <p>Characteristics: Healthy, not screened for virus-related antibodies</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Kurressaare Hospital inpatients, ambulatory patients and healthy contacts of COVID patients. Samples sent to SYNLAB Estonia central laboratory for testing</p> <p>Location: Kurressaare Hospital, Island of Saaremaa, Estonia</p> <p>Country: Estonia</p> <p>Dates: Serum samples collected between April 28 and May 07 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Varied, 19.6% hospitalised, 44% recorded 1-6 symptoms, 35% recorded 7+ symptoms, 20.6% asymptomatic</p>

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

Demographics: Median age 59 years (21-100 years), 32% male

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic, healthy persons

Source: Anonymous serum samples collected before COVID-19 pandemic (dates not stated), stored in SYNLAB Estonia

Characteristics: Healthy, not screened for virus-related antibodies

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Source: NA

Characteristics: NA

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG, SNIBE
- [B] SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG, EUROIMMUN
- [C] SARS-CoV-2 IgG, Abbott
- [D] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2, Roche
- [E] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA
- [F] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
- [G] STANDARDTM Q COVID-19 IgM/IgG Duo Test

Manufacturer:

- [A] SNIBE (Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co)
- [B] EUROIMMUN AG
- [C] Abbott Laboratories
- [D] Roche Diagnostics GmbH
- [E] Epitepe Diagnostics Inc
- [F] DiaSorin S.p.A
- [G] SD BioSensor Inc

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgG
- [C] IgG
- [D] Total antibody
- [E] IgG
- [F] IgG
- [G] IgG

Antigen target: [A] not specified

- [B] S1
- [C] N-protein
- [D] N-protein
- [E] N and S-protein
- [F] S1 and S2
- [G] N-protein

Evaluation setting:

- [A], [B], [C], [D], [E], [F] laboratory tests
- [G] rapid IgG test (POCT)

Test method:

- [A] CLIA
- [B] ELISA

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

[C] CMIA
[D] ECLIA
[E] ELISA
[F] CLIA
[G] Rapid chromatographic immunoassay

Timing of samples: At least one-week pso or post-PCR +ve
Median 28 (range 7–57) days to test
7–14 days, n = 20
15–30 days, n = 35
31–57 days, n = 42

Samples used: Serum

[1] Serum was separated and aliquoted before storage. All aliquots were stored at – 30° C and analysed within one month applying one freezing/thawing cycle before testing

Test operator: Staff at SYNLAB Estonia Central Laboratory

Definition of test positivity:

[A] > 1 pos
[B] ≥ 0.8 - < 1.1 borderline, ≥ 1.1 pos
[C] ≥ 1.4 pos
[D] ≥ 1 pos
[E] $\text{neg } 0.9 \times (\text{neg control} + 0.10)$, borderline if $> 0.9 - 1.1 \times (\text{neg control} + 0.10)?$, pos $1.1 \times (\text{neg control} + 0.10)$
[F] ≥ 12 - < 15 borderline, ≥ 15 pos
[G] Positive: any line in test window

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes (Commercial tests were performed and interpreted according to manufacturer instructions).

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR
Samples used: Not stated
Timing of reference standard: Unclear
Blinded to index test: Yes, performed prior to index test
Incorporated index test: No
Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic healthy (date not stated)
Samples used: Pre-pandemic
Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls, healthy persons
Blinded to index test: Yes
Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated
All patients received same reference standard: No ([1] rt-PCR [2] Pre-pandemic)
Missing data: Nothing stated
Uninterpretable results: Nothing stated
Indeterminate results:
yes (text mentioned 2 borderline results for test [B] and 4 borderline results reported for test [E])

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Funding acquired by Paul Naaber (first author), no more detail provided
The study was supported by Estonian Research Council grants PRG377 (LH, PR, PP) and IUT34-19 (PN, ES). SYNLAB Estonia provided support in the form of salaries for authors (PN, KH, JH, IE) and research materials, but did not have any additional role in the study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: PLOS One

Author COI:

The authors have read the journal's policy and have the following competing interests: PN, KH, JH, IE are employees of SYNLAB Estonia. There were no patents, products in development or marketed products associated with this research to declare. This does not alter our adherence to PLOS One policies on sharing data and materials.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, Yes
was it pre-specified?

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Naaber 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Naaber 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Naaber 2020 [F] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Naaber 2020 [G]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nagasawa 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Detection of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgM antibodies in COVID-19 patients, diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (45 samples from 26 patients) [1a] Moderate COVID patients (n = 19) [1b] Severe COVID patients (n = 7) [2] Controls, not eligible for our review</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated. [1] Inpatients at Musashino Red Cross Hospital, Musashino City, Tokyo, Japan, admitted between April 12 and May 8 2020</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear</p> <p>Sample size: 57 (45) of which 45 (45) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: [1] Inclusion: Patients who were diagnosed as COVID-19 from positive RT-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 by using naso-pharynx swab specimens and admitted in our hospital between April 12 and May 8, 2020 Exclusion criteria not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Hospital inpatients

Nagasawa 2020 [A] (Continued)

Location: Musashino Red Cross Hospital, Musashino City, Tokyo, Japan

Country: Japan

Dates: April 12 to May 8 2020

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] Moderate COVID patients (n = 19)

[1b] Severe COVID patients (n = 7)

26 confirmed pneumonia,

7 confirmed ventilator usage,

1 death.

Demographics: 14 male, 12 female

Age 19-82 years, mean 52.6 (SD 6.3)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: NA

Index tests

Test name:

[A] 2019-nCoV Ab Test

[B] COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Cassette Test

[C] 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette

Manufacturer:

[A] INNOVITA Biological Technology Co., China

[B] Zhejiang Orient Gene Biotech Co., China

[C] Hangzhou AllTest Biotech Co., China

Antibody:

[A] IgG/IgM

[B] IgG/IgM

[C] IgG/IgM

Antigen target: [A], [B], [C] Unclear

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: [A] [B] [C] Described in paper as ELISAs, but also as rapid tests; the test names matched available rapid tests and have been included in review as rapid tests.

Timing of samples: 1-29 days pso

1-5 days pso: 1/45

6-10 days pso: 10/45

11-15 days pso: 19/45

16-20 days pso: 9/45

21-29 days pso: 6/45

Samples used: serum

Test operator: Unclear, laboratory staff? Clinical staff? Result confirmed by at least two inspectors

Definition of test positivity: Not stated. (Test was performed according to the protocol of each manufacturer. The result was confirmed by at least two inspectors and adopted only in case with unanimous decision)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Nagasawa 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Threshold predefined: yes, according to the protocol of each manufacturer
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR performed at SRL laboratory (Tokyo, Japan); threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: naso-pharynx swab specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Yes</p> <p>As in F1: samples missing for test [B] days 1-5, test [A] days 11-15, test [B] 11-15 days IgG</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Test kits provided by SoftBank Cooperation (Tokyo, Japan)</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine</p> <p>Author COI: Authors declared no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nagasawa 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nagasawa 2020 [A] (Continued)

Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Nagasawa 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nagasawa 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nayak 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID-19 patients, RT-PCR +ve, n = 42 [2] Pre-pandemic controls n = 22 Group [2] not eligible for our review as < 25 samples</p> <p>Recruitment: COVID-19-recovered individuals recruited from Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Government Medical College, Haryana, India, Super Specialty Pediatric Hospital and Post Graduate Teaching Institute, Noida and ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research, New Delhi</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Unclear [2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 64 (42) of which 42 (42) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: [1] SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive at the time of initial diagnosis, and PCR-negative when re-recruited for this study [2] Not stated Exclusions not reported</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent</p> <p>Location: Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Government Medical College, Haryana, India, Super Specialty Pediatric Hospital and Post Graduate Teaching Institute, Noida and ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research, New Delhi</p> <p>Country: India</p> <p>Dates: Not stated, 25-84 days post-PCR +ve</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated, all recovered</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age 39.4 years (range 15-70); 38 males, 4 females</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: COVID-Kavach ELISA test kit</p> <p>Manufacturer: Zydus diagnostics, Calida Healthcare Limited</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: 25-84 days post-PCR +ve</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma</p>

Nayak 2021 (Continued)

	<p>Test operator: Not stated, laboratory staff?</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: ≥ 1.5</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Unclear, performed as per manufacturer instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR assay as the standard operating procedures established by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, India under the Government of India guidelines for COVID19 diagnosis (ICMR-NIV, 2020)</p> <p>Threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and throat swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: NA</p> <p>Incorporated index test: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: 25-84 days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Supported in part by Indian Council of Medical Research VIR/COVID-19/02/2020/ECD-1. Individual authors supported through Dengue Translational Research Consortia National BioPharma Mission, DBT grant, DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance Early Career Fellowship grant</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Virology</p> <p>Author COI: Authors declared no known competing financial interests or personal relationships.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Nayak 2021 (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nayak 2021 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Ng 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection, and to evaluate immune response kinetics and seroprevalence</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity (possible that [1] and [2] could be considered as a single group, but recruitment was not sufficiently clearly described)</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 43 patients)</p> <p>[2]: SARS-CoV-2 PCR-negative UCSF patients (indication for PCR testing was not reported but implied COVID-19 suspects?) (n = 163 patients for test [A] and 39 patients for test [B])</p> <p>[3]: Pre-pandemic controls collected by Abbott Laboratories (US blood donors) (n = 1013 for test [A], n = 1492 for test [B])</p> <p>Two additional cohorts evaluated for seroprevalence survey not extracted for this review, including [4] patients hospitalised for indications other than COVID-19 respiratory disease (March-April 2020) (n = 387, and [5] contemporaneous blood donors (n = 1000)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not explicitly stated but likely retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Covid suspects: 206 (43) for test A and 79 (42) for test B</p> <p>All patients: 1219 (43) for test [A]; 1574 (43) for test [B]</p> <p>Total samples: 1671 for test [A], 1877 for test [B]</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed (outpatient and inpatient)</p> <p>Location: University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center and the San Francisco Veterans Affairs (SFVA) Health Care System</p> <p>Country: United States</p> <p>Dates: March-April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 2 (5%) asymptomatic; 38 (88%) \geq 1 symptom (primarily cough, fever, shortness of breath); 3/43 (7%) info not available</p> <p>Severity: 15 (35%) reportedly admitted to ICU, however data by severity exceeded the total number of patients</p> <p>Demographics: 28 (65%) male; mean age 59 yrs (SD 18)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ng 2020 [A] (Continued)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Group [2]: SARS-CoV-2 PCR-negative UCSF patients

Source: March-April 2020 at UCSF Medical Center

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: Group [3]: Pre-pandemic controls (US blood donors)

Source: Samples collected by Abbott Labs before the COVID-19 pandemic (no more details available)

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[B] Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgM assay (reported as prototype; not currently commercially available)

Manufacturer: Both Abbott Laboratories

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgM

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] S-protein

Evaluation setting: Both Laboratory

Test method: CLIA

Timing of samples: day 1 to at least day 49 pso (Fig 2 D and E)

[A] n samples by days pso: 41 (10%) day 1-7 (from 16 patients); 106 (25%) day 8-14 (from 24 patients); 113 (27%) day 15-21 (from 21 patients); 163 (38%) day 22+ (up to 49) (from 18 patients)

[B]: 26/346 (8%) day 1-7 pso; 91/346 (26%) day 8-14 pso; 83/346 (24%) day 15-21 pso; 146/346 (42%) day 22+ pso

Samples used: Serum, plasma

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Methods implied per manufacturer (i.e. IgG positive if Index S/C \geq 1.4; IgM S/C \geq 0.6)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR test (no more details available)

Samples used: NP and/or OP

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

Group [2]: RT-PCR (no more details available)

Ng 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Group [3]: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>Group [2]: NP and/or OP</p> <p>Group [3]: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes (if we only included group [2], as we considered any RT-PCR to be ok and 'the same', although that is a bit of a stretch); or, No if we included pre-pandemic samples from group [3]</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients and samples [Fig 1 D and E gives per pt data for cases]</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was funded by multiple NIH grants and in part by Abbott Laboratories. Funders had no role in the study design, writing the manuscript, or decision to publish. However, employees from Abbott Labs contributed to sample collection, IgG and IgM testing, and data analysis.</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print article</p> <p>Source: Pre-print server (medRxiv)</p> <p>Author COI: One author is the director of the UCSF-Abbott Viral Diagnostics and Discovery Center (VDDC) and receives research support funding from Abbott Laboratories. Five other authors are employees of Abbott Laboratories.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		

Ng 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ng 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Ng 2020 [B]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nguyen 2020

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent phase infection Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only [1] Confirmed COVID cases (hospitalised, ICU) (n = 99) Recruitment: Not stated Prospective or retrospective: Prospective Sample size: 99 (99)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nguyen 2020 (Continued)

Further detail: Inclusion:
[1] ICU patients presenting with severe SARS-Cov-2 infection confirmed by routine RT-PCR methodology
Exclusions not stated

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (ICU)</p> <p>Location: AP.HP. Centre Cochin university hospital, ICU department, Paris, France CMC Ambroise Paré, ICU department, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: ICU patients presenting with severe SARS-Cov-2 infection</p> <p>Demographics: Age: mean 62.4 (SD 13.3) years; 34 (34.3%) women; BMI: 29.1 ± 5.9 kg/m² Chronic immunosuppression: 9 (9.1%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: NA</p> <p>Source: NA</p> <p>Characteristics: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: BIOSYNEX COVID-19 BSS (IgG/IgM)[®]</p> <p>Manufacturer: Biosynex, Illkirch-Graffenstaden, France</p> <p>Antibody: IgG/IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT performed as POCT</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow test (unspecified)</p> <p>Timing of samples: 17.9 ± 8.2 days since pso 0-10 days: n = 18 11-20 days: n = 45 21+ days: n = 35 1 sample unclear (only 98 samples in Fig. 1a)</p> <p>Samples used: Finger prick, with 10 µL of blood</p> <p>Test operator: Physicians</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: QC met and POCST showed no IgM and no IgG were considered negative. Positive: QC met and presence of IgM and/or IgG</p> <p>Blinding reported: no (only COVID cases, POCT)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes, visual-based</p>

Nguyen 2020 (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: positive for SARS-Cov-2 using routine RT-PCR methodology, threshold not stated Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test Incorporated index test: no Definition of non-COVID cases: NA Samples used: NA Timing of reference standard: NA Blinded to index test: NA Incorporated index test: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: yes Missing data: yes, 1 sample seemed to be missing a result. Uninterpretable results: None. 2 (2.0%) in whom quality control was not met; hence, tests required to be performed twice. Indeterminate results: None (no indeterminate range) Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: No funding Biosynex which freely provided point-of-care serology tests Publication status: Published letter Source: Critical Care Author COI: All authors declared no conflict of interest regarding the content of this work. In particular, none had interests with BioSynex.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nguyen 2020 (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nguyen 2020 (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Nicol 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: The aim of the study was to assess the clinical performance of CE marked assays available in Europe to detect SARS-CoV-2 antibodies: two automated immunoassays (Euroimmun and Abbott assays) targeting two different proteins and also one lateral flow immunoassay (NG Biotech). Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] patients with RT-PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 82 patients, 141 samples) [2] patients with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 but RT-PCR-negative (clinical diagnosis of pneumonia of unknown aetiology) (n = 52 patients, 57 samples) [3] Pre-pandemic control group specimens (n = 50 samples) [4] Samples with pathogen potentially cross-reactive with SARS-CoV-2 (n = 25 samples) [5] Samples from pregnant women (n = 10) [6] Samples from patients with positive rheumatoid factor (n = 10)</p> <p>Groups [4] to [6] combined</p> <p>Recruitment: Samples were collected in the virology laboratory of Angers University Hospital, France</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Individuals: 229 (82) Samples: 293 (141)</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Location: [1] Virology laboratory of Angers University Hospital, France</p> <p>Country: [1] France</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: [1] median age: 67 years</p> <p>Exposure history: [1] Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pneumonia of unknown aetiology, RT-PCR-negative</p> <p>Source: [2] Virology laboratory of Angers University Hospital, France</p> <p>Characteristics: [2] median age: 64 years</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic controls [4] Cross-reactivity samples [5] Pregnant women</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nicol 2020 [A] (Continued)

[6] Patients with rheumatoid factor (RF)

Source: [3] March 2019, Virology laboratory of Angers University Hospital, France

[4]-[6] Not stated

Characteristics:

[3] Not stated

[4] Seasonal coronaviruses n = 2, influenza A virus n = 3, respiratory syncytial virus n = 3, rhinovirus n = 3, parainfluenzae virus n = 1, acute EBV infection (positive for EBV VCA IgM and EBV VCA IgG) n = 7, acute CMV infection (positive for CMV IgM) n = 1, M. pneumonia infection n = 2, acute Hepatitis A infection n = 1, acute hepatitis E infection n = 2

[5] Pregnant women

[6] Rheumatoid factor

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 CLIA IgG assay

[B] to [D] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG/IgA assays

[E] LFIA NG-Test® IgG-IgM COVID-19

Manufacturer:

[A] Abbott Diagnostics, IL, USA

[B] to [D] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany

[E] NG Biotech Laboratoires, Guipry- Messac, France

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG

[C] IgG or IgA

[D] IgA

[E] IgG, IgM

Antigen target:

[A] SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein (NP)

[B] to [D] recombinant S1 structural protein - assay detects antibodies against the viral spike-protein

[E] SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein

Evaluation setting:

[A] Laboratory, used in laboratory

[B] to [D] Laboratory, used in laboratory

[E] POC, used in laboratory

Test method:

[A] CLIA assay

[B] to [D] ELISA

[E] Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold) (CGIA)

Timing of samples: [A]-[C] 0-> 15 days after onset of symptoms

0-7 days pso 32/141

8-14 days pso 29/141

15+ days pso 80/141

[2] median time between symptom onset and sera: 9.5 days

0-7 days pso 24/57

8-14 days pso 15/57

15+ days pso 18/57

Nicol 2020 [A] (Continued)

Samples used: [A]-[C] Serum

Test operator: [A]-[C] Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity: [A] cut-off for positivity = ratio ≥ 1.4

[B] cut-off for positivity = ratio ≥ 1.1 ; cut-off for negativity = ratio < 0.8

[C] Visible lines

Blinding reported: [A]-[C] Unclear

Threshold predefined:

[A] Yes - "performed according to the manufacturer's instructions"

[B] Yes - "performed according to the manufacturer's instructions"

[C] Yes, visible lines

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: [1] RT-PCR

Samples used: [1] Not reported

Timing of reference standard: [1] Not reported

Blinded to index test: [1] Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: [1] No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] RT-PCR for pneumonia PCR-negative controls

[3] pre-pandemic

[4]-[6] None (no RT-PCR detection performed)

Samples used:

[2] Not stated

[3] Pre-pandemic

[4]-[6] not tested

Timing of reference standard:

[2] Not stated

[3] Pre-pandemic

[4]-[6] not tested

Blinded to index test: [2]-[6] All prior to index test

Incorporated index test: [2]-[6] No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data:

To determine the specificity for IgG of the three assays, we excluded two specimens positive for serological assays but negative for RT-PCR because the symptoms were strongly compatible with the COVID-19 and RT-PCR was performed 17–24 days after symptom onset.

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: [C] CLIA - "Grey zone was considered positive for the statistical analyses."

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Nicol 2020 [A] (Continued)

Notes

Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies. NG-Test® IgG-IgM COVID-19 rapid test cassettes (NG Biotech Laboratoires) were kindly provided by the manufacturer.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation			Unclear

Nicol 2020 [A] (Continued)

differ from the review question?
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Nicol 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Nicol 2020 [B] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nicol 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nicol 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nicol 2020 [D] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Nicol 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Nilles 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: The study evaluated two commercial (Roche Diagnostics and Epitope Diagnostics IgM/IgG) and two non-commercial (Simoa and Ragon/MGH IgG) immunoassays against 68 confirmed positive and 232 pre-pandemic negative controls.</p> <p>2-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] patients that had been hospitalised at the Brigham and Women's Hospital testing positive by SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR (n = 28 patients, 68 samples)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic controls with and without recent respiratory infections (n = 232 patients/samples)</p> <p>Recruitment: Samples from Mass General Brigham Biobank (a biorepository that contains biological samples and linked demographic and clinical data from > 117,000 patients enrolled through the MGB network)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Patients: 260 (28) Samples: 300 (68)</p> <p>Further detail: Cases = RT-PCR-positive To determine if recent respiratory infections may be associated with increased cross-reactivity and false positives, we selected negative controls with and without recent respiratory infections. We only selected controls with both serum and plasma available from the same individual and time point.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital Inpatients</p> <p>Location: Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH). Samples from Mass General Brigham Biobank</p> <p>Country: USA</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nilles 2020 [A] (Continued)

Dates: March 30 to May 4, 2020

Symptoms and severity: 40/68 samples were from patients who required ICU.

Symptoms included cough, fever, dyspnoea, myalgias, new loss of taste or smell, or sore throat.

Demographics: Median age of patients was 57 years (range 32-79) and 35/68 (51%) were female.

Race: White 22/68 (32%); black 22/68 (32%); Asian or Pacific Islander 6/68 (9%); American Indian or Alaskan native 3/68 (4%);

Other or not recorded 15/68 (22%)

Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic 53/68 (78%); Hispanic 9/68 (13%); other or not recorded 6/68 (9%)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Samples from Mass General Brigham Biobank. August 28, 2017 to September 26, 2019

Characteristics: The median age was 55 years (range 20-89) and 90/232 (39%) were female. Of the total 232 negative control samples, 100 were from individuals without recent respiratory illness; 31 from individuals with prior laboratory-confirmed viral respiratory infections; 101 from individuals with a recent clinical diagnosis of respiratory infections including upper respiratory tract infection (n = 50) or viral (n = 11), bacterial (n = 20) or unspecified (n = 20) pneumonia based on diagnoses recorded in the electronic health record between 1 and 31 days prior to sample collection.

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Source: NA

Characteristics: NA

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 immunoassay

[B] EDI New Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISAs

[C] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, USA

[B] Epitope Diagnostics, USA

[C] Epitope Diagnostics, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG

[C] IgM

Antigen target:

[A] nucleocapsid (NC) antigen (thought to include IgG, IgM, and IgA, although IgM and IgA were not specified in product information)

[B] IgG against the NC antigen

[C] IgM against an unspecified antigen

Evaluation setting:

[A] Laboratory, used in laboratory

[B] Laboratory, used in laboratory

[C] Laboratory, used in laboratory

Test method:

[A] Electro-chemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA)

Nilles 2020 [A] (Continued)

[B] ELISA

[C] ELISA

Timing of samples: Samples were collected a mean of 10.5 days (standard deviation 6.0 days) post-RT-PCR confirmation and 16.1 days (standard deviation 5.4 days) post-symptom onset (pso).

8-14 days pso: 30/68

15-21 days pso: 29/68

> 21 days pso: 9/68

Samples used: Serum or plasma (different requirements for different tests, but not specified)

To ensure valid comparison between assays and given differences in plasma/sera requirements according to manufacturer/assay specifications, we only selected controls with both serum and plasma available from the same individual and time point. All samples were stored at -80°C following sample processing and none underwent thaw-refreezing cycles prior to analysis.

Test operator:

[A] Brigham and Women's Hospital laboratories

[B] Brigham and Women's Hospital laboratories

[C] Brigham and Women's Hospital laboratories

Definition of test positivity: [A], [B] and [C] Threshold cut-offs for defining positive, negative or indeterminate/borderline test results were defined according to manufacturer specifications for commercial assays.

Blinding reported: Yes - "laboratories were blinded to sample group"

Threshold predefined:

[A] Threshold cut-offs for defining positive, negative or indeterminate/borderline test results were defined according to manufacturer specifications for commercial assays.

[B] and [C] Threshold cut-offs for defining positive, negative or indeterminate/borderline test results were defined according to manufacturer specifications for commercial assays.

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Mean of 5.6 days after onset of symptoms

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated for pre-pandemic samples

Samples for index test were collected a mean of 10.5 days (standard deviation 6.0 days) post-RT-PCR confirmation.

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Given limited negative control aliquots, the Epitope assays were tested against 230 samples, versus 232 for the remaining assays.

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Nilles 2020 [A] (Continued)

Indeterminate results: Indeterminate or borderline results were considered negative for all analyses.

Unit of analysis: Samples

The median number of samples per individual was two (range 1-5) and the median interval between sample collection was three days (range 2-6 days).

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was largely funded by Brigham Health. EN is supported by a CDC U01 GH002238. LB is supported by NIH UM1AI069412 and UL1TR001102. D.S. is supported by NIH K08 AR075850.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv preprint

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes		

Nilles 2020 [A] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Nilles 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Nilles 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

NSAE 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Detection of prior infection with SARS-CoV-2

Design: Two-group study to derive sensitivity and specificity
 [1] Samples from SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR-positive participants including patients admitted to hospital or identified through surveillance of HCWs (n = 158) >= 18 years old at Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and volunteer plasma donors (n = 378) (total n = 536) via NHS Blood and Transplant, across UK
 [2] Pre-pandemic BioBank samples (n = 976)

Recruitment: Not reported but appeared consecutive based on reporting of sample inclusion and PRISMA flow diagram

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 1512 (536)

Further detail: All samples from individuals > 18 years old. (Four sources of known positives documented: Gastrointestinal illness sub-study, ISARIC/WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol for Severe Emerging Infections, Sepsis Immunomics project, and volunteer plasma donors)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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NSAE 2020 [A] (Continued)

Inclusion:

[1] Healthcare workers and patients ≥ 18 years old or plasma donors ≥ 18 years old with a previous positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR nose/throat swab, with blood samples taken ≥ 20 days post-symptom onset

[2] Healthy individuals 30-50 years old, collected between 2015-2018

Exclusion: Laboratory labelling mix up: $n = 7$; date of PCR or symptom onset not recorded: $n = 3$; samples missing: $n = 2$; insufficient sample to evaluate across all 4 platforms: $n = 5$

[1] De-duplication by individual: $n = 96$; < 20 days post-symptom onset/PCR-positive test: $n = 126$

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Mixed

Location: Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Oxfordshire, UK

Country: United Kingdom

Dates: 1/2/20-31/5/20

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] Varied severity at the time of sampling; asymptomatic $n = 13$, mild $n = 122$, severe $n = 16$ and critical/death $n = 7$

[1b] All convalescent

Demographics: Not reported, aged > 18 years

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic samples

Source: Oxford BioBank - samples collected between Sept 2014 and Oct 2016

Characteristics: Healthy individuals aged 30-50 years old

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Index tests

Test name:

[A]- SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[B]- LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG assay

[C]- Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay

[D]- SARS-CoV-2 Total assay

[Additional in-house assay evaluated 'Oxford immunoassay'; not eligible for this review]

Manufacturer:

[A]- Abbott, Chicago, IL, USA

[B]- DiaSorin, Saluggia, Italy

[C]- Roche, Basel, Switzerland

[D]- Siemens, Munich, Germany

Antibody:

A & B- IgG

C & D- Total Ab

Antigen target:

A & C- Nucleocapsid

B- Spike-Protein S1/S2

D- Spike-Protein S1 RBD

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

NSAE 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Test method: Not Stated

Timing of samples: Of 158 admitted patients and HCWs median 36.5 d pso (IQR 28, 53; range 20 to 73)
All 378 volunteer plasma donors were ≥ 28 days pso

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Test operator: Trained laboratory staff in UK Accreditation Service (UKAS) accredited laboratories:

[A] [C] John Radcliffe Hospital Clinical Biochemistry and Microbiology laboratories in Oxford

[B] [D] PHE Porton Down

Definition of test positivity: Table S2 appendix

[A]- Positive: ≥ 1.4

[B]- Positive: ≥ 15.0 AU/mL

[C]- Reactive: ≥ 1.0

[D]- Reactive: ≥ 1.0

Blinding reported: Yes

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturers' instructions; alternative thresholds also explored, e.g. to optimise specificity

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR; assays used not described

Samples used: "Nose or throat swab"

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, on basis of timing and COVID-19 group recruited on basis of positive RT-PCR

Incorporated index test: No.

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls

Blinded to index test: Yes, as based on pre-pandemic controls

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1a] Median 27 (range 3-59) days (n = 105)

[1b] Median 44 (range 32-82) days

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: None; stated 'No samples failed testing on any of the four commercial platforms.'

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: Equivocal results reported separately; considered as index negative for purposes of this review

Unit of analysis: Patients; stated "samples were de-duplicated by individual, and the latest sample from each individual was analysed".

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Public Health England and UK National Institute for Health Research

NSAE 2020 [A] (Continued)

This work was supported by the UK National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Protection Research Unit in Healthcare Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance at the University of Oxford, Oxford, UK in partnership with Public Health England, and the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre.

Publication status: Published Paper

Source: Lancet Infectious Diseases 2020

Author COI: None

RC reported personal fees and reported acting as a co-founder and consultant at MIROBIO, a University of Oxford spinout. The company targets immune inhibitory receptors as treatments for inflammation and auto-immune disease. This work is unrelated to the serology work. DWE has received lecture fees from Gilead, outside of the submitted work. MGS reported grants from the UK Department of Health and Social Care, National Institute of Health Research UK, Medical Research Council UK, Health Protection Research Unit in Emerging and Zoonotic Infections, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK, during the conduct of the study; and acting as a member of the Infectious Disease Scientific Advisory Board to Intergrum Scientific, Greensboro, NC, USA, outside of the submitted work. All other authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes		

NSAE 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

If a threshold was used,
was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

NSAE 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

NSAE 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

NSAE 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

NSAE 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Ong 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To evaluate flow immunochromatographic assays and an ELISA test for diagnosing COVID-19. A small pilot study tested sensitivity and specificity of 6 rapid tests, after which the most sensitive was selected for evaluation in a larger cohort, alongside the ELISA test.</p> <p>3-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] COVID-19-positive patients presenting to a teaching hospital with respiratory symptoms that were suspected for respiratory tract infection (N = 99)</p> <p>[2] COVID-19-negative patients presenting to a teaching hospital with respiratory symptoms that were suspected for respiratory tract infection (N = 129)</p> <p>[3] randomly selected historical patient control sera (N = 50)</p> <p>Recruitment: consecutive patients presenting to a teaching hospital for prospective patients. No informed consent because tests were performed on samples that had been acquired for routine clinical care. Unclear for historical patient controls ("randomly selected") and retrospective cohort ("selected")</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective (6th to 10th April 2020, n = 117) and retrospective (16th to 29th March 2020, n = 117, and September 2019, n = 50)</p> <p>Sample size: 278 (99)</p> <p>Further detail: had respiratory symptoms that were suspected for respiratory tract infection</p> <p>Unclear for historical patient controls ("adult patients in September 2019")</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital A&E</p> <p>Location: A teaching hospital in the Netherlands</p> <p>Country: Netherlands</p> <p>Dates: 17 March 2020 to 10 April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 16/99 (16%) admitted to the ICU within 24 hours</p> <p>Total cohort (COVID +/-) symptoms (from Supplementary materials):</p> <p>Coughing 68%</p> <p>Dyspnoea 59%</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ong 2020 [A] (Continued)

Sore throat 17%
Rhinorrhoea 15%
Fever 48%

Demographics: Not reported per group. Whole cohort (positive and negative, n = 228); median age of 61 years (interquartile range (IQR) 46-74 years), 117 (52%) were male

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] COVID suspects, reference standard-negative

Source: Same hospital as COVID cases, 17 March 2020 to 10 April 2020

Characteristics: Not reported per group. Whole cohort (positive and negative, n = 228); median age of 61 years (interquartile range (IQR) 46-74 years), 117 (52%) were male

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic historic controls

Source: September 2019

Characteristics: Adult patients

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Orient Gene Biotech COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette [B] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA kit</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Orient Gene Biotech [B] Wantai</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] IgG/IgM [B] Total antibody</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] Not stated [B] Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting:</p> <p>[A] POC, used in laboratory [B] Laboratory, used in laboratory</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A] Lateral flow immunochromatographic assay [B] ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: At same time as nasopharyngeal samples. Median time from symptom onset to sample collection was 7 days (IQR 4-14 days) for all 228 (positive and negative) patients. < 7 days: 39/99 cases 7+ days: 52/99 cases 14+ days: 14/99 cases 7-13 days: 38/99 cases Unclear: 8/99 cases</p> <p>Timing of samples: At same time as nasopharyngeal samples. Median time from symptom onset to sample collection was 7 days (IQR 4-14 days) for all 228 (positive and negative) patients. < 7 days: 39/99 cases 7+ days: 52/99 cases 14+ days: 14/99 cases 7-13 days: 38/99 cases Unclear: 8/99 cases</p>
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Ong 2020 [A] (Continued)

Samples used:

- [1] and [2] plasma samples
- [3] Serum

Test operator:

- [A] Laboratory personnel
- [B] Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] Any visible band for IgG, IgM or unspecified immunoglobulin was indicative for a positive result.
- [B] Not stated (interpreted according to the manufacturer's instructions)

Blinding reported: Both clinical information and reference standard results were unavailable to the performers of LFAs and the ELISA.

Threshold predefined:

- [A] Visual
- [B] interpreted according to the manufacturer's instructions

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: PCR (referred to as PCR in Supplementary materials and as NAT in paper): Nucleic acid amplification tests performed according to the national reference method that was established after international collaboration, or by the CE-IVD kit Gene- Finder™ COVID-19 Plus RealAmp Kit using the Sample to Result Platform ELITE InGenius®.

Samples used: Samples were taken from the oral cavity and subsequently from the nasal cavity using the same nasopharyngeal swab.

In some cases, sputum samples were tested, because of persisting clinical suspicion of COVID-19 despite a negative NAT on nasopharyngeal swabs.

Timing of reference standard: Median time from symptom onset to sample collection was 7 days (IQR 4-14 days) for all 228 (positive and negative) patients.

< 7 days: 39/99 cases

7+ days: 52/99 cases

14+ days: 14/99 cases

7-13 days: 38/99 cases

Unclear: 8/99 cases

Blinded to index test: Not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] COVID suspects = same nucleic test as COVID cases

Nucleic acid amplification tests performed according to the national reference method that was established after international collaboration, or by the CE-IVD kit Gene- Finder™ COVID-19 Plus RealAmp Kit using the Sample to Result Platform ELITE InGenius®.

[3] Historic controls = pre-pandemic

Samples used:

[2] COVID suspects = nasopharyngeal swab

Samples were taken from the oral cavity and subsequently from the nasal cavity using the same nasopharyngeal swab. In some cases, sputum samples were tested, because of persisting clinical suspicion of COVID-19 despite a negative NAT on nasopharyngeal swabs.

[3] Historic controls = pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard:

Ong 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2] COVID suspects = Median time from symptom onset to sample collection was 7 days (IQR 4-14 days) for all 228 (positive and negative) patients.

< 7 days: 40/129 cases

7+ days: 50/129 cases

14+ days: 32/129 cases

7-13 days: 18/129 cases

Unclear: 39/129 cases

[3] Historic controls = pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test:

[2] Not stated

[3] Yes (pre-pandemic)

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1] and [2] none - "plasma samples obtained upon hospital presentation, which corresponded to the dates of molecular testing."

[3] Pre-pandemic samples

All patients received same reference standard: Yes (cohort), No (historic controls)

Missing data:

5/228 samples were unavailable for ELISA.

In some patients, time from symptom onset was undetermined or unavailable.

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: No funding

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinical Microbiology and Infection

Author COI: The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Ong 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Yes

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition? No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ong 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Ong 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Ong 2020 [B] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Padoan 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Single-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity Design: [1] Hospitalised patients with confirmed COVID-19 Recruitment: cases with residual serum samples collected between 18 March-26 March 2020 Prospective or retrospective recruitment of cases: retrospective Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 37 (37) Inclusion and exclusion criteria: Not stated
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: inpatient Location: University Hospital of Padova Country: Italy Dates: 18 March-26 March 2020 Symptoms and severity: NR Sex: NR Age: NR Exposure history: NR
Index tests	Test name: MAGLUMI 2000 Plus nCoV IgM and IgG Manufacturer: New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co., Ltd [Snibe], Shenzhen, China Ab targets: IgM; IgG Antigens used: NR Test method: CLIA Timing of samples: days since symptom onset: ≤ 5 days 4/37 (11%) 6-7 days 6/37 (16%) 0-7 days: 10/37 (27%) 8-9 days 12/37 (32%) 10-11 days 14/37 (38%) 12-13 days 9/37 (24%) 8-13 days: 35/37 (95%) > 13 days 25/37 (68%) Samples used: serum Test operators: NR Definition of test positivity: [A] IgM 1.0 AU/mL [B] IgG 1.1 AU/mL Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: yes
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard for cases: PCR Samples used: NP Timing of reference standard: NR Blinded to index test: yes Incorporated index test: no Reference standard for non-cases: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: yes All participants received the same reference standard: yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Padoan 2020a (Continued)

Missing data: text described 87 samples from 37 participants but only 70 samples reported per time period and no per participant data were reported
Uninterpretable results: NR
Indeterminate results: NR
Unit of analysis: sample

Comparative

Notes

Funding: none declared
Publication status: published
Source: Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
Study author COI: none declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	No		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Padoan 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infection and antibody kinetics over time</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity: [1] adult patients with PCR-confirmed COVID-19 (total N was not reported, 51 assessed for IgM and 19 assessed for IgA; any overlap between patient groups was not reported) The report contained two groups of COVID-19 patients, one was assessed for IgM using CLIA and the other for IgA using ELISA. There was no non-COVID-19 or healthy control group. [1] Severely sick adult COVID-19 (rRT-PCR-confirmed) patients longitudinally assessed for IgM using CLIA (n = 51) [2] Severely sick adult COVID-19 (rRT-PCR-confirmed) patients longitudinally assessed for IgA using ELISA (n = 19)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated</p> <p>Sample size: Unclear; 51 reported for IgM and 19 for IgA; overlap not reported</p> <p>Further detail: No further details</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated; 'patients', presumably inpatient as serial testing</p> <p>Location: University-Hospital of Padova</p> <p>Country: Italy</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Discussion described patients as 'severely sick'</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Padoan 2020b [A] (Continued)

Demographics: n = 51; 37, 72.5% male; mean age, men 69.1 y (SD 13.5), range 22–89 y; women 62.6 y (SD 11.0), range 41–82 y; n = 19; 15, 79% male; mean age, men 65.4 y (SD 14.5), range 22–81 y; women 63.7 y (SD 7.8) range 53–70 y

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] MAGLUMI 2000 Plus

[B] ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] Not stated (manufacturer was SNIBE diagnostics)

[B] Euroimmun Medizinische Laboragnostika, Luebeck, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgM (IgG also measured, limited details in supplementary information)

[B] IgA (IgG also measured, results not reported)

Antigen target:

[A] S-antigen and N-protein

[B] S1-specific IgA and IgG

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] chemiluminescent (CLIA) assay

[B] ELISA

Timing of samples: from the onset of symptoms (fever) to 6 weeks after

Samples used: Not stated

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

1. CLIA IgM cut-off: 1.0 kAU/L

2. ELISA IgA cut-off: ratio ≥ 1.1

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, as previously published

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: rRT-PCR, no further details

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Not stated

Incorporated index test: Not stated

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Unclear; data for all reported patients seemed to be used to estimate mean titres over time. A subgroup of 18 patients with more than 3 serial measurements was also reported. The number of patients contributing data from day 0 to 23 in Tabl 1 was not re-

Padoan 2020b [A] (Continued)

ported, however, at each time point, results were presented for fewer (16-58%) than the total 19 participants for the IgA ELISA and total 51 participants for IgM CLIA.

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients; however reported time periods were short (2-day span), therefore, when results were combined to allow analysis per week post-symptom onset, patients could contribute more than one sample per week.

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated, except: "We acknowledge the support of Euroimmun Medizinische Laboradiagnostika, Luebeck, Germany for kindly supplying the reagents without any influence in study design and data analysis."

Publication status: Published paper

Source: International Journal of Clinical Chemistry

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Padoan 2020b [A] (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Padoan 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Padoan 2020b [B] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Paiva 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-positive COVID-19 cases (n = 71, 113 samples)</p> <p>[2] Healthy individuals (n = 126)</p> <p>[3] Samples positive for other viruses and pathogens (to test cross-reaction of the assays) (n = 119)</p> <p>[4] serum or plasma samples collected before the pandemic started in the United States (n = 942)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Remnant/discarded serum or plasma samples were collected from the Clinical Immunology Lab at a major academic pathology department</p> <p>[2] Recruitment unclear - random at pre-employment screening (table 3)</p> <p>[3] Unclear - probably also from the same laboratory as the COVID-19 samples</p> <p>[4] Pre-pandemic: 500 samples originally for reference range determination of a troponin assay, 371 prenatal samples for reference range determination of quadruple tests, 50 pre-pandemic samples from transfusion service and 21 pre-pandemic plasma segments from the Rhode Island Blood Center.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 1300 (113) (samples)</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Lifespan Health System (including Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital, Providence, Rhode Island)</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: After 12 March 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Highest level of treatment: Room air 26%; nasal cannula 45%; intubation 27%; extracorporeal membrane oxygenation 1%</p> <p>Demographics: 41% female; mean age 59.5 ± 1.9</p> <p>White or Caucasian: 38/71 (53%)</p> <p>Hispanic or Latino: 22/71 (31%)</p> <p>African-American: 10 (14%)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Paiva 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Asian: 1/71 (1%)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Current healthy controls

Source: Pre-employment screening before 12 March 2020 (early March 2020)

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Current, other viruses and pathogens

[4] Pre-pandemic healthy controls

Source:

[3] Collected from later March to early April 2020

[4] Collected before the pandemic started in the United States (before January 2020):

Collected originally for: troponin study, prenatal plasma for quadruple test, transfusion service, Rhode Island Blood Center

Characteristics:

[3] The set included samples from patients testing positive for upper respiratory viruses and samples known to contain antibodies such as rheumatoid factor (RF), anti-double stranded NA (ds-DNA), antinuclear antibody (ANA), and paraprotein IgM and IgG

Seasonal coronaviruses (n = 21):

Other upper respiratory tract viruses (n = 27; influenza, metapneumovirus, rhinovirus/enterovirus, respiratory syncytial viruses and adenovirus)

Samples with positive IgG or IgM against varicella zoster virus, rubella, Epstein-Barr virus, cytomegalovirus (CMV) and hepatitis viruses (n = 71)

[4] Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] SARS-CoV-2 Total Antibody Test

[B] STANDARD Q COVID- 19 IgM/IgG Duo Test

[C] SARS-CoV-2 IgG test

Manufacturer:

[A] Wondfo, Guangzhou, China

[B] SD Biosensor, Gyeonggi-do, Korea

[C] Abbott Diagnostics, Lake Forest, IL

Antibody:

[A] Total antibody (IgM and IgG)

[B] IgM/IgG

[C] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] Spike-protein

[B] Not stated

[C] Nucleocapsid protein

Evaluation setting:

[A] POC, used in laboratory

[B] POC, used in laboratory

[C] Laboratory test, used in laboratory

Test method:

[A] Lateral flow assay (no further detail)

[B] Lateral flow assay (no further detail)

Paiva 2021 [A] (Continued)

[C] Chemiluminescent assay

Timing of samples:

[1] 1-35 (38) days post-symptom onset (mean 11.2)

[2] NA

[3] Unclear

[4] NA

Samples used: [A, B, C] serum (n = 16) or plasma (n = 97) for [1], serum for [2] and [3], plasma for [4]

Test operator:

[A] and [B] The reading was performed by three investigators (KJP, EWT, and SL) affiliated to the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Definition of test positivity: [A] and [B] positive result was indicated by a visible band in the designated area accompanied with an appropriate control band.

The reading was performed by three investigators; consensus for any ambiguous results was obtained by at least two investigators.

[3] Samples with signal-to-cut-off (S/CO) ratio greater than or equal to 1.4 were considered positive.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, by manufacturers

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR [ePlex® SARS-CoV-2 Test (GenMark, Carlsbad, CA) or Cobas® SARS-CoV-2 Test (Roche, Indianapolis, IN). The upper respiratory virus testing was performed on ePlex® Respiratory Pathogen Panel (GenMark)]

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] healthy controls - not stated (pre-employment screening in early March 2020; before the first COVID-19 case was diagnosed in the Lifespan Health System)

[3] Other viruses and pathogens - viral respiratory pathogen nucleic acid test [the upper respiratory virus testing was performed on ePlex® Respiratory Pathogen Panel (GenMark)]

[4] pre-pandemic (before January 2020).

[2] - [4] The patients whose samples were reactive [positive result on index test] were followed by medical record review to ensure that they did not have COVID-19.

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[2] and [3] Not stated

(for index test positives, follow-up history of 17-38 days from medical records)

[4] pre-pandemic (before January 2020)

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Paiva 2021 [A] (Continued)

Missing data: Not all the samples were available for the four tests (for the Abbott test, 3/1068 healthy samples, 1/105 COVID-19 samples and 1/119 potential cross-reactions missing; for SD IgM, 1/119 potential cross-reactions missing; for SD IgG, 3/119 potential cross-reactions missing)

For sensitivity: 105 of 113 samples were selected to evaluate antibody-positive rates every 2 days. 8 samples tested in the same 2 days were not used. Out of 8 patients with cross-reactive results, 2 patients did not have follow-up history in their medical records.

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: The project was funded by Pathology Department of Lifespan Academic Center and Rhode Island Department of Health.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed); now published

Source: bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.29.124776>; Journal of Medical Virology

Author COI: The authors claimed no conflict of financial interest related to the project.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Paiva 2021 [A] (Continued)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval be-

Unclear

Paiva 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

tween index test and
reference standard?

Did all patients re-
ceive the same refer-
ence standard? No

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analy-
sis? No

Did all participants
receive a reference
standard? No

Were results present-
ed per patient? No

**Could the patient
flow have intro-
duced bias?** High risk

Paiva 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and refer-
ence standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Paiva 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and
setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Paiva 2021 [C] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pan 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Single group of cases to estimate sensitivity in acute disease</p> <p>Design: SARS-CoV-2-positive cases (n = 105, 134 samples) of which 67 cases (86 samples) confirmed by RT-PCR, and 37 patients (39 samples) clinically diagnosed (RT-PCR-negative, radiography-positive)</p> <p>Recruitment method: NR</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: NR</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatients</p> <p>Location: Zhongnan hospital (Wuhan University)</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: Testing 6 February-23 February 2020, symptom onset 7 January-18 February 2020 (for subgroup of 108)</p> <p>Participant characteristics: 48 male, 57 female, median age 58 years (range 20-96)</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: NR</p> <p>Exposure status: NR</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Zhuhai Livzon Commercial Ab test</p> <p>Manufacturer: Zhuhai Livzon Diagnostinc Inc</p> <p>Test method: LFA (conducted in laboratory setting). Colloidal gold-based immunochromatographic strip assay</p> <p>Antibody target: IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen used: NR (as per manufacturer)</p> <p>Definition of positive: Presence of T line indicating positive</p> <p>Samples used: Serum or plasma samples used (included comparison with whole blood for subgroup; not extracted)</p> <p>Timing: No information on timing or who read the test results.</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: 1. RT-PCR following WHO guidelines for qRT-PCR, using throat swabs (Chinese CDC recommended kit used, BioGerm, Shanghai, China)</p> <p>2. clinically diagnosed as SARS-CoV-2 infection according to the 5th edition of guideline on diagnosis and treatment of the novel coronavirus pneumonia. Specifically, the clinical diagnosis means the suspected cases were negative to the real-time RT-PCR test but presented with viral pneumonia by radiography.</p> <p>Timing: Samples taken during inpatient stay but no details about timing or personnel for test interpretation</p>

Pan 2020a (Continued)

Flow and timing

Same reference standard: All participants received a reference standard, but there was differential verification with some patients confirmed by RT-PCR and others RT-PCR-negative but confirmed by radiography. Subset who were RT-PCR-positive were reported separately.
Timing of index tests and reference standard unclear
Data reported only for those with symptom onset information; 26 samples excluded. No reporting of test failures or indeterminate results
Unit of analysis: Per-sample analysis; multiple samples (2 or 3) per participant disaggregated over time

Comparative

Notes

Funding: from the National Key Research and Development Program of China (2018YFE0204500)
Author COI: Declared no conflict of interest
Published in the Journal of Infection

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

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Pan 2020a (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Pape 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] SARS- CoV-2 positive sera were collected from PCR-confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 patients (n = 29, 57 samples, cohort C)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic negative control serum samples collected for various serological testing before the start of the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak (n = 218) - healthy donors (n = 105, cohort B), patients that tested positive for common cold Corona viruses several months before the blood sample was taken (n = 34, all four types of ccCoV represented; cohort A), patients with diagnosed mycoplasma pneumoniae (n = 22; cohort Z), EBV or CMV infection (n = 57, cohort E)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] SARS- CoV-2 positive sera were collected from 29 PCR-confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 patients treated at the University Hospital Heidelberg.</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pape 2021 [A] (Continued)

[2] Negative control serum samples were collected for various serological testing in the routine laboratory of the Center of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital Heidelberg between 2015 and 2019, before the start of the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak.

Prospective or retrospective:

[1] Unclear

[2] Retrospective

Sample size: People = 247 (29) ; samples = 275 (57)

Further detail: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: inpatients (n = 17) and outpatients (n = 12)

Location: University Hospital Heidelberg

Country: Germany

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Not stated other than inpatients (n = 17) and outpatients (n = 12)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Negative control serum samples (n = 218) were collected for various serological testing procedures in the routine laboratory of the Center of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital Heidelberg between 2015 and 2019, before the start of the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak.

Characteristics: Healthy 105/218

Positive for ccCoV several months before the blood sample was taken 34/218

Patients with diagnosed mycoplasma pneumoniae 22/218. Patients with EBV or CMV infection 57/218

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA (IgA)

[B] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA (IgG)

Manufacturer:

[A] [B] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgA [B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] [B] S1 domain of the viral spike-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory, used in laboratory

Test method: ELISA

Timing of samples: 5-27 days post-symptom onset

5-11 days pso: 17/57

11-14 days pso: 24/57

15-27 days pso: 16/57

Samples used: Serum

Pape 2021 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Test operator: Laboratory personnel</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Optical densities (sample normalised to calibrator); values < 0.8 were classified as negative, 0.8-1.1 as borderline, and values of 1.1 or higher as positive. For sensitivity or specificity calculations, borderline considered positive</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: As per manufacturer guidance</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: For sensitivity or specificity calculations, borderline considered positive</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was in part supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and by the Deutsches Zentrum fuer Infektionsforschung. SB is supported by the Heisenberg programme and MLS is supported by the DFG. Open access funding enabled and organised by Projekt DEAL.</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed). Now published</p> <p>Source: bioRxiv preprint doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.15.152587. Journal (BioEssays)</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared they have no conflicts of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pape 2021 [A] (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pape 2021 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Pape 2021 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patel 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of convalescent-phase infection Design: Two-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity for 5 commercially available serology assays [1] Covid-19 convalescent plasma donors (n = 214 potential) [2] Pre-pandemic samples from emergency department patients (n = 1099) Recruitment: Not stated Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Patel 2021 [A] (Continued)

Sample size: 1313 (214)

Further detail: Inclusion:

[1] Stored plasma specimens from a "convenience sample" of potential CCP donors that were recruited in the Baltimore, MD and Washington, DC areas from April 2020 to July 2020. Individuals were eligible for enrolment if they had a documented history of a positive molecular assay test result for SARS-CoV-2 infection and met standard self-reported eligibility criteria for blood donation.

[2] Stored serum specimens from an identity-unlinked HIV serosurvey conducted in 2016 among adult patients attending the Johns Hopkins Hospital Emergency Department

Exclusion: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Community

Location: Baltimore MD and Washington DC area

Country: USA

Dates: April 2020-July 2020

Symptoms and severity: 16/214 required hospitalisation

Demographics: Different samples used for different assays:

[A]- n = 146, median age (IQR) = 41 (29-53), male n (%) = 78 (53.4), white race n (%) = 112 (76.7), hospitalised n (%) = 12 (8.2), median days since PCR-positive test (IQR) = 44 (39-51)

[B]- n = 146, median age (IQR) = 41 (29-53), male n (%) = 78 (53.4), white race n (%) = 112 (76.7), hospitalised n (%) = 12 (8.2), median days since PCR-positive test (IQR) = 44 (39-51)

[C]- n = 140, median age (IQR) = 40 (29-53), male n (%) = 76 (54.3), white race n (%) = 108 (77.1), hospitalised n (%) = 12 (8.6), median days since PCR-positive test (IQR) = 44 (38-50)

[D]- n = 146, median age (IQR) = 41 (29-53), male n (%) = 78 (53.4), white race n (%) = 112 (76.7), hospitalised n (%) = 12 (8.2), median days since PCR-positive test (IQR) = 44 (39-51)

[E]- n = 214, median age (IQR) = 44 (33-56), male n (%) = 110 (51.4), white race n (%) = 165 (77.1), hospitalised n (%) = 16 (7.5), median days since PCR-positive test (IQR) = 46 (39-57)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Stored serum specimens from an identity-unlinked HIV serosurvey conducted in 2016 among adult patients attending the Johns Hopkins Hospital Emergency Department

Characteristics: Different samples used for different assays:

[A]- n = 561; median age (IQR) = 49 (32-60); male n (%) = 247 (44.0); race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic white n (%) = 161 (28.7), Non-Hispanic black n (%) = 345 (61.5), Hispanic n (%) = 19 (3.4), non-Hispanic Asian n (%) = 10 (1.8), other n (%) = 26 (4.6); HIV Ab-positive n (%) = 22 (3.9)

[B]- n = 577; median age (IQR) = 48 (32-60); male n (%) = 251 (43.5); race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic white n (%) = 166 (28.8), Non-Hispanic black n (%) = 353 (61.2), Hispanic n (%) = 21 (3.6), non-Hispanic Asian n (%) = 10 (1.7), other n (%) = 27 (4.7); HIV Ab-positive n (%) = 26 (4.5)

[C]- n = 306; median age (IQR) = 47 (31-59); male n (%) = 135 (44.1); race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic white n (%) = 80 (26.1), Non-Hispanic black n (%) = 191 (62.4), Hispanic n (%) = 12 (3.9), non-Hispanic Asian n (%) = 7 (2.3), other n (%) = 16 (5.2); HIV Ab-positive n (%) = 19 (6.1)

[D]- n = 498; median age (IQR) = 45 (30-59); male n (%) = 209 (42.0); race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic white n (%) = 130 (26.1), Non-Hispanic black n (%) = 313 (62.9), Hispanic n (%) = 29 (5.8), non-Hispanic Asian n (%) = 6 (1.2), other n (%) = 20 (4.0); HIV Ab-positive n (%) = 19 (3.8)

[E]- n = 498; median age (IQR) = 45 (30-59); male n (%) = 209 (42.0); race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic white n (%) = 130 (26.1), Non-Hispanic black n (%) = 313 (62.9), Hispanic n (%) = 29 (5.8), non-Hispanic Asian n (%) = 6 (1.2), other n (%) = 20 (4.0); HIV Ab-positive n (%) = 19 (3.8)

Index tests

Test name:

[A]- Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG)

[B]- EDI novel coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA kit

[C]- SARS-CoV-2 NP IgG ELISA kit

[D]- Abbott-Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

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Patel 2021 [A] (Continued)

[E]- Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2

Manufacturer:

[A]- Euroimmun, Lubeck, Germany

[B]- Epitope Diagnostics, Inc. (EDI), San Diego, CA, USA

[C]- ImmunoDiagnostics Limited, Sha Tin, Hong Kong

[D]- Abbott Laboratories Inc., Abbott Park, IL, USA

[E]- Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN, USA

Antibody: [A] to [D] - IgG; [E]- Total Antibodies

Antigen target: [A]- Spike 1-Protein; [B] to [E] - Nucleocapsid Protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory tests in laboratory

Test method:

[A] to [C] - Manual ELISA

[D]- Chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CMIA)

[E]- Electrochemiluminescence assay (ECLIA)

Timing of samples: 38-57 days post-PCR +

Samples used: Plasma/serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[A]- Negative, S/C ratio < 0.8; borderline, S/C ratio \Rightarrow 0.8 & < 1.1; positive, S/C ratio \Rightarrow 1.1

[B]- Negative, OD-n \leq 0.18; borderline, OD-n > 0.18 & < 0.22; positive, OD-n \Rightarrow 0.22

[C]- Negative, OD-n < 0.15; borderline, OD-n \Rightarrow 0.25 & \leq 0.50; positive, OD-n > 0.50

[D]- Negative, index (S/C) < 1.40; positive, index (S/C) \Rightarrow 1.40

[E]- Nonreactive, index < 1.0; reactive \Rightarrow 1.0

Borderline results considered seronegative

Threshold predefined: Yes, manufacturer's cut-off values used

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: Positive molecular assay test

Samples used: Not stated.

Timing of reference standard: Not stated.

Blinded to index test: Yes, based on timing of test (prior molecular confirmation of SARS-CoV2 infection was required to be recruited to COVID-19 group).

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic samples

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls

Blinded to index test: Yes, as based on pre-pandemic controls

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[A]- Median days since PCR+ test (IQR)- 44 (39-51)

[B]- Median days since PCR+ test (IQR)- 44 (39-51)

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Patel 2021 [A] (Continued)

[C]- Median days since PCR+ test (IQR)- 44 (38-50)

[D]- Median days since PCR+ test (IQR)- 44 (39-51)

[E]- Median days since PCR+ test (IQR)- 46 (39-57)

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: All 214 Covid samples tested only on [E]

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Borderline/indeterminate results treated as seronegative

Unit of analysis: Patients. No individual contributed multiple specimens

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported in part by the Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), as well as by extramural support from NIAID and NIH Center of Excellence in Influenza Research and Surveillance; National Heart Lung and Blood Institute; National Institute of Drug Abuse; Bloomberg Philanthropies; and the Department of Defense.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Author COI: Authors declared no potential conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
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Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
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Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
---	---------	--	--

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
---	----	--	--

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
--	--	-----------	--

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
--	--	--	------

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Patel 2021 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Patel 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Patel 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patel 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Patel 2021 [C] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patel 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patel 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pere 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infection and convalescent infection: analytically and clinically validate the Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to establish sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-19 patients</p> <p>[1a] COVID-19 convalescent healthcare workers (n = 100)</p> <p>[1b] Hospitalised patients from COVID+ area (n = 63)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID patients</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic, other diseases (n = 117)</p> <p>[2b] Hospitalised patients from COVID-free area (n = 96)</p> <p>Groups [1b] and [2b] were not eligible for our review.</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1a] Cases - not stated</p> <p>[2a] Controls - October 2019 to January 2020; from patients randomly selected for whom serum samples were collected before the COVID-19 epidemic</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 376 (163) of which 217 (100) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion -</p> <p>[1a] Hospital staff with a history of positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR at least 1 month before serology testing</p> <p>[2a] Leftover sera from pre-epidemic period (collected from October 2019 to January 2020), available at the virology laboratory of Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou</p> <p>No exclusion criteria defined</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: [1a] Convalescent (specimens were collected by occupational medicine; hospital outpatients)</p> <p>Location: Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou (HEGP), Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris, Paris</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: Not specified</p> <p>Health staff who had recovered from COVID-19</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>Pauci-symptomatic (only 2 were hospitalised and 98 were not hospitalised and had only few symptoms)</p> <p>Demographics: Cases</p> <p>Median age (IQR) - 34 (19.5)</p> <p>Male - 31%</p> <p>Exposure history: Healthcare workers</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic leftover sera</p> <p>Source: Virology laboratory of HEGP</p> <p>October 2019 to January 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Some of these sera came from patients with recent clinical history of viral respiratory infection including common coronaviruses (229E n = 2; NL63 n = 4; OC43 n = 1) as well as clinical history of malaria (n = 6).</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pere 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Manufacturer: Abbott GmbH, Rungis, France</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Not stated (Abbott Architect™ i2000)</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1a] Cases - 39.5 (median) days after PCR, at least 1 month after COVID diagnosis</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Technicians at the Clinical Biochemistry department of Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Index value threshold for positivity was 1.4.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: [1a] COVID-19 by RT-PCR, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes (based on timing of tests)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests:</p> <p>[1a] Cases - Median interval between RT-PCR and serology was 39.5 days (IQR = 9.25).</p> <p>[2a] Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Yes, groups [1b] and [2b] excluded from review</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p>

Pere 2020 (Continued)

Author COI: None

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Pere 2020 (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Perez-Garcia 2020(a)

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Study aimed to evaluate the diagnostic performance of a serologic rapid test in COVID-19-positive patients, COVID-19-negative patients with pneumonia, and pre-pandemic patients. Three-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease.</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] randomly selected group of pre-pandemic patients who had a serum sample taken for other serologic studies (n = 100)</p> <p>[2] patients admitted to the Emergency department with suspicion of COVID-19 and PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 (n = 90)</p> <p>[3] patients admitted for at least 5 days with a clinical and radiological diagnosis of pneumonia of unknown aetiology, PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 (n = 61)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] a randomly selected group of 100 pre-pandemic serologic samples</p> <p>[2] patients admitted to the Emergency department with suspicion of COVID-19 and PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>[3] patients admitted for at least 5 days with pneumonia of unknown aetiology and a clinical diagnosis of COVID-19 with negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2 (included as Perez-Garcia 2020(b))</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p>
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Perez-Garcia 2020(a) (Continued)

[1] and [2] Retrospective ("Since the present study is retrospective, informed consent was not required.")
[3] Prospective ("Fresh serum samples from these 61 patients were studied." "They were prospectively studied after the validation of the serologic test.")

Sample size: 251 (151)

Further detail: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting
Setting:

[2] ED [14 (15.6 %) of them were discharged from ED, remaining 76 (84.4 %) patients were admitted to our hospital and 11 (14.5 %) required ICU admission]
[3] inpatient

Location: [2] and [3] Hospital Universitario Príncipe De Asturias, Madrid, Spain

Country: [2] and [3] Spain

Dates:

[2] March 1 to April 6, 2020
[3] February 9 to April 2, 2020

Symptoms and severity:

[2] Mild: 17/90 (18.9%)
Non-severe pneumonia: 47/90 (52.2%)
Severe pneumonia: 20/90 (22.2%)
Critical: 6/90 (6.7%) (3 ARDS and 3 with septic shock)
[3] Mild: 0/61 (0.0%)
Non-severe pneumonia: 40/61 (65.6%)
Severe pneumonia: 20/61 (32.8%)
Critical (ARDS): 1/61 (1.6%)

Demographics:

[2] Age: median (IQR) 64 (55–79); 57.8% (52/90) male
[3] Age: median (IQR) 67 (57–73); 73.8% (45/61) male

Exposure history: [2] and [3] Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: 1 Pre-pandemic controls

Source: patients who had a serum sample taken for other serologic studies, from September 1 to November 30, 2019

Characteristics: Age: median (IQR) 50 (33–65); 55% male

Index tests

Test name: AllTest COV-19 IgG/IgM kit

Manufacturer: AllTest Biotech, Hangzhou, China

Antibody: IgG, IgM

Antigen target: Unclear

Evaluation setting: POC, performed in laboratory ("aliquots were previously obtained from samples sent to the laboratory to carry out other serologies")

Test method: lateral flow immunoassay, LFA

Timing of samples:

[1] NA (pre-pandemic)
[2] median (IQR) days from symptom onset = 17 (9–25)

Perez-Garcia 2020(a) (Continued)

≤ 7 days pso: 19/90
 8-14 days pso: 21/90
 15-21 days pso: 15/90
 22-28 days pso: 20/90
 28 days pso: 15/90
 [3] median (IQR) days from symptom onset = 17 (15-20)
 ≤ 7 days pso: 0/61
 8-14 days pso: 15/61
 15-21 days pso: 31/61
 22-28 days pso: 14/61
 28 days pso: 1/61

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Unclear

Definition of test positivity: Visual

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: [2] and [3] RT-PCR: VIASURE SARS-CoV-2 Real Time PCR Detection Kit (Certest Biotech, Zaragoza, Spain) and Allplex 2019-nCoV assay (Seegene, Seoul, South Korea)
 [3] Clinical diagnosis of COVID-19 with negative PCR for SARS-CoV-2. Criteria for diagnosis not stated

Samples used: [2] and [3] Unclear - "clinical samples"

Timing of reference standard: [2] and [3] Unclear

Blinded to index test: [2] and [3] Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: [2] and [3] No

Definition of non-COVID cases: [1] Pre-pandemic = not tested

Samples used: [1] pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [1] Pre-pandemic samples

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Perez-Garcia 2020(a) (Continued)

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Perez-Garcia 2020(a) *(Continued)*

knowledge of the results of the index tests?

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Perez-Garcia 2020(b)
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Perez-Garcia 2020(b) (Continued)

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment ([Perez-Garcia 2020\(a\)](#))

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Unclear		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Perez-Garcia 2020(b) (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Perez-Garcia 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute infection; compare the diagnostic performance of six serologic tests for the detection of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Design: Two-group study, to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID-19 (n = 80)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic control group (other diseases) (n = 60)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] Randomly selected group of patients with a sample taken for other serologic studies, from September 1 to November 30, 2019.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 140 (80)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Symptomatic patients admitted to the Emergency department between March 1 and April 28, 2020, with suspicion of COVID-19 and confirmation by PCR</p> <p>[2] Patients with a sample taken for other serologic studies</p> <p>Exclusion - not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Emergency department</p> <p>Location: Hospital Universitario Príncipe de Asturias, Madrid</p> <p>Country: Spain</p> <p>Dates: Cases - 2020-03-01 to 2020-04-28</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: All cases were symptomatic. Severity not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: COVID-negative</p> <p>Source: Pre-pandemic stored serum samples 2019-09-01 to 2019-11-30</p>

Perez-Garcia 2021 [A] (Continued)

Characteristics: Sample taken for other serologic studies; 32 female, 28 male; mean age 48 years (median 44 years, range 18-88 years)

Rheumatoid arthritis: n = 5; psychiatric disorder: n = 3; psoriasis: n = 1; pregnancy: n = 6; mycosis fungoides: n = 1; multiple sclerosis: n = 1; lung cancer: n = 1; HIV infection: n = 2; haemodialysis: n = 5; HCV infection: n = 1; COPD, lung cancer: n = 1; chronic kidney disease: n = 1; breast cancer: n = 1; acute myeloid leukaemia: n = 1; acute lymphoid leukaemia: n = 1; no main underlying condition: n = 29

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Hangzhou Alltest - 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM
- [B] Innovita Biological - 2019-nCoV Ab test
- [C] Epigentek SeroFlash IgM/IgG
- [D] DiaPro COVID-19 IgG Confirmation
- [E] Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab
- [F] Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay

Manufacturer:

- [A] Hangzhou Alltest
- [B] Innovita Biological
- [C] Epigentek
- [D] DiaPro
- [E] Roche
- [F] Siemens

Antibody:

- [A] to [D] IgG and IgM
- [E] [F] Total antibodies

Antigen target: [A] N-based, [B] N and S based, [C] N and S based, [D] N and S based, [E] N based, [F] Total antibodies

Evaluation setting:

- [A] [B] [C] POCT performed retrospectively in lab
- [D] [E] [F] Laboratory

Test method:

- LFA - [A][B][C]
- ELISA - [D]
- CLIA - [E] [F]

Timing of samples: 0-7 days from onset of symptoms n = 18
8-14 days from onset of symptoms n = 21
> 14 days from onset of symptoms n = 41

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Positive serologic result was defined for LFA and ELISA tests for samples that resulted positive for either IgM or IgG antibodies.

- [A] [B] [C] visual-based
- [D] [E] [F] Cut-off not stated

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined:

- [A] [B] [C] yes
- [D] [E] [F] Not stated

Perez-Garcia 2021 [A] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, based on timing Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic Samples used: None Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic Blinded to index test: Yes, based on timing Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated Study period and patient enrolment period almost identical All patients received same reference standard: No [1] PCR [2] Pre-pandemic Missing data: yes, sensitivity evaluation of CLIA techniques could only be performed with 50 samples due to insufficient sample volume. 41 samples > 14 days pso not eligible for our review Uninterpretable results: Not stated Indeterminate results: Excluded from the analysis Two samples presented indeterminate result for IgG or IgM and were excluded from the analysis. Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: None Publication status: Published paper Source: Journal of Virological Methods Author COI: None declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Perez-Garcia 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Perez-Garcia 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Perez-Garcia 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Perez-Garcia 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Perez-Garcia 2021 [C] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Perez-Garcia 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Perez-Garcia 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Perez-Garcia 2021 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Perez-Garcia 2021 [F] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pfluger 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Detection of current acute-phase and current convalescent-phase SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Covid patients (n = 75) [2] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (n = 320)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Not stated, hospital inpatients [2] Not stated, retained samples of a pre-pandemic blood donor cohort</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Prospective. First blood sample available after hospitalisation was used [2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 395 (75)</p> <p>Further detail: [1] COVID-19 patients (positive RT-PCR) in March and April of 2020 [2] Retained samples of a pre-pandemic blood donor cohort collected 01.03.17–09.04.17 Exclusions Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital, inpatient</p> <p>Location: University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), Hamburg, Germany</p> <p>Country: Germany</p> <p>Dates: March and April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Mixed: based on WHO case definitions: critical, 31/75 (41.4%); severe 36/75 (48%); mild 7/75 (9.3%); asymptomatic 1/75 (1.3%)</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age 60.2 ± 15.4, range 16-93 years; 33.3% female, 66.7% male</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated.</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>Source: Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors, age 18-70 years (equally distributed), male to female ratio 1:1, collected 01/03/17-09/04/17</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pfluger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Characteristics: Healthy adults

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG)
- [B] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
- [C] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2
- [D] WANTAI SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA
- [E] Atellica IM SARS-CoV-2 Total (COV2T)

Manufacturer:

- [A] EUROIMMUN AG, Lubeck, Germany
- [B] DiaSorin S.p.A, Saluggia, Italy
- [C] Roche Diagnostics Deutschland GmbH, Mannheim, Germany
- [D] Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise Co., Ltd., Beijing, China
- [E] Siemens Healthcare GmbH, Erlangen, Germany

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgG
- [C] Total Ab
- [D] Total Ab
- [E] Total Ab

Antigen target:

- [A] S1-domain, spike-protein
- [B] S1 and S2-protein
- [C] N-protein
- [D] RBD
- [E] Spike-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

- [A] ELISA
- [B] CLIA
- [C] ECLIA
- [D] ELISA
- [E] CLIA

Timing of samples: Mean time pso was 11.4 days (\pm 6.6), range 1-38 days
1-10 days n = 37
11-15 days n = 22
16-38 days pso n = 16

Samples used: plasma/serum

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] > 1.1 ratio (borderline 0.8-1.1)
- [B] > 15 AU/mL (borderline 12-15)
- [C] > 1 COI
- [D] > 1 A/C.O (borderline 0.9-1.1)
- [E] > 1 Index

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes (according to manufacturer's instructions)

Pfluger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Positive RT-PCR, either by modified E-gene assay adapted as 'cobas Omni Utility Channel'-protocol (Ct value < 34 positive in at least 2 independent samples) or by Roche SARS-CoV-2 IVD-Test</p> <p>9 samples received external ref standard PCR.</p> <p>Samples used: Naso-pharyngeal swab</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: NA, pre-pandemic</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>[1] 3 RT-PCR tests used. 66 samples tested in-house using 'cobas Omni Utility Channel' or Roche SARS-CoV-2 IVD test. 9 samples external RT-PCR test</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic samples</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Some samples had borderline results, classed as positive</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Partially funded by the BGV (Behörde für Gesundheit und Verbraucherschutz der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg). Some authors funded by German Center for Infection Research (DZIF) and some by German Research Foundation (DFG, SFB841)</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Virology</p> <p>Author COI: Marc Lutgehetmann has received travel expenses and speakers' honoraria (Roche Diagnostics, DiaSorin, Biomerieux). Other authors declared no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pfluger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions? Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pfluger 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Pfluger 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pfluger 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pfluger 2020 [C] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pfluger 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pfluger 2020 [E]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [A]
Study characteristics
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	<p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Convalescent Covid patients (the total N samples used across all assay evaluations was not fully clear, however the overlap in samples between assays was provided. For each assay, numbers were made up to near 100 from the following sources: the Royal Free Hospital (RFH, n = 14), Basingstoke Hospital (n = 26) and the Porton Down laboratory (n = 4).</p> <p>[2] Non-Covid patients (n = 499)</p> <p>[2a] historic negative samples (n = 399 per assay)</p> <p>[2b] cross-reactive samples (n = 100 per assay unless otherwise stated)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not described; appeared to be convenience</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: Total number unclear:</p> <p>[A] 592 (93) samples</p> <p>[B]-[E] 599 (100) samples</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] PCR-confirmed Covid cases with sufficient volume of serum to cover multiple assays</p> <p>[2a] Historical serum samples collected before December 2019</p> <p>[2b] Confounder serum samples collected before December 2019</p> <p>Exclusion: [A] 7 sample results were removed post-testing/post-analysis as these were found to be PCR-negative. No other exclusions stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mainly community cases, very few admitted to hospital and those that were may have only been admitted for isolation during the containment phase</p> <p>Location: GPs in the community (FF 100 study, n = 82), Royal Free Hospital (RFH, n = 14), Basingstoke Hospital (n = 26) and the Porton Down laboratory (n = 4)</p> <p>Country: UK</p> <p>Dates: Date of evaluations: 5 April - 14 July 2020 Samples collected before late April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>Mostly mild disease (representative of the general population)</p> <p>[B] Samples were taken from patients with a range of disease severities</p> <p>Demographics: Not available for 14 positive samples from RFH</p> <p>Age range 10- > 64 years.</p> <p>10-24 years: 6-8 samples</p> <p>25-34 years: 3-6 samples</p> <p>35-44 years: 15-17 samples</p> <p>45-54 years: 20-22 samples</p> <p>55-64 years: 22-27 samples</p> <p>> 64 years: 7-28 samples</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated.</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic controls</p>

PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

Source: Before December 2019, from existing reference panels at SEU, Manchester or Porton and Colindale.

Characteristics: No confounder disease

Non-Covid group 2:

[2b] Cross-reactivity controls

Source: Before December 2019, from SEU, Manchester or RIPL 2015 Lyme disease-negative sample collection from Porton.

Detail per assay:

[A] 50 from SEU (12 RF, 6 CMV, 19 EBV, 13 VZV); 50 from RIPL 2015 Lyme disease-negative sample collection; 399 pre-pandemic

[B] 351 samples CMV, EBV or VZV positive (no further details); 11 seasonal hCoV positive; 395 pre-pandemic

[C] 50 from SEU (12 RF, 6 CMV, 19 EBV, 13 VZV); 35 from RIPL 2015 Lyme disease-negative sample collection; 387 pre-pandemic

[D] 49 from SEU (12 RF, 6 CMV, 19 EBV, 12 VZV); 50 from RIPL 2015 Lyme disease-negative sample collection; 391 pre-pandemic

[E] 50 from SEU (12 RF, 6 CMV, 19 EBV, 13 VZV); 50 from RIPL 2015 Lyme disease-negative sample collection; 399 pre-pandemic (114 from PHE Immunoassay Group reference panel; 285 from SEU)*

[F] to [H] appear to have used the same samples (all reported numbers were the same): 50 from SEU (12 RF, 6 CMV, 19 EBV, 13 VZV); 50 from RIPL 2015 Lyme disease negative sample collection; 399 pre-pandemic (313 from PHE Immunoassay Group reference panel; 86 from SEU)

Index tests

[A] Euroimmun anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA (IgG) serology assay (EI 2606-9601 G)

[B] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG kit (Architect i2000SR system) (reagent batch number 16253FN00, exp date 16/07/2020)

[C] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay (Lot 49025901, exp 31/05/20)

[D] VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[E] Siemens Atellica-IM SARS-CoV-2 Total (COV2T) serology assay (batch no. 11206711, exp 2021-05-12)

[F] Ortho Clinical VITROS Anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total Ab

[G] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG serology assay

[H] Beckman Coulter Access SARS-CoV-2 IgG Assay

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun Medizinische Labordiagnostika AG

[B] Abbott

[C] Roche

[D] Ortho Clinical Diagnostics

[E] Siemens Healthcare GmbH

[F] Ortho Clinical Diagnostics

[G] DiaSorin S.p.A

[H] Beckman Coulter

Antibody:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

[A], [B], [D], [G], [H] IgG

[C], [E], [F] Total antibody

Antigen target:

[A] S1-protein

[B] N-protein

[C] N-protein

[D] S-based

[E] Recombinant antigen

[F] S1-protein

[G] S1 and S2-protein

[H] RBD of S1-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory used in laboratory

Test method:

[A] ELISA

[B] CMIA

[C] ECLIA

[D] CLIA

[E TO H] CLIA

Timing of samples: variable; e.g. for the EUROIMMUN assay the interval pso was known for 79/93 samples; for 14/93 the interval was measured from when the patient was admitted to hospital to sample collection date (making the interval artificially low compared to actual time pso). Vast majority of samples across all evaluations was > 21 d pso, e.g. for EUROIMMUN, 75/93 were > 21 d [Data for ≤ 10 d was not included in the review because of lack of accurate sample timing]

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Skilled research scientists in PHE Porton Down laboratory

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Ratio < 0.8 negative, ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1 borderline, ≥ 1.1 positive (borderline considered negative)

[B] S/C < 1.4 negative, ≥ 1.4 positive

[C] COI; signal sample/cut-off < 1.0 negative, ≥ 1.0 positive

[D] Signal for test sample/signal at cut-off (cut-off value) < 1.0 negative, ≥ 1.0 positive

[E] < 1.0 index negative, ≥ 1.0 index positive

[F] S/C < 1.0 negative; S/C ≥ 1.0 positive

[G] < 12.0 AU/mL negative, 12.0 ≤ x < 15.0 AU/mL equivocal, ≥ 15.0 AU/mL positive.

[H] ≤ 0.80 S/CO negative, > 0.80 to < 1.00 equivocal, ≥ 1.0 S/CO positive

Blinding reported: Yes

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer

PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated Samples used: swab sample Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes, prior Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic Samples used: NA, pre-pandemic Timing of reference standard: pre-pandemic Blinded to index test: yes, prior Incorporated index test: no
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: no Missing data: yes, not all samples used for all test evaluations [E] 8 samples that did not yield results were excluded from the analysis. [A] [B] [C] [D] no exclusions Uninterpretable results: No results were excluded as uninterpretable [A] [B] [C] [D] no exclusions. [E] 8 samples that did not yield results were excluded from the analysis. Indeterminate results: [B] 3 equivocal results classed as negative for sensitivity [C] 6 equivocal results classed as negative for sensitivity [A] [D] [E] No equivocal range Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Asked to perform evaluation by Department of Health and Social Care. Funding not stated Publication status: Published report Source: Public Health England Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Yes	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Low risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern	
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

PHE 2020 [A] (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

PHE 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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PHE 2020 [B] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

PHE 2020 [G] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

PHE 2020 [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Phipps 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection; and assessment of analytical specificity (cross-reactivity)</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study, including:</p> <p>[1] Single group of suspected COVID-19 cases with available prior or same-day PCR swab test result (n = 173)</p> <p>Excluded from current review: additional groups included to assess analytical specificity:</p> <p>[2] Healthy blood donors (n = 656, 240 pre-pandemic and 416 from 2020)</p> <p>[3] Patients with SLE (n = 29)</p> <p>[4] Patients with rheumatoid arthritis (n = 20)</p> <p>[5] Patients with previous positive respiratory viral PCR panel (n = 90)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective (data collection based on chart review)</p> <p>Sample size: 173 (76)</p> <p>795 additional non-COVID-19 samples excluded from current review</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: [1] Hospital inpatient

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Phipps 2020 (Continued)

Location: Not stated; author's institution University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

Country: USA

Dates: not stated

Symptoms and severity: Unclear; both severe (requiring ICU) and mild/moderate cases included but n per group was not reported and data points reported in Figures did not sum to 76 cases

Demographics: not stated

Exposure history: not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] SARS-CoV-2 IgG (Abbott 06R86) testing

Second in-house laboratory test reported (ineligible for this review)

[B] SARS-CoV-2 IgM testing using a laboratory developed protein microarray

Manufacturer: [A] Abbott

Antibody: IgM or IgG

Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: [A] chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CMIA)

Timing of samples: Fig 3 showed samples collected between day 0 and day c45

Samples used: Plasma

Test operator: not stated

Definition of test positivity: [A] relative light units (RLU) positive at 1.4 or greater

Blinding reported: Unclear; PCR same day or day before

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

[1] RT-PCR; m2000 Abbott RealTime SARS Cov-2 assay or

[2] isothermal PCR; Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 assay

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab

Timing of reference standard: As for index test, samples collected between day 0 and day c45

Blinded to index test: not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: As above; single negative for absence of disease

Samples used: not stated

Timing of reference standard: not stated

Blinded to index test: not stated

Incorporated index test: unclear

Phipps 2020 (Continued)

Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: swab for PCR was same day or prior day		
	All patients received same reference standard: No; isothermal or RT-PCR (n not stated)		
	Missing data: None reported		
	Uninterpretable results: None reported		
	Indeterminate results: None reported		
	Unit of analysis: patients		
Comparative			
Notes	Funding: No external funding was received.		
	Publication status: pre-print		
	Source: medRxiv		
	Author COI: The authors have declared no competing interest.		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		

Phipps 2020 (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Pickering 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease Design: [1] RT-PCR-positive COVID-19 patients - venous serum samples collected at St Thomas' Hospital, London (N = 87 patients, 110 samples)
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pickering 2020 [A] (Continued)

[2] pre-Covid-19 pandemic control samples (n = 50 samples, 50 patients)

Recruitment:

[1] Surplus serum was retrieved from the routine biochemistry laboratory at point of discard.

[2] Emergency admissions to St Thomas' hospital in March 2019

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: Patients: 137 (87); samples 160 (110)

Further detail: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Inpatients

Location: St Thomas' Hospital, London

Country: UK

Dates: 4 March-21 April 2020

Symptoms and severity: Disease Severity:

Level 0 N = 11 (12.6%);

Level 1 N = 15 (17.2%);

Level 2 N = 4 (4.6%);

Level 3 N = 3 (3.4%);

Level 4 N = 48 (55.2%);

Level 5 N = 6 (6.9%);

Died N = 21 (24.1%).

Level of Respiratory Support:

No support N = 11 (12.6%);

Supplemental oxygen N = 23 (26.4%);

Non-invasive ventilation N = 1 (1.1%);

Mechanical ventilation N = 46 (52.8%);

ECMO N = 6 (6.9%).

Demographics:

Mean age (years) 58.2 +/- 16.6; female 29 (33.3%)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: pre-Covid-19 pandemic control samples

Source: St Thomas' Hospital, March 2019

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[1] Accu-Tell COVID-19 IgG/IgM Cassette

[2] COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) Antibody Test Kit

[3] SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG ANTIBODY TEST KIT

[4] GenBody COVID-19 IgM/IgG

[5] COVID-19 Spring IgM/IgG Rapid Test Cassette

[6] COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette

[7] Rapid IgM-IgG Combined Antibody Test Kit for SARS- CoV-2

[8] SARS-CoV-2 Ab Diagnostic Test Kit

[9] EUROIMMUN IgA (SARS-CoV-2 S1-protein)

[10] EUROIMMUN IgG (SARS-CoV-2 S1-protein)

Manufacturer:

Pickering 2020 [A] (Continued)

[1] AccuBiotech Co., Ltd.
[2] Anhui DeepBlue Medical Technology Co., Ltd.
[3] Biohit Healthcare Co., Ltd.
[4] GenBody Inc.
[5] Spring Healthcare Services AG
[6] SureScreen Diagnostics Co., Ltd.
[7] Jiangsu Medomics Medical Technology Co. Ltd.
[8] Shenzhen Watmind Medical Co., Ltd.
[9] and [10] EUROIMMUN Medizinische Labordiagnostika AG

Antibody: [1] -[7] IgG, IgM; [8] Total antibody (IgG, IgM, IgA); [9] IgA; [10] IgG

Antigen target: [1]-[7] Not reported; [8] total antibody against SARS-CoV-2; [9] SARS-CoV-2 S1-protein; [10] SARS-CoV-2 S1-protein

Evaluation setting: All evaluated in laboratory setting

Test method: [1]-[7] colloidal-gold-based LFIA, [8] Chemiluminescence-based Immunoassay, [9] and [10] Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)

Timing of samples: 1 to 30 days after onset of self-reported symptoms:

< 10 days pso: 38/110 samples

10+ days pso: 72/110 samples

< 14 days pso: 56/110 samples

14+ days pso: 54/110 samples

20+ days pso: 28/110 samples

10-14 days pso: 18/110 samples

14-20 days pso: 26/110 samples

10-20 days pso: 44/110 samples

Samples used: venous serum samples

Test operator: Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity:

[1] -[7] Visible lines, on 4-point scale (negative, borderline, positive, strong positive) for both IgM and IgG. Scoring was performed independently by two individuals.

[8] Results equal to and below 1.0 AU (arbitrary units)/mL were negative, scores above 1.0 AU/mL were deemed positive. Scores > 10 AU/mL were deemed a strong positive.

[9] and [10] Scores of < 0.8 were negative, >= 0.8 to < 1.1 were borderline, >= 1.2 to < 4 were positive, and >= 4 were strong positive.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined:

[1]-[7] Visible lines, according to manufacturer's instructions,

[8] according to manufacturer's instructions,

[9] and [10] Not reported.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: real-time RT-PCR

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: Pre-pandemic

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Pickering 2020 [A] (Continued)

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic (March 2019)

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No, Pre-pandemic

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No - some pre-pandemic

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: The research and the King's College London Infectious Diseases Biobank were supported by the Department of Health via a National Institute for Health Research comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre award to Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with King's College London and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Development of SARS-CoV-2 reagents (RBD) was partially supported by the NIAID Centers of Excellence for Influenza Research and Surveillance (CEIRS). The work was supported by gifts from Peking University donors and Anhui Deep Blue company. The following donated test kits: the manufacturers of Spring, Biohit, Genbody, Medomics and Watmind. Authors supported by MRC-KCL Doctoral Training Partnership in Biomedical Sciences, the Wellcome Trust, an MRC-KCL Doctoral Training Partnership in Biomedical Sciences industrial Collaborative Award in Science & Engineering (iCASE) in partnership with Orchard Therapeutics, the Medical Research Council, King's Together Rapid COVID-19 Call awards, Fondation Dormeur, Vaduz, MRC Discovery Award

Publication status: Published

Source: Journal (PLOS Pathogens)

Author COI: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

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Pickering 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Unclear

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

Pickering 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Pickering 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Pickering 2020 [C] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessmentSee main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Pickering 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [H] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pickering 2020 [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Pollan 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of acute Covid</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] PCR-confirmed Covid-19 cases with serum samples (n = 82) [2] Pre-pandemic serum samples for diagnosis of other pathogens (n = 42) [Study was reported as part of a wider seroprevalence survey; a second validation study of another immunoassay was also reported but not eligible for inclusion]</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear; appeared to be retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 124 (82); 66 (24) eligible for review</p> <p>Further detail: No further details reported</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: Not stated; validation study conducted by Spanish National Centre for Microbiology, Madrid</p> <p>Country: Spain</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic serum samples for diagnosis of other pathogens</p> <p>Source: Samples collected before December 8th 2019</p> <p>Characteristics: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: SARS-CoV-2 IgG for use with ARCHITEC</p> <p>Manufacturer: Abbott Laboratories, IL, USA</p> <p>Antibody: IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory, used in laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: All PCR+ were ≥ 10 days pso (n = 82), 58 (71%) ≥ 14 days pso</p> <p>Samples used: Serum samples</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Index S/C threshold of 1.4</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pollan 2020 (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Presumed yes as reference standard performed before index test Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic Samples used: NA (pre-pandemic) Timing of reference standard: NA (before December 8th 2019) Blinded to index test: Yes Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: Nothing mentioned Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned Unit of analysis: Not clear, did not state 1 sample per patient
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Spanish Ministry of Health and the Institute of Health Carlos III, in collaboration with the health services of the Spanish regions The funders facilitated data acquisition but had no role in the design, analysis, interpretation, or writing. The first three authors had full access to all the data. The first five authors and the senior author (RY) had final responsibility for the decision to submit for publication. Publication status: Published paper Source: Lancet Author COI: Authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

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Pollan 2020 (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Pollan 2020 (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Prazuck 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: The study evaluated two Rapid Diagnostic Tests for the diagnosis of COVID-19, compared with RT-PCR</p> <p>Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease.</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] Suspected COVID-19 patients who went to the hospital for a diagnostic consultation (n = 381)</p> <p>[1a] Patients with symptoms of COVID-19 who went to the hospital for a diagnostic consultation with RT-PCR-positive for COVID-19 (n = 238)</p> <p>[1b] Patients with symptoms of COVID-19 who went to the hospital for a diagnostic consultation with RT-PCR-negative for COVID-19 (n = 143)</p> <p>Recruitment: Patients with symptoms of COVID-19 who went to the hospital for a diagnostic consultation</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective (consent was obtained from each participant)</p> <p>Sample size: Patients = 381 (238); samples = 427 (284)</p> <p>Test [A] PRESTO: 222 (150) samples</p> <p>Test [B] DUO: 205 (134) samples</p> <p>(24 samples tested with both tests)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>Patients with symptoms of COVID-19 who went to the hospital for a diagnostic consultation. Adult patients visiting the infectious disease department (Centre Hospitalier Regional Orléans, France) from March, 18th, 2020 to April 10th, 2020. This department receives patients whose symptoms, such as headache, fatigue, fever or respiratory signs suggest a COVID infection, and for whom a diagnosis is requested.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient and outpatient</p> <p>Location: Centre Hospitalier Regional Orléans, France</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: March 18, 2020 to April 10, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: mean age of patients was 53.68 years ± 20.18 (median 54; range 19-96).</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: RT-PCR-negative</p> <p>Source: Centre Hospitalier Regional Orléans, France - March 18, 2020 to April 10, 2020</p>

Prazuck 2020 [A] (Continued)

Characteristics: 48.20 years (SD: 17.00; range 19-72) , median 46

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] COVID-PRESTO [B] COVID-DUO</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] AAZ-LMB [B] AAZ-LMB</p> <p>Antibody: [A] and [B] IgM, IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] and [B] recombinant COVID-19 antigens labelled with colloidal gold</p> <p>Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] POC used at PC ("at the site by clinical staff, physicians or nurses")</p> <p>Test method: [A] and [B] lateral flow immune-chromatographic assay (recombinant COVID-19 antigens labelled with colloidal gold)</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>For [1a] 0- > 15 days post-onset [A] 0-5 days pso: 20/150 6-10 days pso: 43/150 11-15 days pso: 39/150 15-31 days pso: 48/150 [B] 0-5 days pso: 14/134 6-10 days pso: 42/134 11-15 days pso: 44/134 15-31 days pso: 34/134 For [1b] 24 hours to 8 days from onset of symptoms (median 2 days; range 1-8 days)</p> <p>Samples used: Capillary whole blood samples taken at the fingertip</p> <p>Test operator: Conducted at the site by clinical staff, physicians or nurses. Health workers involved in the study received a two-hours training session for each type of test prior to the beginning of the study. Result read within 10 minutes by two independent operators</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Visual interpretation of coloured bands according to manufacturer's instructions</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Visual interpretation of coloured bands according to manufacturer's instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Real-time RT-PCR assays for the detection of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: At first consultation - timing unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Real-time RT-PCR assays for the detection of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: At first consultation - timing unclear</p>

Prazuck 2020 [A] (Continued)

	Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index
	Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear
	All patients received same reference standard: Yes
	Missing data: Not stated
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated
	Indeterminate results: Not stated
	Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Rapid Diagnostic Tests were provided free of charge by AAZ-LMB. The study was funded by CHR Orleans (Orléans Regional Hospital Centre), a public hospital with no-profit status, of which all authors are employees.</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed), now published</p> <p>Source: medRxiv preprint, PLOS One</p> <p>Author COI: None declared</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge	Unclear		

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Prazuck 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

of the results of the reference
standard?

If a threshold was used, was it
pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Prazuck 2020 [A] (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Prazuck 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Qian 2020a
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Detect current acute or convalescent Covid infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid patients, n = 565</p> <p>[1a] PCR+ COVID patients, n = 513</p> <p>[1b] Suspected COVID patients with typical epidemiological history, clinical symptoms and featured chest CT images, n = 52 (54?)</p> <p>[2] Controls, n = 1558</p> <p>[2a] Hospitalised patients (concurrent, other diseases, PCR- for SARS-CoV-2), n = 972</p> <p>[2b] Normal population (untested), n = 586</p> <p>Group [1b] has no time pso reported so was not eligible for our review.</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Recruited individuals from 10 hospitals, 4 in Hubei province, 6 from other provinces in China</p> <p>[2a] Hospitalised patients with diseases other than COVID-19 from the four hospitals in the outbreak Hubei province, and the six hospitals in other provinces in China</p> <p>[2b] Recruited from a physical examination centre in a hospital in Shenzhen</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear possibly prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 2123 (565) of which 2071 (513) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1a] Included confirmed RT-PCR-positive COVID inpatients, all ages (aged 1 month to 92 years)</p> <p>[1b] recruited following guidelines of diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19, including typical epidemiological history, clinical symptoms and featured chest CT image</p>
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Qian 2020a (Continued)

	<p>[2] No epidemiological history and clinical symptoms of COVID19, and excluded for SARS-CoV-2 infection by a negative nucleic acid test with RT-PCR</p> <p>[2b] from a physical examination centre in a hospital in Shenzhen</p> <p>Exclusion not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: [1] Hospital inpatient, 10 hospitals</p> <p>Location: [1] 4 hospitals in Hubei province, China, 6 hospitals in other provinces in China (possibly the 10 hospitals from the author affiliations)</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated, hospitalised</p> <p>Demographics: [1a] Age range 1 month to 92 years, average age 53 years; no gender/sex specified</p> <p>Exposure history: [1a] 296/513 from Hubei province, 217/513 from other provinces.</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1:</p> <p>[2a] Hospitalised controls, other disease</p> <p>Source: 317 from 4 hospitals in Hubei province, 655 from 6 other hospitals</p> <p>Time not stated (concurrent)</p> <p>Characteristics: RT-PCR-negative, no epidemiological history or symptoms of COVID-19</p> <p>Age range 1 to 90 years, average 48 years</p> <p>3 to 9 samples positive for IgM and/or IgG for the four common human respiratory coronaviruses (229E, NL63, OC43, and HKU1), influenza A and B viruses, seasonal influenza virus (H1N1, H5N1, H3N2, and H7N9), legionella pneumophila, mycoplasma pneumoniae, chlamydia pneumoniae, adenovirus, respiratory syncytial virus, measles virus, mumps virus, rhinovirus, enterovirus, Epstein-Barr virus, CMV, and rotavirus, autoantibodies to rheumatoid factors and some major anti-nucleic antibodies (dsDNA, Sm, SS-A, SS-B, Jo-1, Ro-52)</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2:</p> <p>[2b] Normal control population</p> <p>Source: Physical examination centre in a hospital in Shenzhen. No time stated (concurrent)</p> <p>Characteristics: Not tested with RT-PCR but assumed COVID-negative</p> <p>Age range 18 to 35 years, average 25 years</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Name not stated. SARS-CoV-2 IgM and IgG immunoassay in development.</p> <p>Manufacturer: Shenzhen YHLO Biotech Co., Ltd</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein and spike-protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1a] < 7 days pso, n = 63</p> <p>7-14 days pso, n = 99</p> <p>> 14 days pso, n = 351</p> <p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Test operator: Laboratory staff</p>

Qian 2020a (Continued)

	Definition of test positivity: ≥ 10 kAU/L Blinding reported: Not stated Threshold predefined: No
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: [1a] RT-PCR, threshold not stated Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated. Blinded to index test: Yes Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: [2a] 972 hospitalised controls tested negative by RT-PCR [2b] 586 normal population controls received no reference standard Samples used: [2a] Not stated [2b] untested Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Yes Incorporated index test: No
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated. All patients received same reference standard: Yes, all Covid patients received same ref standard. Not all control patients received ref standard. Missing data: Not stated. Uninterpretable results: Not stated. Indeterminate results: Not stated. Unit of analysis: Patients
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: B.F. Liu, Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities. Publication status: Published paper. Source: Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Qian 2020a (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear	
Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Qian 2020a (Continued)

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Qiu 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Detection of acute or convalescent-phase Covid infection

Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity:

[1] Confirmed Covid cases n = 475

[2] Non-Covid controls, concurrent non-COVID patients n = 389

Recruitment: [1] and [2] Individuals enrolled from four medical institutions in Hubei Province between January 20 2020 and March 12 2020

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 864 (475)

Further detail: Included adults ≥ 18 years age

Excluded pregnant women

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients.

Location: Four medical institutions, Hubei province: Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, Wuhan Third Hospital-Tongren Hospital of Wuhan University, Huang Gang Central Hospital, Hebi City Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Qiu 2020 (Continued)

Country: China

Dates: Between January 20 2020 and March 12 2020

Symptoms and severity: Hospital inpatients, symptoms recorded but data not shown

Demographics: Of 409 cases used for Ab testing:
217 males, 192 females, median age 60 years (IQR, 49-69)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Non-Covid controls

Source: Hospital inpatients
Four medical institutions between January 20 2020 and March 12 2020, Hubei province:
Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, Wuhan Third Hospital-Tongren Hospital of Wuhan University, Huang Gang Central Hospital, Hebi City Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

Characteristics:
224 males, 165 females; median age 45 years (IQR, 29-61)

Index tests

Test name: SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgM CLIA Microparticle detection kit

Manufacturer: Autobio Diagnostics Co., Ltd. (Henan, China)

Antibody: IgG or IgM

Antigen target: S-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: CLIA

Timing of samples: 1 to 87 days pso
1-10 days pso: 66/409
11-20 days pso: 70/409
21+ days pso: 273/409

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: S/CO \geq 1

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-qPCR, the target genes included the open reading frame 1ab (ORF1ab) gene, and the nucleocapsid protein (N) gene of SARS-CoV2, analysed according to manufacturer's protocol.

Samples used: Throat swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-qPCR, the target genes included the open reading frame 1ab (ORF1ab) gene, and the nucleocapsid protein (N) gene of SARS-CoV2, analysed according to manufacturer's protocol.

Samples used: throat swabs

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Qiu 2020 (Continued)

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not clear, time between symptom onset and collection of serum samples for index test ranged from 1 to 87 days.

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: 475 Covid patients recruited, results only available for 409 cases

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Work supported by Hubei Province Health and Family Planning Scientific Research Project

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Emerging Microbes & Infections

Author COI: No COI reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			

Qiu 2020 (Continued)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Ragnesola 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients, convalescent plasma donor samples (n = 63) [2] Pre-pandemic samples (n = 10) Group [2] has < 25 samples and was excluded from our review.</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] Convalescent donor plasma was collected by the New York Blood Center (NYBC). Recruitment not stated. [2] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: [1] Prospective [2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 73 (63) of which 63 (63) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: [1] All donors had self-reported documented COVID-19 disease by positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test (manufacturer and documentation not provided from referring institution of CP donors), had complete resolution of symptoms at least 14 days prior to donation, and otherwise met all criteria for donating blood consistent with FDA's policy on the Collection of COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma. [2] Frozen plasma was used that was collected prior to the beginning of the epidemic. Exclusions not reported</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent plasma donors</p> <p>Location: New York Blood Center Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute, 310 E 67th Street, New York, NY 10065, USA</p> <p>Country: New York, USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Convalescent, at least 14 days since symptom resolution</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Clungene® SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassettes</p> <p>Manufacturer: Hangzhou Clongene Biotech Co., Ltd., Hangzhou, China</p> <p>Antibody: IgM / IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: receptor-binding domain (RBD) of the spike and nucleocapsid protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POCT performed in lab</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow test (no details)</p> <p>Timing of samples: Symptom-free for at least 14 days so at least 14 days post-PCR+</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma</p> <p>Test operator: four independently trained operators</p>

Ragnesola 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Definition of test positivity: Positive and negative IgG/IgM band determinations were made by visual inspection with accordance to manufacturer instructions.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes (visual-based)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Self-reported documented COVID-19 disease by positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test (manufacturer and documentation not provided from referring institution of CP donors), threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes (unclear as self-reported)</p> <p>Missing data: yes, group [2] excluded from review</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: All samples yielded an interpretable result with no invalid result.</p> <p>Indeterminate results: No intermediate range</p> <p>Unit of analysis: [1] Not quite clear, possibly yes</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: The LFD used in the testing were provided by CL/BioSolutions services LLC.</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: BMC Research Notes</p> <p>Author COI: CL worked with the LFD manufacturer on the Emergency Use Authorization submission to the US FDA.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ragnesola 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ragnesola 2020 (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Renard 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute or convalescent SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity:</p> <p>[1] Covid-positive, N = 405 samples, n = 142 patients</p> <p>[2] Covid-negative controls, N = 989 patients, pre-pandemic healthy donors</p> <p>[3] Serum cross-reactivity pre-pandemic samples, n = 276</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] RT-PCR-positive, symptomatic patients from three hospitals: Centre Hospitalier Saint Joseph Saint Luc, Lyon, France; Centre de Ressources Biologiques (CRB) des Hospices Civils de Lyon, CRB Nord and CRB Sud, Lyon, France</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic adult donors, before September 2019. Healthy donors. Collected at Etablissement Français du Sang (EFS), France and Clinilabs, Inc., United States</p> <p>[3] Frozen pre-pandemic sera from patients with other potentially interfering infections or medical conditions (bioMerieux, Centre Hospitalier Grenoble-Alpes and Saint Joseph Saint Luc Lyon collections)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] [3] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 1670 (405)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Inclusion: Symptomatic patients from three hospitals (inpatient and outpatients). Exclusion: Asymptomatic patients.</p> <p>[2] Inclusion: Healthy adult blood donors. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>[3] Inclusion: Patients with potentially interfering infections or medical conditions, including 5 pregnant women. Exclusion: Not stated.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients and hospital outpatients</p> <p>Location: Centre Hospitalier Saint Joseph Saint Luc, Lyon, France; Centre de Ressources Biologiques (CRB) des Hospices Civils de Lyon, CRB Nord and CRB Sud, Lyon, France</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: March 31 to June 2, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Symptomatic, severity not stated.</p> <p>Data for 130 patients (time post-PCR+ analyses)</p> <p>Hospitalised (n = 54) and non-hospitalised (n = 61), 15 missing data</p> <p>Data for 63 patients (time post-PCR+ analyses)</p> <p>48 (76.2%) hospitalised</p> <p>15 (23.8%) missing</p> <p>Demographics:</p> <p>Data for 130 patients (time post-PCR+ analyses)</p>

Renard 2021 [A] (Continued)

61 non-hospitalised: missing data on age, 69 other patients: median 70 (range 27–96) years; 47 male, 22 female, 61 missing

Data for 63 patients (time point analyses)

Age: median 70 (range 27–96) years; 45 (71.4%) male

Exposure history: Not stated.

Non-Covid group 1: [2] pre-pandemic healthy donors

Source: Etablissement Francais du Sang (EFS), France and Clinilabs, Inc., United States. Collected before September 2019

Characteristics: Healthy donors

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Cross-reactivity sera, pre-pandemic

Source: Cross-reactivity sera from bioMerieux, Centre Hospitalier Grenoble-Alpes and Saint Joseph Saint Luc Lyon collections

Time not stated

Characteristics: Patients with potentially interfering infections or medical conditions:

Pregnant women 5

Antinuclear antibody (ANA) a 47

Rheumatoid factor 19

Human anti-mouse antibody (HAMA) 5

Borrelia burgdorferi 10

Haemophilus influenzae B 5

Plasmodium falciparum 3

Toxoplasma gondii 10

Treponema pallidum 3

Trypanosoma cruzi 5

Hepatitis A virus (HAV) 3

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) 5

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) 5

Hepatitis E virus (HEV) b 7

Herpes simplex virus (HSV) b 6

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) 5

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) 4

Measles virus (MV) 4

Mumps virus (MuV) 1

Rubella virus (RuV) b 10

Dengue virus (DENV) 3

West Nile virus (WNV) 4

Yellow fever virus (YFV) 4

Zika virus (ZIKV) b 5

Adenovirus (AdV) 2

Metapneumovirus (MPV) 4

Rhinovirus/enterovirus (RV/Enterov) c 20

Influenza A and B virus (IAV/IBV) 30

Parainfluenza viruses 1/2/3 (PIV-1/2/3) 11

Respiratory syncytial virus A or B (RSV A or B) 13

Coronavirus NL63/HKU1 (CoV-NL63/HKU1) d 9

Coronavirus 229E (CoV-229E) 7

Coronavirus OC43 (CoV-OC43) 2

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Vidas SARS-CoV-2 IgM (423833)

[B] Vidas SARS-CoV-2 IgG (423834)

Manufacturer: [A] [B] bioMerieux, France

Renard 2021 [A] (Continued)

Antibody:

[A] IgM

[B] IgG

Antigen target: [A] [B] RBD of spike-protein

Evaluation setting: [A] [B] Laboratory

Test method: [A] [B] two-step enzyme immunoassay combined with an enzyme-linked fluorescent assay (ELFA) detection technique

Timing of samples: 0 to 32+ 1-65 days pso (n = 105),

0-7 days: n = 22

8-15 days: n = 29

16-23 days: n = 26

24-31 days: n = 18

>= 32 days: n = 10

0-65 days post-PCR +ve (n = 232)

0-7 days: n = 110

8-15 days: n = 60

16-23 days: n = 38

24-31 days: n = 13

>= 32 days: n = 11

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: [A] [B] Positive COI >= 1.00, negative < 1.00

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated.

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] Pre-pandemic (before September 2019)

[3] Pre-pandemic (timing unclear)

Samples used: [2] [3] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [2] [3] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Index tests conducted 0-65 days post-reference test

0-7 days: n = 110

8-15 days: n = 60

16-23 days: n = 38

24-31 days: n = 13

>= 32 days: n = 11

Renard 2021 [A] (Continued)

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data:

[1] 173 samples excluded from time split post-PCR+ analyses:

2 missing date of positive PCR, 171 as IgM test or IgG test not done, multiple measurements per patient in one time frame, or missing paired test

300 samples excluded from time split post-symptom onset analyses:

194 Missing date of symptom onset, 106 as IgM test or IgG test not done, multiple measurements per patient in one time frame, or missing paired test

[2] [3] Not all samples tested with IgG test [B]

Uninterpretable results: Not stated.

Indeterminate results: No borderline range

Unit of analysis: Samples. To avoid a statistical bias, only one patient's measurement per time period was included in the analysis.

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Work was supported by bioMerieux.

J.L received research funding from bioMerieux for this study.

Publication status: Published paper.

Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology.

Author COI: M.P declared a consulting contract with bioMerieux.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Renard 2021 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Renard 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Renard 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rijkers 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To compare the antibody response in patients with severe (hospitalised) and mild (non-hospitalised) COVID-19 and determine sensitivity for diagnosis of current acute infection and current convalescent infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 62)</p> <p>[1a] Severe Covid-19 group (n = 38)</p> <p>[1b] Mild Covid-19 group (n = 24)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1a] Consecutive hospital Covid patients admitted to the Admiral de Ruyter Hospital in Goes, The Netherlands, in the period March 2020–May 2020</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rijkers 2020 (Continued)

	<p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1a] Prospective [1b] Not stated (possibly prospective)</p> <p>Sample size: 62 (62) patients, number of samples unclear (serial sampling from week 1 to week 4 post-symptom onset)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: [1a] Subjects who had positive RT-PCR and were hospitalised, both ICU and non-ICU (admitted to the Admiral de Ruyter Hospital in Goes, The Netherlands) [1b] Hospital personnel (both from clinical departments as well as laboratory departments) who developed fever, coughing, and/or dyspnoea and had positive RT-PCR and were non-hospitalised with mild disease Exclusion: [1] Test group - PCR-negative samples</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: [1a] Hospital inpatients [1b] non-hospitalised patients (home isolation, under control of GP)</p> <p>Location: [1] Admiral de Ruyter Hospital in Goes</p> <p>Country: The Netherlands</p> <p>Dates: [1a] March 2020–May 2020 [1b] Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: [1a] The criteria for hospital admission were severity and/or progression of clinical symptoms, as assessed by the referring general practitioner. The presenting clinical symptoms included fever (n = 17), cough (n = 18), dyspnoea (n = 11), dizziness and/or confusion (n = 4), and general malaise (n = 6). The clinical criteria for admission of hospitalised patients to the ICU primarily were respiratory insufficiency, haemodynamic instability, and/or multiorgan failure. ICU 15/38 non-ICU 23/38 6/38 died [1b] Mild symptoms (fever, coughing, and/or dyspnoea), non-hospitalised</p> <p>Demographics: [1a] Age (years) - median 70 (range 38–87) Male gender - 26 (68%) Any comorbidities - 26 (68%) Diabetes mellitus - 4 (11%) Hypertension - 13 (34%) Coronary heart disease - 8 (21%) COPD - 10 (26%) Body Mass Index - median 27 (range 19–41) [1b] Median age 42 years (range, 21–66 years)</p> <p>Exposure history: [1a] Not stated [1b] Hospital personnel</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: The Wantai SARS-CoV-2 total antibody ELISA (catalog number WS1096)</p> <p>Manufacturer: Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise, Beijing, China</p> <p>Antibody: Total antibodies</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rijkers 2020 (Continued)

	<p>Antigen target: receptor binding domain antigen of SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Hospital laboratory</p> <p>Test method: sandwich ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Serial blood sampling (3 times per week) was started a median of 2 days (range, 1–7 days) after positive RT-PCR</p> <p>1–7 days pso</p> <p>8–14 days pso</p> <p>15–21 days pso</p> <p>22–28 days pso</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Lab personnel from hospital laboratories</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: [A] and [B] Optical density (OD) was measured at 450 nm and the anti-body titer for each sample was calculated as the ratio of the reading of that sample to the reading of a calibrator (included in the kit):OD ratio. Threshold not stated</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated (no as only COVID cases included)</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes (according to the manufacturer's instructions)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used:</p> <p>[1a] Nasopharyngeal swabs</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard:</p> <p>[1a] On the first hospital day</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests:</p> <p>[1a] Serial blood sampling (3 times per week) was started at a median of 2 days (range, 1–7 days) after positive RT-PCR.</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: yes (no sensitivity data for 24 non-hospitalised patients [1b] for test [B], no sensitivity data for time points 1–7 days, 8–14 days and 15–21 days pso reported for both groups)</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Multiple samples per patient but only 1 sample per patient included per time split</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None stated</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Journal of Infectious Diseases</p>

Rijkers 2020 (Continued)

Author COI: All authors: No reported conflicts of interest. All authors have submitted the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest. Conflicts that the editors considered relevant to the content of the manuscript have been disclosed.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rijkers 2020 (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Rode 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 21, 60 samples) Recruitment: Randomly selected hospitalised adult patients (consecutive sera analysed) Prospective or retrospective: Prospective Sample size: 60 (60) samples Further detail:
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rode 2021 [A] (Continued)

Inclusion: Subjects who had positive RT-PCR and were hospitalised
Exclusion: Test group - PCR-negative samples

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: University Hospital for Infectious Diseases “Dr. Fran Mihaljević”, Mirogojska 8, 10000 Zagreb.</p> <p>Country: Croatia</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: The most common symptoms were cough (95.2%), fever (90.5%), fatigue (42.9%) and shortness of breath (42.9%). Pulmonary opacities showed in 76.2% of patients. Severity - mild, moderate and severe; Mild disease 5 (23.8%) Moderate disease 10 (47.6%) Severe disease 6 (28.6%)</p> <p>Demographics:</p> <p>Age median (range), years 56 (26–81); male/female 13 (61.9%)/8 (38.1%); comorbidity 10 (47.6%)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA</p> <p>[B] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA</p> <p>[C] SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Assay Kit</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A,B] Euroimmun, Germany [C] Maccura Biotechnology Co., Ltd.</p> <p>Antibody: [A] IgA, [B] IgG [C] IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A,B] S1 antigen [C] N/S antigen</p> <p>Evaluation setting:</p> <p>[A,B] Laboratory [C] POCT performed in lab</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A,B] ELISA and [C] Collodial Gold</p> <p>Timing of samples: Range 0-22 days post-symptom onset: 0-3 days pso: n = 11, 4-7 days pso: n = 17, 8-11 days pso: n = 18, ≥ 12 days from onset of illness: n = 14</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Laboratory personnel</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rode 2021 [A] (Continued)

Definition of test positivity:

[A,B] The antibody levels were determined by calculating the extinction ratio of the patient samples (S) over the cut-off calibrator value (CO; S/CO). Cut-off not stated

[C] A clearly visible coloured quality control band and detection line, either IgG or IgM, were deemed positive for anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibodies. The final results were always read by two independent investigators.

Blinding reported: Not stated (no as only COVID cases included)

Threshold predefined: yes by the manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-qPCR Roche Total Nucleic Acid Isolation kit on a Roche MagnaPure LC 2.0 (Roche, Germany) According to the WHO-recommended Charité protocol, utilising the E and RdRP gene targets on an Applied Biosystems 7500 real-time thermocycler (Applied Biosystems, USA), 5 µL of RNA was used for the detection of SARS-CoV-2. Threshold not stated

Samples used: Combined nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples (Eleven patients had 2 consecutive sera, 6 had 3 sera, and 3 had 4 sera and for one patient, 8 samples were tested)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

Author COI: The authors declared that they had no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Rode 2021 [A] (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions? Yes

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question? High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? No

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rode 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Rode 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rode 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rode 2021 [C] (Continued)

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection or current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID samples (n = 366)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID samples</p> <p>[2a] Blood donor samples from influenza seasons 2016/17 and 2017/18 (n = 500)</p> <p>[2b] Samples which tested PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 (n = 110)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 976 (366)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Serum of our previously described positive (SERO-BL-positive) cohort of study participants testing PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 during the initial wave of COVID-19 infections in the canton of Basel-Landschaft Switzerland</p> <p>[2a] Blood donor cohort composed of donations from December 2016, February 2017, and February 2018</p> <p>[2b] Serum of our previously described negative (SERO-BL-negative) cohort of study participants testing PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 during the initial wave of COVID-19 infections in the canton of Basel-Landschaft, Switzerland</p> <p>Exclusions not reported.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Convalescent study participants of SERO-BL-COVID-19</p> <p>Location: Biobank of the Canton Basel-Landschaft</p> <p>Country: Switzerland</p> <p>Dates: During the first wave of the pandemic in Switzerland</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Wide range of disease severity; these samples were representative for symptomatic and oligosymptomatic cases.</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic healthy</p> <p>Source: Blood donor cohort composed of donations from December 2016, February 2017, and February 2018</p> <p>Characteristics: Blood donor samples from previous flu seasons</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [2a] Current, PCR-negative</p> <p>Source: Study participants of "COVID-19 in Baselland Investigation and Validation of Serological Diagnostic Assays and Epidemiological Study of Sars-CoV-2 specific Antibody Responses (SERO-BL-COVID-19)", during the first wave of the pandemic in Switzerland</p> <p>Characteristics: PCR-negative</p>
Index tests	Test name:

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rudolf 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [A] OnSite™ COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test (LOT F0507R1C00)
- [B] SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Rapid Test (LOT COV1252006A)
- [C] SimtomaX® Corona Check (LOT GGM20089W)
- [D] SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Lateral Flow Test (LOT 20200428)
- [E] NTBIO One Step Rapid Test - COVID-19 IgG/IgM Antibody Test (LOT V02009201)
- [F] QuickTestCorona™ COVID-19 IgG/IgM (LOT MC0000102)
- [G] SARS-Cov-2 IgG/IgM Rapid Qualitative Test (LOT X2003602)
- [H] BIOZEK COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette (LOT BNCP40200080)
- [I] MEDSan COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test (LOT 20200325)
- [J] SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Ab Rapid Test (LOT COV1252003C)
- [K] The RightSign™ COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette / Lumiratek (LOT COV20040013)

Manufacturer:

- [A] CTK Biotech, Inc. (US)
- [B] Sure Bio-tech (USA) Co., Ltd (US)
- [C] Augurix SA (CH)
- [D] TAmiRNA GmbH (AT)
- [E] NTBIO® Diagnostics Inc. (CA)
- [F] MEXACARE GmbH (DE)
- [G] Xiamen Biotime Biotechnology Co., Ltd. (CN)
- [H] Inzek International Trading B.V. (NL)
- [I] MPC International S.A. (LU)
- [J] Qingdao HIGHTOP Biotech Co., Ltd. (CN)
- [K] Hangzhou Biotech Biotech Co Ltd (CN)

Antibody: [D] IgM/IgG (single band)

All other tests: separate lines for IgM and IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] Spike
- [B] S1, S2, RBD
- [C] RBD, N-protein
- [D] S1
- [E] Not stated
- [F] RBD, N-protein
- [G] Not stated
- [H] Not stated
- [I] Not stated
- [J] Spike, N-protein
- [K] Spike

Evaluation setting: All POCT performed in lab

Test method: All lateral flow tests (no details)

Timing of samples: wide range of days post-symptom onset

<= 14 days pso

15-21 days pso

> 21 days pso

Numbers differed between tests.

Samples used: We assayed the Hightop test using whole blood, serum and plasma, while all other tests were assayed using serum and plasma.

Test operator: The Hightop [J] and MEDSan [I] assays were characterised at the SwissTPH using the identical biobank and experimental setup as outlined previously.

Eight tests were characterised simultaneously at the KUSPO Munchenstein and the Biotime [G] at the FHNW, Muttenez.

Definition of test positivity: Presence of bands was visually inspected, and each test was imaged with a digital camera (different models) under standardised lightning conditions.

Rudolf 2020 [A] (Continued)

We considered a test valid if its control band was present, and we considered a valid test positive for the respective antibody if the SARS-CoV-2 specific IgM, IgG or IgM/IgG band was detected in the sample.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, visual-based

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: [1] PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2

Samples used:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: Yes (not all samples tested with all index tests; time split <= 14 days pso not eligible for our review)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: No intermediate range

Unit of analysis: Not stated

Comparative
Notes

Funding: The Swiss Red Cross financed all the used LFA except for the Hightop and Biotime assays. The Hightop was purchased by the canton Basel-Landschaft and the Biotime was provided by the Swiss importer. FR is funded by the NCCR 'Molecular Systems Engineering'.

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv preprint

Author COI: Not stated

Methodological quality

Rudolf 2020 [A] (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rudolf 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Unclear
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Rudolf 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rudolf 2020 [B] *(Continued)*

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Rudolf 2020 [G] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [H]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [I]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [J]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Rudolf 2020 [J] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Rudolf 2020 [K]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Ruetao 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients</p> <p>[1a] Non-hospitalised COVID-patients (n = 49), 46 PCR+, 3 symptomatic close contacts</p> <p>[1b] one hospitalised, convalescent COVID patient (2 samples)</p> <p>[2] Healthy donors (n = 4); Group [2] excluded from our review as < 25 samples</p> <p>Group [1b] not included as no information on time pso or time post-PCR+</p> <p>[1a] 3 symptomatic close contacts excluded as not PCR-confirmed</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ruetalo 2020 [A] (Continued)

Sample size: 55 (49) samples of which 46 (46) rt-PCR positive COVID patients were eligible for our review

Further detail: Inclusions

[1a] Potential blood donors for convalescent plasma therapy after written consent at the Clinical Transfusion Medicine, Tübingen between April 04 and May 12, 2020

Older than 18 years old with a PCR-confirmed diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 (n = 46) or symptomatic and close contacts to positively diagnosed COVID-19 patients (partners tested positive)

[1b] Hospitalised, convalescent COVID patient

[2] Healthy donors

Exclusions not reported

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Convalescent (potential convalescent plasma donors)

Location: Clinical Transfusion Medicine, Tübingen

Country: Germany

Dates: between April 04 and May 12, 2020

Symptoms and severity: non-hospitalised, asymptomatic to a mild course of disease, cough (69%), fever (59%), limb pain and headache (35%), diarrhoea (10%), and loss of taste (10%). Now all convalescent

Demographics: Age ranged from 19-66 years (median 40 years); 24 male, 25 female

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2-ELISA (IgG)

[B] S1 RBD SARS-CoV-2 (IgG, IgA, IgM) (test name not stated)

[C] Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2

*Additional assay (SARS-COV-2 DigiWest assay) excluded as not commercially available

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany

[B] Mediagnost

[C] Roche

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG, IgA, IgM [C] Total antibody

Antigen target:

[A] S1-based

[B]

[C] N-protein

Evaluation setting: All laboratory tests

Test method:

[A] ELISA

[B] ELISA

[C] ECLIA

Timing of samples: The time from positive SARS-CoV-2 test to blood sampling was 14-64 days (median 45 days).

Samples used: Serum samples were stored at -80°C.

Ruetalo 2020 [A] (Continued)

Test operator:

[A] Institute for Transfusion Medicine, University Hospital Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany

[B] Mediagnost GmbH, Reutlingen, Germany

[C] Institute for Medical Virology and Epidemiology of Viral Diseases, University Hospital Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Ratios were classified as negative (< 0.8), borderline ($\geq 0.8 - < 1.1$) and positive (≥ 1.1)

[B] Ratios were classified as: negative (< 0.42), borderline ($\geq 0.42 - 0.7$) and positive (≥ 0.7) for IgG; negative (< 0.33), borderline ($\geq 0.33 - 0.7$) and positive (≥ 0.7) for IgA; negative (< 0.87), borderline ($\geq 0.87 - 1.47$) and positive (≥ 1.47) for IgM

[C] If the numeric COI result was ≥ 1.0 , the serum was diagnosed as reactive, COI < 1.0 were attributed as non-reactive.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: PCR-confirmed diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 ($n = 46$) and three were symptomatic and close contacts to positively diagnosed COVID-19 patients (partners tested positive), PCR threshold not stated.

3 COVID patients without PCR test not included in review

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: The time from positive SARS-CoV-2 test to blood sampling was 14-64 days (median 45 days).

All patients received same reference standard: yes

Missing data: yes (exclusion of groups [1b] and [2] and 3 patients from group [1a] from our review)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: yes

[A] $n = 1$

[B] $n = 6$

[C] $n = 15$

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported by grants to MS from the Baden-Württemberg foundation (BW Stiftung), the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the MWK Baden-Württemberg as well as by basic funding provided to MS by the University Hospital Tübingen and TÜFF Gleichstellungsförderung to K.A. (2563-0-0).

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv pre-print

Author COI: The authors reported no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Ruetao 2020 [A] (Continued)

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Ruetalo 2020 [A] (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Ruetalo 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Ruetao 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only [1] Confirmed COVID patients (73 sera from 57 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 73 (73) samples from 57 (57) patients</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: Adult individuals with positive SARS CoV-2 RNA test after informed consent Exclusion: Ex post, four viral RNA-positive participants that were asymptomatic and were tested as part of routine screening for healthcare workers or before surgery without contact with infected persons were excluded.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated (none required hospital care, all convalescent)</p> <p>Location: University Clinics and Medical Faculty, University of Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany</p> <p>Country: Germany</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: with mild to moderate disease or asymptomatic infection; none was seriously ill or required hospital care. 3 asymptomatic 25 mild (e.g. fatigue, sore throat, headache) 28 moderate (e.g. fever, myalgia, no or mild pneumonia) 1 severe disease (e.g. with dyspnoea, hypoxia, or > 50 percent lung involvement on imaging within 24 to 48 hours)</p> <p>Demographics: Adults</p>

Schnurra 2020 [A] (Continued)

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2
- [B] Abbott Architect SARS-CoV-2 IgG
- [C] Novatec Novalisa SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA [D] Virotech SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA
- [E] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA (IgG) [F] Mediagnost AntiSARS CoV-2 ELISA
- [G] Siemens Atellica IM COV2T

Manufacturer:

- [A] Roche
- [B] Abbott
- [C] Novatec
- [D] Virotech
- [E] Euroimmun
- [F] Mediagnost
- [G] Siemens

Antibody:

- [A] IgM, IgG and other Ig antibody bridging
- [B] IgG
- [C] IgG
- [D] IgG
- [E] IgG
- [F] IgG
- [G] IgM, IgG and other Ig antibody bridging

Antigen target:

- [A] N-protein
- [B] N-protein
- [C] N-protein
- [D] N-protein
- [E] S1 glycoprotein
- [F] RBD of S1 glycoprotein
- [G] RBD of S1 glycoprotein

Evaluation setting: All laboratory tests

Test method:

- [A] ECLIA
- [B] CMIA
- [C] ELISA
- [D] ELISA
- [E] ELISA
- [F] ELISA
- [G] Microparticle immunoassay (chemiluminescence?)

Timing of samples: Between 2 and 10 weeks after symptom onset or viral RNA testing (additional data provided by author show range from 14 to 70 days post-PCR test):

2-3 weeks after PCR+: n = 25

4-10 weeks after PCR+: n = 48

Sera from symptomatic participants fell into the same groups when classified according to the day of symptom onset.

Samples used: Sera were frozen at -20 °C until testing. During the study, serum samples were thawed 1-4 times.

Schnurra 2020 [A] (Continued)

Test operator: The tests were performed in three diagnostic routine laboratories and a research laboratory according to the instructions of the manufacturers.

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] Positive ≥ 1 COI, negative < 1 COI
- [B] Positive ≥ 1.4 index (S/C), negative < 1.4 index (S/C)
- [C] Positive > 11 NTU, borderline 9–11 NTU, negative < 9 NTU
- [D] Positive > 11 VE, borderline 9–11 VE, negative < 9 VE
- [E] Positive ≥ 1.1 , borderline ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1 , negative < 0.8
- [F] Positive $> 5 \times$ OD negative control, borderline 3–5 \times OD negative control, negative $< 3 \times$ OD negative control
- [G] Positive ≥ 1 index, negative < 1 index

Blinding reported: No as only COVID cases included

Threshold predefined: yes (all tests performed according to the manufacturer's instructions)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: Positive SARS CoV-2 RNA test, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: 2–3 weeks (N = 25) or > 4 weeks (N = 48) after symptom onset and viral RNA test

All patients received same reference standard: yes

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: For calculations, borderline results were considered negative.

- [C] 8 borderline results
- [D] 5 borderline results
- [E] 4 borderline results
- [F] 15 borderline results

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: We are also grateful to ... Novatec Immundiagnostica GmbH, Virotech Diagnostics GmbH and Mediagnost GmbH for making their test kits available. The Siemens COV2T tests were provided by Siemens Healthineers and performed by Labor alphaomega, Leipzig. The research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Author COI: None.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Schnurra 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Schnurra 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Schnurra 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Schnurra 2020 [E] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Schnurra 2020 [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] SARS-CoV-2-infected inpatients (126 samples from 89 patients)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic controls (36 samples)</p> <p>[2a] Healthy (n = 25) and</p> <p>[2b] HIV and other viral diseases (n = 11)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Not stated</p> <p>[2] Matched samples were selected based on COVID-19 patients' sex and age</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective</p> <p>[2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 162 (126) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Patients living in the Minho region of Portugal who were inpatients at Senhora da Oliveira Hospital (Guimarães) or Braga Hospital, admitted with COVID-19 (diagnosed by RT-qPCR at a reference laboratory; at least 2 positive RT-qPCR results were obtained from each patient)</p> <p>[2] SARS-CoV-2 non-infected controls were selected from banked human plasma samples from 2 pre-COVID-19 pandemic studies conducted by the study authors (the first COVID-19 case in Portugal was reported on 2 March 2020):</p> <p>[2a] a study with healthy individuals > 55 years old (samples collected between April 2019 and January 2020);</p> <p>[2b] a study with HIV-infected patients on antiretroviral therapy (54–60 months; samples collected between January 2016 and August 2018).</p> <p>Matched samples were selected based on COVID-19 patients' sex and age.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Senhora da Oliveira Hospital (Guimarães, Portugal) or Braga Hospital (Braga, Portugal)</p> <p>Country: Portugal</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Severe 32/89; non-severe 57/89</p> <p>Demographics: Age: median 71 [range 30;96] years; female 51/89 (57.3%)</p> <p>None of the COVID-19 patients were HIV-positive or had a history of organ transplantation.</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic healthy</p> <p>Source: Banked human plasma samples from a pre-COVID-19 pandemic study with healthy individuals > 55 years old, samples collected between April 2019 and January 2020</p> <p>Characteristics: Age: Median 71 [range 59 to 80] years; 13/25 (52.0%) female</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Pre-pandemic, other diseases</p> <p>Source: Banked human plasma samples from a pre-COVID-19 pandemic study with HIV-infected patients on antiretroviral therapy, samples collected between January 2016 and August 2018</p> <p>Characteristics: Age: Median 57 [range 33;72] years; 3/11 (27.3%) female</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p>

Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] (Continued)

- [A] Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG (no. 06R86)
- [B] EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG (no. EI 2606-9601 G)
- [C] EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgA (no. EI 2606-9601 A)
- [D] Snibe Diagnostic - MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM (no. 130219016M)
- [E] Cellex qSARS-CoV- 2 IgG/IgM (no. WI5513C)
- [F] Getein One Step Test (no. CG2057)
- [G] Innovita Biological - 2019-nCoV Ab test
- [H] Liming Bio StrongStep1 IgM/IgG
- [I] Leccurate - SARS-CoV-2
- [J] Jiangsu Medomics Combined Ab
- [K] Render COVID-19 IgM/IgG (no. K-20-RC-CoV-2)
- [L] SD Biosensor IgM/IgG Duo (no. Q-NCOV-01D)

Manufacturer:

- [A] Abbott Architect
- [B] EUROIMMUN
- [C] EUROIMMUN
- [D] Snibe Diagnostic
- [E] Cellex
- [F] Getein
- [G] Innovita Biological
- [H] Liming Bio
- [I] Leccurate
- [J] Jiangsu Medomics
- [K] Render
- [L] SD Biosensor

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgG
- [C] IgA
- [D] IgM/IgG
- [E] IgM/IgG
- [F] Total antibodies
- [G] IgM/IgG
- [H] IgM/IgG
- [I] IgM/IgG
- [J] IgM/IgG
- [K] IgM/IgG
- [L] IgM/IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] N-protein
- [B] S1-protein
- [C] S1-protein
- [D] S antigen and N-protein
- [E] N and S-proteins
- [F] N and S-proteins
- [G] N and S-proteins
- [H] Not specified
- [I] Not specified
- [J] Not specified
- [K] Not specified
- [L] N-protein

Evaluation setting:

- [A] - [D] Laboratory tests used in lab
- [E] - [L] POCT performed in lab (frozen plasma)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] (Continued)

Test method:

- [A] CLIA
- [B] ELISA
- [C] ELISA
- [D] CLIA
- [E] LFIA
- [F] LFIA
- [G] LFIA
- [H] LFIA
- [I] LFIA
- [J] LFIA
- [K] LFIA
- [L] LFIA

Timing of samples: Days since symptom onset:

Numbers varied per test:

- < 10 days: 12-24 samples;
- 10-15 days: 12-33 samples;
- 16-21 days: 20-34 samples;
- > 21 days: 16-35 samples

Samples used: Plasma frozen at -80 degrees Celsius

Test operator: C.S.-M., C.N., S.R., J.C.-G., C.S.S., N.V., P.B.-S. and P.A.-P. performed the experiments. Life and Health Sciences Research Institute (ICVS), School of Medicine, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal and ICVS/3B's-PT Government Associate Laboratory, Braga/Guimarães, Portugal.

Definition of test positivity: Threshold not stated for [A] - [E] (see Fig 2; according to the manufacturer's instructions)

- [A] Index (S/C)
- [B] Ratio (between 0.8 and 1.1 borderline)
- [C] Ratio (between 0.8 and 1.1 borderline)
- [D] Arbitrary units/mL
- [E]-[L] Visual-based

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, tested according to the manufacturer's instructions ([E] - [L] visual-based)

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: [1] Diagnosed by RT-qPCR at a reference laboratory; at least 2 positive RT-qPCR results were obtained from each patient); threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] Pre-pandemic

Samples used: [2] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: [2] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] (Continued)

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: yes (not all patients tested with all tests, only 1 sample per time split used per patient)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated (according to Fig 2, test [B] could have borderline results)

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes	<p>Funding: This work was funded by National funds, through the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) R4COVID (596694995), POCI-01-0145-FEDER-016428, UIDB/50026/2020 and UIDP/50026/2020; and by the projects NORTE-01-0145-FEDER-000013 and NORTE-01-0145-FEDER-000023, supported by Norte Portugal Regional Operational Programme (NORTE 2020), under the PORTUGAL 2020 Partnership Agreement, through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). CN, SR and NV are junior researchers under the scope of the FCT Transitional Rule DL57/2016. JC-G is supported by an FCT PhD grant, in the context the Doctoral Program in Aging and Chronic Diseases (PhDOC; PD/ BD/137433/2018); CSS is supported by an FCT PhD grant, in the context of the Doctoral Program in Applied Health Sciences(PD/BDE/142976/2018).</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases</p> <p>Author COI: Getein kits were provided free of charge by the manufacturer. No other conflicts of interest reported</p>
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Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standard likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [A] *(Continued)*
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Serre-Miranda 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [E] *(Continued)*

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Serre-Miranda 2021 [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [G]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [H]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Serre-Miranda 2021 [H] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Serre-Miranda 2021 [L]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Shamsollahi 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study to evaluate the sensitivity and specificity of a rapid serological test for diagnosis of active or previous COVID-19 using serum samples</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] 114 RT PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients in hospitals affiliated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences in 2020</p> <p>[2] 198 frozen serum specimens taken from healthy people in summer and autumn 2019 (pre-COVID-19)</p> <p>From group [1], time split 0-19 days pso was excluded from our review (n = 31).</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Shamsollahi 2020 (Continued)

Recruitment: COVID-19 cases were PCR-confirmed patients in hospitals affiliated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences in 2020; test-negative controls were a random sample of frozen serum specimens from healthy people participating in a Tehran University of Medical Sciences Employees COHORT study, taken in summer and autumn 2019 (months before reporting the first case of COVID-19 by China)

Prospective or retrospective: Unclear

Sample size: 312 (114) of which 312 (83) were eligible for our review

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: RT-PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases in several hospitals - unclear whether inpatient or outpatient

Location: Several hospitals affiliated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Country: Iran

Dates: Unclear

Symptoms and severity: Not stated

Demographics:

Average age: 44.0 (\pm 12.1) years

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic negative controls

Source: healthy people participating in a Tehran University of Medical Sciences Employees COHORT study, taken in summer and autumn 2019

Characteristics:

Average age: 39.2 (\pm 8.0) years

Index tests

Test name: "VivaDiag" COVID-19 IgM/IgG

Manufacturer: VivaChek Inc., China

Antibody: IgM, IgG

Antigen target: Not stated

Evaluation setting: POC test; unclear where testing was done for cases; as negative controls were frozen samples, these must have been done in a laboratory

Test method: Not stated

(Seemed to be colloidal gold from website)

Timing of samples:

5-53 days (mean: 27.9) pso

0-19 days pso: 31/114 (27.2%)

20-39 days pso: 65/114 (57.0%)

40+ days pso: 18/114 (15.8%)

Samples used: 10 μ L (whole) blood for cases or frozen serum for pre-pandemic samples

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Not stated ; "Based on kit instructions"

Visual-based

Blinding reported: No; tests appeared to have been conducted separately for known positives and for known negatives (which had to be thawed before testing)

Shamsollahi 2020 (Continued)

Threshold predefined: Based on kit instructions (visual-based)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR - no threshold reported</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes. For cases, samples were already PT PCR-confirmed when index test used.</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic blood samples. No report of these being tested by RT-PCR</p> <p>Samples used: 10 µL blood</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic blood samples.</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes. For controls, blood samples were drawn months before the study.</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated for cases; pre-pandemic controls</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No (PCR test for cases, pre-pandemic samples for controls)</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: 1 sample per patient.</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated; VivaDiag kit donated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS) by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME)</p> <p>Publication status: Preprint, now published</p> <p>Source: Preprint server - medRxiv Journal (Archives of Iranian Medicine)</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Shamsollahi 2020 (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shamsollahi 2020 (Continued)

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Shen 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity: Patients with fever or respiratory symptoms suspected as having COVID-19 based on China CDC guideline (v5) (including 97 RT-PCR confirmed) [A separate cohort of 26 healthy blood donors were tested - not included in main analysis]</p> <p>Recruitment: Not reported; could be consecutive</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 150 (97)</p> <p>Further detail: Participants met the suspected COVID-19 case definition according to the Diagnosis and Treatment Guideline (trial version 5) of China. A suspected COVID-19 case was defined as a pneumonia that had related epidemiological history (likely exposure) and fulfilled two of the three criteria: fever and/or respiratory symptoms; imaging manifestations of pneumonia; low or normal white-cell count or low lymphocyte count.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Unclear; Public Health Medical Center (all quarantined for 2 weeks)</p> <p>Location: Taizhou Hospital of Zhejiang Province, China</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: January 20, 2020 to February 2, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>Clinical severity - ordinary = 76/97 = (78%) Clinical severity - severe = 21/97 (22%) Fever = 71/97 (73%) Cough = 19/97 (20%) Fatigue = 3/97 (3%) Dizziness = 3/97 (3%) Chest tightness = 3/97 (3%)</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shen 2020a (Continued)

Diarrhoea = 2/97 (2%)

Demographics: 59/97 (60.8%) male; median age (IQR) = 46 (38-56)

[NB age data in Tab 1 were incorrectly printed and implausible. These figures in review text are from the results text]

Exposure history: 75/97 (77.3%) with Wuhan exposure

Non-Covid group 1: PCR-negative

Source: Public Health Medical Center, Taizhou Hospital of Zhejiang Province, China; January 20, 2020 to February 2, 2020

Characteristics: 30/53 (56.6%) male; median age (IQR) = 32 (20-42.5)

Fever = 30/53 (57%)

Cough = 23/53 (43%)

Fatigue = 3/53 (6%)

Dizziness = 2/53 (4%)

Chest tightness = 6/53 (11%)

Diarrhoea = 1/53 (2%)

25/53 (47.2%) with Wuhan exposure

Index tests

Test name: colloidal gold immunochromatography assay for SARS-Cov-2 IgM/IgG (LOT: 20200101)

Manufacturer: Shanghai Outdo Biotech Co. Ltd, China

Antibody: SARS-Cov-2 IgM/IgG

Antigen target: synthetic antigens of the S, M, and N-proteins of COVID-19

Evaluation setting: Intended for POC use. For the study "sera were incubated at 56°C for 30 minutes to heat-inactivate viruses before serological analysis", so study use was laboratory-dependent.

Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay (colloidal gold immunochromatography assay)

Timing of samples: At time of consultation.

Time since symptom onset for COVID 19-positive cases:

0-7 days = 40/97 (41.2%)

8-14 days = 33/97 (34.0%)

≥ 15 days = 24/97 (24.7%)

Since symptom onset for COVID 19-negative:

0-7 days = 50/53 (94.3%)

8-14 days = 3/53 (5.7%)

Samples used: serum (3 mL of peripheral venous blood collected)

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: Visible line on immunochromatography antibody detection kit

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR at referral laboratory; not further described

PCR-positive = Ct threshold < 37

PCR-negative = Ct threshold > 40

Those with results between 37 to 40 Ct were resampled and PCR performed by CDC.

Absence of COVID-19 required at least 2 RT-PCR-negative results; authors still considered 34/53 PCR-negative as 'inconclusive' Covid-19 due to lack of other 'identified condition or infection' or recovery after treatment.

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swab samples

Shen 2020a (Continued)

Timing of reference standard: At same time as serology samples taken

Blinded to index test: Not stated

Incorporated index test: No as PCR was done using nose/throat swabs and not blood; antibody tests were not part of guideline definitions at this time.

Definition of non-COVID cases: As above

Samples used: As above

Timing of reference standard: As above

Blinded to index test: As above

Incorporated index test: As above

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Samples (blood and swabs) taken at same time

All patients received same reference standard: yes

Missing data: No losses to follow-up. "The clinical record for each patient was complete."

Uninterpretable results: None

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: patient

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Financially supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant NO. 81672086 and 81903417)

Publication status: Published paper

Source: American Journal of Translational Research

Author COI: Authors reported no conflicts of interest present.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shen 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shen 2020a (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Low risk

Shen 2020b

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To investigate the utility of the IgM-based gold immunochromatographic assay as a candidate clinical diagnostics assay in COVID-19 patients</p> <p>Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for the diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>[1] COVID-19 patients (n = 58) in time-based analysis</p> <p>[2] COVID-19 patients (n = 70, incl 45 PCR-positive); acute phase only (4-14 days pso); not eligible for inclusion</p> <p>[3] patients with non-coronaviral respiratory illness (n = 10) (2 confirmed for influenza A virus, 3 confirmed for influenza B virus, 3 confirmed for respiratory syncytial virus and 2 confirmed for adenovirus)</p> <p>[4] negative control, consisted of 50 sera samples collected from 50 healthy people assessed by physical examination (n = 50)</p> <p>Recruitment: patients at the Xiangyang Central Hospital - no further information</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: unclear.</p> <p>Sample size: 118 (58) patients eligible for inclusion</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: patients at the Xiangyang Central Hospital - appeared to be mixed settings</p> <p>Location: Xiangyang Central Hospital, Affiliated Hospital of Hubei University of Arts and Science, Xiangyang Hubei Province 441021, People's Republic of China</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: mild (n = 50) and severe (n = 8)</p> <p>Demographics: Age: Median (IQR) 52 (36-61); range 8-81 years; 55% (32/58) female</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
Index tests	Test name: SARS-CoV-2 IgM GICA kit

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shen 2020b (Continued)

Manufacturer: Shanghai Outdo Biotech Co., China

Antibody: IgM

Antigen target: immobilised SARS-CoV-2 antigen (N and S recombinant proteins forming an antibody-antigen complex)

Evaluation setting: POC, performed in laboratory

Test method: colloidal gold immunochromatographic assay (GICA)

Timing of samples: 0 to 31 days after symptom onset

< 4 days pso: 41/155 (26.5%)

4-7 days pso: 31/155 (20.0%)

8-14 days pso: 48/155 (31.0%)

15-21 days pso: 23/155 (14.8%)

> 21 days pso: 12/155 (7.7%)

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: The serum was considered positive if bands could be visualised on both the test and control lines. Each sample was repeated in triplicate.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: As per manufacturer's instructions

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported by the Doctoral Fund of Xiangyang Central Hospital (RC202001), the One Belt and One Road major project for infectious diseases (2018ZX10101004- 003). Gary Wong is supported by a G4 grant from IP, FMX and CAS.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Emerging Microbes & Infections

Author COI: No potential conflict of interest

Shen 2020b (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Shen 2020b (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Soleimani 2021

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (176 samples obtained from 125 patients)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID (100 samples)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic healthy (n = 40)</p> <p>[2b] Pre-pandemic, other diseases (n = 40)</p> <p>[2c] Asymptomatic subjects in March 2020 (n = 20) (excluded as no reference standard)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Randomly collected from 25 February to 10 March 2020</p> <p>[2a] and [2b] Randomly selected among stored sera collected between October 2018 and February 2019</p> <p>[2c] Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective</p> <p>[2a] and [2b] Retrospective (residual samples)</p> <p>[2c] Unclear</p> <p>Sample size: 276 (176) samples</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion criteria:</p> <p>[1] Symptomatic and hospitalised patients ≥ 18 years with positive RT-qPCR tests on nasopharyngeal swab samples and characteristic radiological lung patterns such as ground glass opacity and/or bilateral involvement</p> <p>[2a] Residual samples obtained from COVID-19 negative subjects with no known confounding factors</p>
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Soleimani 2021 (Continued)

[2b] Residual samples obtained from COVID-19 negative subjects with supposedly confounding factors known to interfere with serological assays such as auto-immune Ab and infectious diseases Ab

[2c] Asymptomatic subjects during the overlapping period of Flu epidemic and COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020

Exclusion criteria:

[1] < 18 years; immunocompromised patients were not excluded from the study.

[2] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium

Country: Belgium

Dates: 25 February to 10 March 2020

Symptoms and severity: All symptomatic with viral pneumonia and hospitalised

Symptoms on admission:

Fever (> 38-38.5°C) 125/125

Cough 119/125

Dyspnoea 120/125

Myalgia and or fatigue 48/125

Rhinorrhea and sore throat 16/125

Diarrhoea 14/125

Nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain 14/125

Other symptoms (including headache, confusion, unconsciousness, anosmia and dysgeusia) 55/125

Final outcomes:

17/125 death

101/125 recovered

7/125 remained in hospital by 30 April 2020

Demographics: 58/125 female; mean age 65.2 (95% CI 62.3-68.1) years

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Non-COVID samples

Source:

[2a] and [2b] stored sera collected between October 2018 and February 2019

[2c] Asymptomatic subjects during the overlapping period of Flu epidemic and COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020

Characteristics: 60/100 females; mean age = 37.2 years

20 asymptomatic;

40 no confounding factors;

40 other diseases:

23 infectious diseases Ab including:

- Acute bartonellosis (n = 3);
- Acute brucellosis (n = 4);
- Acute cytomegalovirus (n = 4);
- Acute hepatitis A (n = 1);
- Acute hepatitis B (n = 1);
- Acute hepatitis Delta (n = 4);
- Acute infection of parvovirus 19 (n = 1);
- Acute mononucleosis (n = 3);
- Acute toxoplasmosis (n = 2).

Soleimani 2021 (Continued)

17 auto-immune diseases Ab including:

- Anti-centromere protein B Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-deoxyribonucleic acid Ab (n = 3);
- Anti-fibrillarin Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-glomerular basement membrane Ab (n = 1); Anti-immunoglobulin type-G Ab (n = 1); Anti-JO1 or anti-histadyl tRibonucleic acid synthetase Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-KU Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-metallothionein 2 Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-mitochondrial Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-nuclear Ab (n = 3);
- Anti-PL 12 or anti-alanyl-tRibonucleic acid synthetase Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-ribonucleic acid polymerase III Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-ribonucleoprotein 70 Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-Scl-70 or anti-topoisomerase I Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-Sjögren syndrome type B antigen Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-Smith Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-Th/To Ab (n = 1);
- Anti-U1 ribonucleoprotein Ab (n = 2).

Index tests

Test name: [A] Snibe MAGLUMI 2019-Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) Kit

Manufacturer: [A] Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering [Snibe] Co., Ltd., Shenzhen, China

Antibody: [A] IgG and/or IgM

Antigen target: [A] nucleocapsid and Spike-proteins

Evaluation setting: [A] Laboratory test

Test method: [A] CLIA

Timing of samples:

0 to 4 days pso n = 21,
5 to 9 days pso n = 50,
10 to 14 days pso n = 61,
15 to 25 days pso n = 44.

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Lab technicians

Definition of test positivity: A level greater than 1.00 AU/mL was interpreted as positive for both Ab.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, seropositivity cut-off value claimed by the manufacturer (1 AU/mL)

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: COVID-19 was confirmed by positive RT-qPCR on nasopharyngeal swab and by radiographic criteria (bilateral chest involvement and/or ground-glass opacity [GGO] identified by X-ray or computed tomography [CT] scan)

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab samples

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Soleimani 2021 (Continued)

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] and [2b] Pre-pandemic

[2c] Current asymptomatic, untested

Samples used:

[2a] and [2b] Pre-pandemic

[2c] untested

Timing of reference standard:

[2a] and [2b] Pre-pandemic

[2c] untested

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: yes (data for Euroimmun ELISA test not included in review as no eligible time split)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: No borderline range

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative
Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Medical Virology

Author COI: The authors declared that there were no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		

Soleimani 2021 (Continued)

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the refer-	High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Soleimani 2021 (Continued)

**ence standard does not
match the question?**
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Sterlin 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: To evaluate immune response in individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection 1-group study to estimate sensitivity for diagnosis of active disease and identification of previous disease

Design:

Group [1]: PCR-confirmed adult COVID-19 cases (n = 135)
Group [2]: Age- and sex-matched healthy donors (n = 20)
Group [3]: 10 cases with CT scan displaying features suggesting a COVID-19 infection and tested positive for the presence of serum anti-SARSCoV-2 antibodies
Group [2] was excluded from the review as < 25 controls.
Group [3] was excluded as < 10 cases and no test accuracy outcomes.

Recruitment:

[1] Consecutive
[2] Age- and sex-matched
[3] Not stated

Prospective or retrospective: Prospective (patients gave informed consent and samples were immediately collected)

Sample size: 155 (135) of which only 135 (135) cases/214 (214) samples were eligible for our review

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatient

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Sterlin 2021 [A] (Continued)

Location: Department of Internal Medicine 2, Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris

Country: France

Dates: March 22 to April 24, 2020

Symptoms and severity: All symptomatic and hospitalised

39/135 (29%) admitted to ICU (severe/critical)

Pneumonia 123 (91%)

- Mild 49 (36%)
- Moderate 29 (22%)
- Severe 45 (33%)

Acute respiratory distress syndrome 13 (10%)

Heart failure 5 (4%)

Acute renal injury 15 (11%)

Demographics: Age, median (IQR: 61.3 y (49.7-72.0)); sex: 55/135 (41%) female

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name: Maverick SARS-CoV-2 Multi-Antigen Serology Panel

Manufacturer: Genalyte Inc., USA

Antibody: IgA, IgM, IgG

Antigen target: N, S1 RBD, S1/S2, S2 and S1 (multiplex format based on photonic ring resonance technology)

Evaluation setting: Lab test, done in lab

Test method: Photonic ring immunoassay

Timing of samples: Multiple samples obtained from each patient (214 samples from 135 patients):

48 samples collected 1-7 days pso;

8-14 days pso: 81/214

15-21 days pso: 39/214

22-28 days pso: 20/214

> 28 days pso: 26/214

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity: 20 sera collected before December 2019 were analysed to calculate cut-off values. Positivity was defined as results above the 99th percentile.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, 20 sera collected before December 2019 (independent samples) were analysed to calculate cut-off values. Positivity was defined as results above the 99th percentile.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR assay (no more details available)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Unclear, but likely done earlier

Sterlin 2021 [A] (Continued)

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Unclear (PCR test used not mentioned - perhaps different tests used for different patients)

Missing data: Unclear (numbers not provided in the text, figures hard to interpret because of overlapping circles)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported by Fondation de France, Tous unis contre le virus framework Alliance (Fondation de France, AP-HP, Institut Pasteur) in collaboration with Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR Flash COVID19 programme), and by the SARS-CoV-2 Program of the Faculty of Medicine from Sorbonne University ICoViD programs, PI: G.G.). One author received a Pasteur/APHP interface fellowship for this study.

Publication status: Pre-print paper

Source: Pre-print server (medRxiv)

Author COI: One author received consulting fees from Genalyte Inc. 3 years ago.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			

Sterlin 2021 [A] (Continued)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Unclear	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear	
Were results presented per patient?	No	

Sterlin 2021 [A] (Continued)

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Sterlin 2021 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Suhandynata 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Multiple-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity: [1] laboratory confirmed COVID-19 patients (n = 54); [2] patients PCR-positive on a respiratory panel nucleic acid (RPNA) test for other infections (n = 21), [3] patients with positive for antinuclear antibodies (ANA) or anti-double stranded DNA (ds-DNA) (n = 24) [4] HIV positive patients (n = 10), [5] apparently healthy subjects (no respiratory symptoms per self-report) (n = 78), [6] pre-pandemic samples (n = 102)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated; presume retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 289 (54)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed; primarily inpatient</p> <p>Location: University of California San Diego Health (UCSD)</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p>

Suhandynata 2020a (Continued)

Symptoms and severity: Discussion reported 50 (93%) inpatient, and 30/54 (56%) not intubated 'at the time of writing'

Demographics: Cases only (calculated from Tab 3): median age 54.5 y (IQR 41, 70.5 y; range 20 to 91 y); 35 (65%) male

Exposure history: not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] to [4] other conditions or respiratory pathogens (n = 55)

Source: Not stated; presume same medical centre

Characteristics: not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [5] contemporaneous healthy, [6] pre-pandemic healthy

Source: [5] Not stated, [6] 2018

Characteristics: No further details

Index tests

Test name:

[A] DZ-LITE 2019-nCoV IgG (CLIA) Assay Kit (Cat # 130219015M) and
[B] DZ-LITE 2019-nCoV-2 IgM (CLIA) Assay Kit (Cat # 130219016M)

Manufacturer: Diazyme

Antibody: IgM, IgG, IgM or IgG

Antigen target: SARS-CoV-2 recombinant nucleocapsid (N) and spike (S) proteins

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method: CLIA

Timing of samples: Unclear, data by time were in relation to first positive PCR result

Samples used: Serum or plasma, collected in BD Vacutainer collection tubes (K-EDTA, lithium-Heparin plasma separator tubes, and/or serum separator tubes)

Test operator: not stated

Definition of test positivity: ≥ 1.00 AU/mL considered reactive

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: Not stated, EUA NAT that had been clinically validated in the laboratory

Samples used: not stated

Timing of reference standard: First positive PCR was median of 5 days post (IQR 2.25, 7.75; range 0 to 22 days); data calculated from Tabl 3

Blinded to index test: Not stated; probably Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Not stated for group [2] to [5]; group [6] was pre-pandemic

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Timing of reference standard: not stated

Suhandynata 2020a (Continued)

Blinded to index test: Unclear for [2] to [5]; Yes for [6]

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Serum sampling for cases reported by days post-PCR (Suppl Tabl 3): Day 0 to 7 - 36 (67%), day 8 to 14 - 22 (41%), day \geq 15 - 18 (33%) (reported in paper, 19 reported in Table)

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: None reported

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: No funding statement reported

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Applied Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: No COI statement reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

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Suhandynata 2020a (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Suhandynata 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Suhandynata 2020b [A] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed COVID patients (n = 60)</p> <p>[2] Non-COVID subjects (n = 179)</p> <p>[2a] Current, other diseases (n = 22)</p> <p>[2b] Current, positive for other antibodies, DNA or IgM/IgG (n = 27)</p> <p>[2c] Current, apparently healthy subjects (n = 20)</p> <p>[2d] Pre-pandemic samples (n = 110)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 239 (60) patients with 339 (160) samples of which 204 (25) were eligible for our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1] Patients which tested PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>[2a] Patients which tested PCR-positive on a respiratory panel nucleic acid (RPNA) test infections other than SARS-CoV-2</p> <p>[2b] Patients which tested positive for antinuclear antibodies (ANA) or anti-double stranded DNA (dsDNA) or patients with clinically elevated levels of IgM/IgG</p> <p>[2c] Apparently healthy subjects (no respiratory symptoms per self-report)</p> <p>[2d] Patient samples that had been stored frozen (-20 degrees C) since 2018</p> <p>Exclusions not reported</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Not stated</p> <p>Location: UC San Diego Health clinical laboratories, California</p> <p>Country: California, USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2a] and [2b] Cross-reactivity panel</p> <p>Source: UC San Diego Health clinical laboratories, current (time not stated)</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <p>Human metapneumovirus n = 4</p> <p>Influenza A H1-2009 PCR n = 1</p> <p>Mycoplasma pneumoniae n = 1</p> <p>Non-COVID coronavirus n = 7</p> <p>Parainfluenza 4 PCR n = 1</p> <p>Respiratory syncytial virus A n = 2</p> <p>Respiratory syncytial virus B n = 2</p> <p>Rhinovirus/enterovirus n = 4</p> <p>Anti-dsDNA (> 100 IU/mL) n = 4</p> <p>Antinuclear antibodies n = 20</p> <p>Elevated IgG/IgM n = 3</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2:</p> <p>[2c] Current, healthy (untested)</p> <p>[2d] Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Source:</p>

Suhandynata 2020b [A] (Continued)

[2c] Source not stated, current
[2d] UC San Diego Health clinical laboratories, patient samples that had been stored frozen (-20 degrees C) since 2018

Characteristics:

[2c] Apparently healthy subjects (no respiratory symptoms per self-report)
[2d] Not stated

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Diazyme DZ-LITE 2019-nCoV IgG, IgM (CLIA) Assay Kits (Cat # 130219015M; Cat # 130219016M) [B] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 total Ig (Ref # 09203079190) [C] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG (Ref # 06R8620) reagent kit</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Diazyme [B] Roche [C] Abbott</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] IgG, IgM [B] Total antibodies [C] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not stated</p> <p>Evaluation setting: All laboratory tests</p> <p>Test method:</p> <p>[A] CLIA [B] CLIA [C] CMIA</p> <p>Timing of samples:</p> <p>≤ 7 days post-PCR+ (n = 43) 8–14 days post-PCR+ (n = 31) ≥ 15 days post-PCR+ (n = 25)</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma (Li-Heparin or K-EDTA) and serum samples</p> <p>Test operator: Department of Pathology UC San Diego Health</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] Absorbance units per mL (AU/mL), values ≥ 1.00 AU/mL were considered reactive. [B] A cut-off index (COI; signal of sample/cut-off); values ≥ 1.00 COI were considered reactive. [C] Index value (S/C); Index values ≥ 1.4 S/C were considered positive.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes (analysed in a manner consistent with the package inserts)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: Positive for COVID-19 by a nucleic acid amplification test that had been clinically validated in our laboratory and had an emergency use authorisation (EUA) listing with the US Food and Drug Administration</p> <p>Threshold not stated</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p>

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Suhandynata 2020b [A] (Continued)

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a], [2b] To identify patient specimens containing other PCR-confirmed microbes, the respiratory pathogen nucleic acid (RPNA) test was performed on the GenMark ePlex. This panel detects Adenovirus (A-F), coronavirus (229E, HKU1, NL63, OC42), human metapneumovirus, human rhinovirus/enterovirus, influenza A, B and C, influenza 2009 H1N1, parainfluenza (1-4), respiratory syncytial virus (A and B), chlamydia pneumoniae and mycoplasma pneumoniae.

[2c] Untested (no respiratory symptoms per self-report)

[2d] Pre-pandemic

Samples used:

[2a] and [2b] Not stated or untested

[2c] Untested

[2d] Pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

≤ 7 days post-PCR+ (n = 43),

8–14 days post-PCR+ (n = 31),

≥ 15 days post-PCR+ (n = 25)

All patients received same reference standard: no

Missing data: 74 COVID samples < 15 days post-positive PCR not included in review; only 1 sample used per patient per time split (160-99 = 61 samples excluded from analyses)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: No borderline range

Unit of analysis:

[1] Samples but only one sample from each PCR-positive patient used per specified time frame

[2] Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: Research Funding: R.T. Suhandynata, Waters Corporation; M.A. Hoffman, Roche Diagnostics
The funding organisations played no role in the design of study, choice of enrolled patients, review and interpretation of data, preparation of manuscript, or final approval of manuscript

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Applied Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: Employment or leadership: None declared

Consultant or advisory role: None declared

Stock ownership: None declared.

Honoraria: None declared

Research Funding: R.T. Suhandynata, Waters Corporation; M.A. Hoffman, Roche Diagnostics

Expert testimony: None declared

Patents: None declared

Suhandynata 2020b [A] (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly	No		

Suhandynata 2020b [A] (Continued)

classify the target condition?

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Suhandynata 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Suhandynata 2020b [B] (Continued)

Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Suhandynata 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Sun 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection and current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity [1] Confirmed COVID patients (209 samples from 35 patients) [2] Healthy close contacts (n = 21) Group [2] excluded from review as < 25 samples</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] From 23 January to 27 February 2020, 38 hospitalised COVID-19 cases were consecutively recruited.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 56 (35) patients with 230 (209) samples of which 209 (209) samples were eligible for our review Sensitivity results reported for 70 (70) samples</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>Inclusion: Hospitalised COVID-19 cases in two designated hospitals for COVID-19 between 23 January and 27 February 2020</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Sun 2020 (Continued)

Exclusion:

[1] One mild and two severe cases were transferred to other hospitals after hospitalisation in these two hospitals and were excluded from this study.

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: Two designated hospitals for COVID-19, the Guangdong Seconded Provincial General Hospital and the First Hospital of Foshan in Guangdong, China

Country: China

Dates: 23 January to 27 February 2020

Symptoms and severity: 28 mild and 7 severe cases

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Cat. no. IEQ-CoVS1RBD-IgG

[B] Cat. No. IE-CoVS1RBD-IgA

[C] Cat. No. IE-CoVS1RBD-IgM

Manufacturer: [A] - [C] RayBiotech, GA, USA

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgA

[C] IgM

Antigen target: [A] - [C] RBD (from cat. No.)

Evaluation setting: [A] - [C] Laboratory tests performed in lab

Test method:

[A] ELISA

[B] ELISA

[C] ELISA

Timing of samples: Serum samples were collected prospectively from cases every 3 days from hospitalisation until the date of discharge from hospital.

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: L.C., Z.L., H.L., R.Y., Z.P., H.X., X.Q., P.J., C.F., K.B., S.J., L.Z. and L.J. carried out the investigations. All from Guangdong Provincial Institute of Public Health, Guangdong Provincial Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Guangzhou, China

Definition of test positivity: According to the manufacturer's instructions, threshold not stated

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: yes, according to the manufacturer's instructions

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: The laboratory-confirmed case was defined as a case with respiratory specimens that tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 by at least one of the following three methods: isolation of virus, positive results of real time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) assay or a genome sequence that matched SARS-CoV-2.

A commercial rRT-PCR kit targeting the ORF1ab and N genes was used to detect SARS-CoV-2 RNA (DaAn Gene, Guangzhou, China. Cat.No.DA0931).

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Sun 2020 (Continued)

Amplification was performed on an Applied Biosystems™ 7500 machine (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). Specimens were considered positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA if both ORF1ab and N gene target amplification curves were generated within 40 cycles.

Samples used: Respiratory specimens

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: yes

Missing data: yes, group [2] excluded from review.

No sensitivity data reported for test [C]; sensitivity results not available for all time points

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported by grants from the Guangdong Provincial Novel Coronavirus Scientific and Technological Project (2020111107001) and Guangzhou Novel Coronavirus Scientific and Technological Project (202008040004).

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinical Microbiology and Infection

Author COI: All authors reported no conflicts of interest relevant to this article.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Sun 2020 (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Sun 2020 (Continued)

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Sweeney 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling Purpose: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of acute and previous Covid-19

Design:

[1] PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 positive individuals (n = 301)
[2] Pre-pandemic stored serum samples (n = 200)
[3] Pre-pandemic stored acute and convalescent confounder samples from individuals with a range of viral, bacterial and fungal pathogens (n = 100)

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 601 (301)

Further detail: No more details available

Patient characteristics and setting Setting: Unclear

Location: Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London

Country: UK

Dates: Unclear

Symptoms and severity: Unclear

Demographics: Unclear

Exposure history: Unclear

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic stored samples

Source: 43525

Characteristics: Unclear

Non-Covid group 2: Pre-pandemic confounder samples

Source: Not stated

Characteristics: Cytomegalovirus (n = 8), Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) (n = 10), hepatitis A virus (n = 8), hepatitis B virus (n = 7), hepatitis C virus (n = 5), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) (n = 9), Kaposi's sarcoma herpesvirus 1/2 (n = 5), measles virus (n = 6), mumps (n = 9), mycobacterium (n = 1), parvovirus (n = 7), pneumocystis pneumonia (n = 4), rubella virus (n = 5), syphilis virus (n = 4), toxoplasma gondii (n = 7), varicella zoster virus (n = 5)

Index tests Test name: SureScreen LFIA

Manufacturer: Surescreen Diagnostics, UK

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	<p>Antibody: IgM/IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: "detecting antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 spike proteins"</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC, used in the laboratory</p> <p>Test method: Lateral flow immunoassay</p> <p>Timing of samples: [1] 14+ days post-onset of symptoms: 301/301 (100%), of which: 14-19 days post-onset of symptoms: 97/301 (32%) 20+ days post-onset of symptoms: 204/301 (68%)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Laboratory staff</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: 2 independent operators evaluating the result. A detectable band of either IgM or IgG (or both) was reported to the clinician as "antibodies detected".</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: yes, visual-based test</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR (AusDiagnostics); threshold not stated (reference PHE 2020 rapid assessment)</p> <p>Samples used: Unclear</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, occurred before</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: None</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Nothing mentioned</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: King's Together Rapid COVID-19 Call awards to KJD, SJDN and RMN. MRC Discovery Award MC/PC/15068 to SJDN, KJD and MHM. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Biomedical Research Centre based at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and King's College London, programme of Infection and Immunity to MHM and JE. AWS and CG were supported by the MRC-KCL Doctoral Training Partnership in Biomedical Sciences. GB was supported by the Wellcome Trust. SA was supported by an MRC-KCL Doctoral Training Partnership in Biomedical Sciences industrial Collaborative Award in Science & Engineering (iCASE) in partnership with Or-</p>

Sweeney 2020 (Continued)

chard Therapeutics. NK was supported by the Medical Research Council. SP, HDW and SJDN were supported by a Wellcome Trust Senior Fellowship. Fondation Dormeur, Vaduz for funding equipment (KJD). Development of SARS-CoV-2 reagents (RBD) was partially supported by the NIAID Centers of Excellence for Influenza Research and Surveillance (CEIRS)

Publication status: Pre-print (not peer reviewed)

Source: medRxiv

Author COI: All authors have completed the ICMJE uniform disclosure form at www.icmje.org/coi_disclosure.pdf and declared: no support from any organisation for the submitted work; no financial relationships with any organisations that might have an interest in the submitted work in the previous three years; no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or inter-			Unclear

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**pretation differ from the re-
view question?**
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards like-
ly to correctly classify the target
condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard re-
sults interpreted without knowl-
edge of the results of the index
tests?

Yes

The reference standard does
not incorporate the index test

Yes

**Could the reference standard,
its conduct, or its interpreta-
tion have introduced bias?**

Low risk

**Are there concerns that the
target condition as defined by
the reference standard does
not match the question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate inter-
val between index test and ref-
erence standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the
same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the
analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a ref-
erence standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per pa-
tient?

Yes

**Could the patient flow have
introduced bias?**

High risk

Tan 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute or convalescent-phase infection

Design:

[1] Covid patients (n = 170)

[2] Non-Covid patients (n = 163)

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Tan 2020 [A] (Continued)

- [2a] Pre-pandemic healthy controls (n = 60)
[2b] Pre-pandemic, cross-reactivity group (n = 103)

Recruitment:

- [1] Prospectively-selected samples between 30 March-15 May 2020 from COVID patients with at least one positive RT-PCR respiratory sample.
[2] Not stated

Prospective or retrospective:

- [1] Prospective
[2] Retrospective

Sample size: 333 (170)

Further detail: Inclusion:

- [1] Inpatients with ≥ 1 RT-PCR-positive result
[2] Archived negative controls were utilised with samples taken from patients prior to December 2019.

These included patients with and without other positive serological tests.

Exclusion:

- [1] Asymptomatic cases
[2] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatient

Location: National University Hospital, Singapore

Country: Singapore

Dates: Samples from patients collected between 30 March 2020 and 15 May 2020

Symptoms and severity: Symptomatic. Severity unclear

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: Hospital patients (National University Hospital) pre-December 2019

Characteristics:

[2a] Healthy (n = 60),

[2b] Sero-positive viruses or auto-immune disorders (n = 103):

- anti-extractable nuclear antigen antibodies (9);
- anti-glomerular basement membrane antibodies (4);
- anti-smooth muscle antibody (3);
- hepatitis A IgM (3);
- Epstein Barr virus IgM (3);
- anti-intrinsic factor (5);
- cytomegalovirus IgM (4);
- cytomegalovirus IgG (3);
- syphilis treponema pallidum antibody (5);
- hepatitis B E antigen (2);
- Epstein-Barr virus IgA (7);
- leptospira IgM (3);
- hepatitis C (9);

Tan 2020 [A] (Continued)

- hepatitis B surface antigen (7);
- anti-double-strand DNA (3);
- rubella IgM (4);
- ANA (3);
- hepatitis A IgG (3);
- dengue IgG (1);
- varicella zoster IgM (1);
- human immunodeficiency virus (8);
- varicella zoster virus IgG (6).

Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay [B] Abbott Architect Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Roche Diagnostics, Rotkruez, Switzerland [B] Abbott Diagnostics, Chicago, USA</p> <p>Antibody:</p> <p>[A] Total Antibodies (IgG and IgM) [B] IgG</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] Nucleocapsid protein [B] Nucleocapsid protein</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: [A] and [B] CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: < 7 days pso (n = 80) 7-13 days pso (n = 37) 14-20 days pso (n = 21) ≥ 21 days pso (n = 32)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] signal cut-off index (COI) of ≥ 1.0 was positive for Roche [A], < 1.0 was negative. [B] signal cut-off index (S/C) ratio of ≥ 1.4 was positive for Abbott [B], < 1.4 was negative.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturers' instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR, at least one positive on the Cobas 6800 SARS-CoV-2 assay (Roche Diagnostics, Rotkruez, Switzerland), with the cycle threshold value being lower than cut-off (not stated)</p> <p>Samples used: Respiratory samples</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, previous</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Tan 2020 [A] (Continued)

Jan 2020 [4] (continued)

	Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic.		
	Samples used: None for reference standard, pre-pandemic		
	Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls		
	Blinded to index test: Yes, prior to index test		
	Incorporated index test: No		
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated		
	All patients received same reference standard: No		
	Missing data: Not stated		
	Uninterpretable results: Not stated		
	Indeterminate results: No indeterminate threshold		
	Unit of analysis: Patients		
Comparative			
Notes	Funding: We would like to thank Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd for sponsoring the laboratory testing kits used in this study. Dr Tambyah has received grants paid to the National University Hospital from Roche, Johnson & Johnson, Sanofi Pasteur, GlaxoSmithKline, and Shionogi. Publication status: Published paper Source: Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Author COI: Dr Tambyah has received grants paid to the National University Hospital from Roche, Johnson & Johnson, Sanofi Pasteur, GlaxoSmithKline, and Shionogi. Other authors have no relevant financial interest in the products or companies described in this article.		
Methodological quality			
Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting			High

Tan 2020 [A] (Continued)

do not match the review question?

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

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Tan 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Tan 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tang 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection using three commercial SARS-CoV-2 IgG assays</p> <p>Design: Multiple-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity: [1] residual serum samples from patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection and physician ordered completed blood count (n = 48, providing 103 samples) [2] PCR-negative COVID-19 suspects (n = 80); [3] pre-pandemic serum (n = 50) [4] PCR-negative, with other confirmed coronavirus (HKU1, NL63, and 229E) (n = 5) or influenza A or B (n = 4) [5] serum from patients with potentially interfering antibodies (n = 14; CMV IgG (n = 5), EBV VCA IgG (n = 3) or IgM (n = 3) or both (n = 2), RF+ (n = 1))</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 256 (103)</p> <p>Further detail: No further details</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Tang 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Unclear; 'a majority of our patient population (were) hospitalised'

Location: Barnes Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO

Country: USA

Dates: No information

Symptoms and severity: No information; 'majority' hospitalised

Demographics: No information

Exposure history: No information

Non-Covid group 1: Presumed negative controls

Source: Source unclear

Characteristics: No information

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Abbott SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[B] EUROIMMUN SARS-CoV-2 IgG assay

[C] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2

Manufacturer:

[A] Abbott diagnostics

[B] EUROIMMUN

[C] Roche

Antibody:

[A] and [B] IgG

[C] total Ab

Antigen target:

[A] undisclosed epitope of the SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein

[B] S1 domain of viral spike-protein

[C] nucleocapsid protein from SARS-CoV-2

Evaluation setting: Laboratory-based assays

Test method:

[A] CLIA

[B] ELISA

[C] CLIA

Timing of samples: Day 0 to ≥ 14 days post

Timing of samples: Day 0 to ≥ 14 days post

Samples used: Discussion stated plasma; PCR+ samples collected in EDTA Vacutainer tubes; controls were either stored or recent specimens (source unclear).

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[1] ratio ≥ 1.4

[B] positive = ratio ≥ 1.1 ; borderline = ratio < 1.1 to ≥ 0.8 ; results extracted considering borderline results +ve or -ve

Tang 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>[C] ratio of specimen electrochemiluminescent signal to calibrator; cut-off index (ratio) ≥ 1.0.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR using one of three platforms due to reagent shortages:</p> <p>[1] Quidel Lyra RT-PCR assay (majority)</p> <p>[2] Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2 molecular assay (Cepheid)</p> <p>[3] Simplexa COVID-19 Direct Assay using a LIAISON MDX (Diasorin)</p> <p>Samples used: nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs, oropharyngeal (OP) swabs, or lower respiratory tract specimens (only latter used with Diasorin Simplexa)</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: varying times from symptom onset</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: RT-PCR for COVID-19 suspects (n = 80) and for other infection samples (5 with other CoV); Unclear reference for other interfering antibody samples (n = 14); Pre-pandemic for remaining 50</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Not stated</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Reported as 0 to ≥ 14 days after positive PCR</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes; all RT-PCR (different kits)</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: For EUROIMMUN ELISA, borderline results were initially considered positive (main text) and reported as negative in Supplementary Information.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples; patients per week (all 48 reported at ≥ 14 days pso)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: None declared</p> <p>Publication status: Accepted manuscript and subsequently research letter</p> <p>Source: Clinical Chemistry</p> <p>Author COI: Employment or leadership: A.M. Gronowski, Clinical Chemistry, AACC. Consultant or Advisory Role: N.W. Anderson, Diasorin Molecular</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Tang 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	No
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	High risk

Tang 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Tang 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tang 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Tang 2020 [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Theel 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To evaluate four high throughput serologic tests for detection of anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibodies</p> <p>Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity for diagnosis of active disease/identification of previous disease</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] serum samples from patients with confirmed COVID-19 (n = 56, 224 samples)</p> <p>[2] healthy donor sera from 2018 (n = 149 samples)</p> <p>[3] cross-reactivity serum panel collected in early 2020 (n = 105 samples, see comments)</p> <p>In group [1], 11 samples from outpatients would be excluded from our review as taken 0-7 days post-positive PCR.</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Serum samples were collected as available throughout the hospital stay for the inpatient group until discharge, whereas prospective collection of acute and convalescent sera was completed for outpatients.</p> <p>[2] Samples collected in 2018, prior to the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak</p> <p>[3] Samples submitted for testing as part of routine clinical care in January and early February 2020</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Mixed (as above)</p> <p>Sample size: 478 (224 samples from 56 patients) of which 476 (213 samples from 56 patients were eligible for our review).</p> <p>Further detail: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatients and outpatients</p> <p>Location: Division of Clinical Microbiology, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: [1] COVID cases March and April 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 33 were hospitalised (inpatient group) and 23 were treated as outpatients (outpatient group)</p>

Theel 2020 [A] (Continued)

Demographics: Median age of the 33 inpatients was 61 years (range: 24 to 90 years) and 61% (20/33) were male.

Among the 23 outpatients, the median age was 37 years (range: 21 to 64 years) and 43% (10/23) were male.

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: Healthy donors

Source: Pre-pandemic, 2018

Characteristics: Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: Cross-reactivity

Source: January and early February 2020

Characteristics: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA
- [B] Epitope Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA
- [C] Abbott Laboratories SARS-CoV-2 IgG Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassay
- [D] VITROS Anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG Chemiluminescent Immunoassay

Manufacturer:

- [A] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany
- [B] Epitope Diagnostics Inc., San Diego, CA
- [C] Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, IL
- [D] Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Rochester, NY

Antibody:

- [A] IgG
- [B] IgG
- [C] IgG
- [D] IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] S1-protein from the SARS-CoV-2 spike-protein
- [B] nucleocapsid protein from SARS-CoV-2
- [C] SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid antigen
- [D] SARS-CoV-2 spike antigen

Evaluation setting:

- [A] Laboratory, used in laboratory
- [B] Laboratory, used in laboratory
- [C] Laboratory, used in laboratory
- [D] Laboratory, used in laboratory

Test method:

- [A] ELISA
- [B] ELISA
- [C] Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassay (CMIA)
- [D] Chemiluminescent Immunoassay (CLIA)

Timing of samples: Inpatients: 0 to 26 days post-symptom onset

Outpatients: 11 patients had both baseline and convalescent serum samples collected at 3 to 7 days and 20 to 31 days post-initial positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR result, respectively, and the remaining 12 outpatients only had a convalescent sample collected.

Theel 2020 [A] (Continued)

33 inpatients (190 samples)
0-7 days pso: 38
8-14 days pso: 91
15-26 days pso: 61
23 outpatients (34 samples):
0-7 days post-PCR+: 11 (excluded from review)
20-31 days post-PCR+: 23

Samples used:

- [1] Serum
- [2] Serum
- [3] Serum
- [4] Serum

Test operator: Laboratory personnel

Definition of test positivity:

- [A] Index values (signal to cut-off [S/Co] ratios) of < 0.8 , ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1 , and ≥ 1.1 were interpreted as negative, indeterminate, and positive, respectively, per the instructions for use.
- [B] The qualitative index value (S/Co) cut-off thresholds used for negative, indeterminate and positive results were < 1.01 , ≥ 1.01 to < 1.21 , and ≥ 1.21 , respectively.
- [C] The patient sample signal was divided by the calibrator signal, with calculated signal to cut-off (S/Co) values of < 1.4 and ≥ 1.4 reported as negative and positive, respectively.
- [D] The patient sample signal was divided by the calibrator signal, with calculated signal to cut-off (S/Co) values of < 1.00 and ≥ 1.00 reported as negative and positive, respectively.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined:

- [A] Yes, per the instructions for use
- [B] No, laboratory-determined cut-off threshold. Modified to optimise assay specificity
- [C] Yes, per the instructions for use
- [D] Yes, per the instructions for use

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR assay (laboratory-developed or commercially available FDA EUA)

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swab

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

- [2] Pre-pandemic
- [3] Not stated

Samples used:

- [2] Pre-pandemic
- [3] Not stated

Timing of reference standard:

- [2] Pre-pandemic
- [3] Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Theel 2020 [A] (Continued)

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests:</p> <p>Inpatients: Not stated</p> <p>Outpatients: 11 patients had both baseline and convalescent serum samples collected at 3 to 7 days and 20 to 31 days post-initial positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR result, respectively, and the remaining 12 outpatients only had a convalescent sample collected.</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: For statistical analysis, indeterminate results by the Euroimmun and Epitope anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISAs were considered 'negative'.</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Not stated</p> <p>Publication status: Accepted Manuscript</p> <p>Source: Journal of Clinical Microbiology, doi:10.1128/JCM.01243-20</p> <p>Author COI: Not stated</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Theel 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

No

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Theel 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Theel 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Theel 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Theel 2020 [C] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Theel 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Thijssen 2020
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Assessment of cell-mediated and humoral immune response in COVID-19 cases according to disease severity</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating both sensitivity and specificity Group [1]: PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 27) Group [2]: Healthy controls (n = 16)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not stated</p> <p>Sample size: 43 (27)</p>
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Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient services (ICU and pulmonary ward)</p> <p>Location: Diaconessenhuis Utrecht</p> <p>Country: Netherlands</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Severity: 18/27 (67%) severe/critical (ICU); 9/27 (33%) moderate/severe (pulmonary ward)</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Thijssen 2020 (Continued)

	Non-Covid group 1: Healthy controls Source: Not stated Characteristics: Not stated
Index tests	Test name: [A] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG [B] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgA Manufacturer: [A], [B]: EUROIMMUN AG, Germany Antibody: [A] IgG [B] IgA Antigen target: [A], [B]: S1 domain of the spike-protein Evaluation setting: [A], [B]: Lab test, done in lab Test method: [A], [B]: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) Timing of samples: 6-32 days post-symptom onset Samples used: Not stated (likely serum or plasma) Test operator: Not stated Definition of test positivity: Not stated (likely as per manufacturer; plot showed threshold of OD ratio approximately 1.1 which is consistent with manufacturer recommended threshold) Blinding reported: Not stated, but probably no Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR (no more details available) Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Unclear Blinded to index test: Yes (done earlier) Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Not stated, but likely no testing Samples used: NA Timing of reference standard: NA Blinded to index test: NA Incorporated index test: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated. Only stated that the index test was done 6-32 days post-symptom onset All patients received same reference standard: No (Group [2] received no testing and patients from Group [1] were likely tested with various RT-PCR assays.

Thijssen 2020 (Continued)

Missing data: Not stated, but the total sample size did not appear to match what was reported in the figures for tests [A] and [B] - Unclear whether some patients were tested only with one test

Data by time period (suppl Fig 3) did not sum to total shown for full time period (Fig 1C and suppl Fig 2), nor to total reportedly included.

Uninterpretable results: No

Indeterminate results: No

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None reported

Publication status: Published letter

Source: Academic journal

Author COI: None reported

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?

Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided?

No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?

Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?

Unclear

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Thijssen 2020 (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Unclear

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? No

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? Unclear

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Trabaud 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity [1] COVID patients (N = 68, 82 samples) [1a] infected hospitalised patients (N = 40) [1b] infected non-hospitalised healthcare workers (N = 28) Recruitment: Recruited infected hospitalised patients and non-hospitalised infected healthcare workers
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Trabaud 2020 [A] (Continued)

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 82 (82) samples from 68 (68) patients of which 66 (66) samples were eligible for our review

Further detail: Inclusion: hospitalised patients or non-hospitalised healthcare workers with RT-PCR confirmed COVID positive

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Inpatients and outpatients

Location: Hopital de la Croix-Rousse, Hospices Civils de Lyon, Lyon

Country: France

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: 40 hospitalised with 25 in intensive care units
28 non-hospitalised. All symptomatic (symptoms not stated)

Demographics:

[1] Age range 7-81 years (median = 51)

[1a] Age range 7-81 years (median = 64), 11/40 female (27.5%)

[1b] Age range 25-59 years (median = 36), 22/28 female (78.6%)

Exposure history:

[1a] Not stated

[1b] Healthcare workers (HCW) (including physicians, nurses, and lab staff)

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Diasorin Liaison

[B] bioMeriueX Vidas

[C] Siemens Atellica

[D] Wantai

[E] Abbott Architect

[F] Roche Elecsys

[G] BioRad Platelia

[H] Epitepe Diagnostics EDI

Manufacturer:

[A] Diasorin S.p.A.

[B] bioMerieux diagnostics

[C] Siemens Healthcare GmbH

[D] Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy

[E] Abbott Diagnostics

[F] Roche Diagnostics

[G] Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.

[H] Epitepe Diagnostics Inc.

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgG

[C] Total antibody

[D] Total antibody

[E] IgG

[F] Total antibody

[G] Total antibody

[H] IgG

Antigen target:

Trabaud 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

[A] S1 and S2
[B] S1 and peptide
[C] RBD
[D] RBD
[E] N-protein
[F] N-protein
[G] N-protein
[H] N-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] indirect CLIA
[B] Enzyme Linked Fluorescent Assay (ELFA)
[C] CLIA
[D] ELISA
[E] CMIA
[F] ECLIA
[G] ELISA
[H] ELISA

Timing of samples: Range 4 to 52 days post-symptom onset:

≤ 15 days pso (n = 16)

16-20 days pso (n = 21)

> 20 days pso (n = 45)

Samples used: All serum/plasma

Test operator: Technicians from the laboratory

Definition of test positivity:

[A] AU/mL; 12, > 12- < 15 borderline
[B] ratio; 1
[C] ratio; 1
[D] ratio; > 1.1; ≥ 0.9- < 1.1 borderline
[E] ratio; 1.4
[F] ratio; 1
[G] ratio; 1; ≥ 0.8- < 1 borderline
[H] ≥ 1.1x (NC + 0.18); ≥ 0.9x (NC + 0.18) < 1.1x (NC + 0.18) borderline

Blinding reported: not stated (but only COVID cases included in study)

Threshold predefined: yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: Yes as 16 samples 4-15 days pso excluded from review as interval too wide

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Trabaud 2020 [A] (Continued)

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: 82 samples from 68 patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies, in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors. The assay kits were provided by the manufacturers.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Author COI: Authors declared no conflicts of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

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Trabaud 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	
Were results presented per patient?	No	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Trabaud 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Trabaud 2020 [B] *(Continued)*

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Trabaud 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Trabaud 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Trabaud 2020 [E]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Trabaud 2020 [E] *(Continued)*

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Trabaud 2020 [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Trabaud 2020 [G]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Trabaud 2020 [G] (Continued)

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Trabaud 2020 [H]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Traugott 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Symptomatic patients with acute PCR-confirmed COVID-19 infection (n = 77)</p> <p>[2] Symptomatic patients with negative PCR results (n = 30)</p> <p>[3] Healthy volunteers with negative PCR (n = 30)</p> <p>[4] Stored samples from individuals with previous PCR-confirmed coronavirus OC43 infection (n = 10); interval from infection to sampling of 4 to 1452 days</p> <p>[5] Pre-pandemic samples from patients with pneumonia (n = 30)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear; all recruitment appeared to be retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 177 (77)</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Mixed; majority were inpatients at time of sample collection</p> <p>Location: 4th Medical Department, Department of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Kaiser-Franz-Josef Hospital, Vienna</p> <p>Country: Austria</p> <p>Dates: 27th February to 30th March 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 59 (75%) hospitalised due to moderate/severe illness, 17 (22%) 'dismissed to home care', 1 sample from HCW</p> <p>Demographics: Median age 63, range 15-92; 248/77 (62%) male</p>

Traugott 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Symptomatic COVID-19 suspects

Source: [2] 27th February to 30th March 2020

Characteristics:

[2] No further details per group; overall 40% male, median age 49 y (2–93 y)

[3] Healthy volunteers

[4] Other coronavirus

[5] Pre-pandemic pneumonia

Source:

[3] Contemporaneous

[4] Unclear; 'stored'

[5] Before December 2019

Characteristics:

[3] No further details per group

[4] previous PCR-confirmed coronavirus OC43 infections

[5] No further details per group

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgA ELISA

[B] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA

[C] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 IgM ELISA

[D] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 total antibody ELISA

[E] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab Rapid Test

[F] Hangzhou Alltest 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test

Manufacturer:

[A], [B] Euroimmun, Germany

[C] to [E] Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy, China

[F] Hangzhou AllTest Biotech, China

Antibody:

[A] IgA

[B] IgG

[C] IgM

[D] total antibody

[E] Total antibody

[F] IgG/IgM

Antigen target:

[A], [B] S1 domain of the spike-protein

[C], [D] Spike-protein receptor binding domain

[E], [F] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A] to [D] Laboratory

[E], [F] Laboratory, but intended as a POC

Test method:

[A] to [D] ELISA

[E], [F] Lateral flow assay

Traugott 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Timing of samples: PCR+ cases only:
1-5 days post-symptom onset: 30 (39%)
6-10 days post-symptom onset: 25 (32%)
11-29 days post-symptom onset: 22 (29%)

Timing of samples: PCR+ cases only:
1-5 days post-symptom onset: 30 (39%)
6-10 days post-symptom onset: 25 (32%)
11-29 days post-symptom onset: 22 (29%)

Samples used: Serum or plasma

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity:

[A] to [D] Positive when antibody ratio was > 1.1
[E],[F] All tests with (still) visible bands [to the naked eye] were considered positive.

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR with WHO-recommended primers and probe located in the E-gene

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swab/respiratory secretion samples

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Unclear; but likely conducted first

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] RT-PCR
[3] RT-PCR
[4] Unclear ('stored')
[5] Pre-pandemic

Samples used:

[2], [3] Nasopharyngeal swab/respiratory secretion samples

Timing of reference standard:

[2], [3] Unclear, but contemporaneous
[4] Unclear
[5] Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test:

[2], [3] Unclear - likely conducted first
[4] Yes, it seems these stored samples were from before the observational period
[5] Yes, pre-pandemic

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: None reported

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Traugott 2020 [A] (Continued)

Indeterminate results: No
All indeterminate results (0.8 to 1.1) on ELISA were counted as index-negative; weakly positive rapid test results counted as positive

Unit of analysis: Patients; only included one sample per patient

Comparative
Notes

Funding: Medical Scientific Fund of the Mayor of the City of Vienna

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Infectious Diseases

Author COI: Authors reported no conflicts of interest

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Traugott 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Traugott 2020 [B]
Study characteristics
Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Traugott 2020 [B] *(Continued)*

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Traugott 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Traugott 2020 [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Traugott 2020 [D] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Traugott 2020 [E]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Traugott 2020 [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Tre-Hardy 2021 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection
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	Design: Retrospective two-group analysis to estimate sensitivity and specificity (n = 125)
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Tre-Hardy 2021 [A] (Continued)

- [1] Covid patients (n = 44)
- [2] Non-Covid pre-pandemic patients (n = 81)
- [2a] Cross-reactivity panel (n = 75)
- [2b] Healthy subjects (n = 6)

Recruitment: [1][2] All sera originated from blood samples taken during previous clinical requests for diagnostic purposes.

[1] Blood samples positive for COVID-19 were collected from patients with mild, severe or critical infection.

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 125 (44)

Further detail:

[1] Blood samples positive for COVID-19 were collected from patients with mild, severe or critical infection. Patients were considered positive according to the results of the RT-qPCR.

[2a] Patients with other viral, bacterial, parasitic or auto-immune pathologies that could be considered as confounding factors or to another strain of coronavirus, collected in 2019

[2b] No history of known auto-immune pathologies and without any acute infection of viral or bacterial origin, collected in 2019

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: Iris Sud Hospitals (laboratory serum biobank), Brussels, Belgium

Country: Belgium

Dates: April 16 to 20, 2020

Symptoms and severity: Mild, severe or critical infection based on the extent of anomalies observed on CT scans: moderate (10%–25%), extensive (25%–50%), severe (> 50%) or critical > 75% and on clinical symptoms (headache, fever, fatigue, cough and sore throat, myalgia, shortness of breath or digestive signs)

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Non-Covid patients

Source: 2019 prior to the pandemic

Characteristics:

[2a] Sera positive for the following viral, bacterial and infection from parasite origin were included to assess the possible cross-reactivity: HBsAg (n = 7), HAV IgM (n = 3), adenovirus (n = 1), HSV IgM and CMV IgM (n = 1), IgM CMV (n = 8), IgM parvovirus B19 (n = 5), HIV (n = 1), ASLO (antistreptolysin O) (n = 4), anti-treponema pallidum antibody (n = 1), IgG borrelia (n = 1), IgM mycoplasma pneumoniae (n = 10), toxoplasma gondii IgM (n = 16)

The cross-reactivity of the following auto-immune pathologies was also assessed: rheumatoid factor (n = 1), anti-TPO antibody (n = 7), irregular antibodies (n = 4), direct coombs (n = 1). Two sera from COVID-19-negative patients but positive to another strain of coronavirus

Finally, one serum with a high level of total IgM (9.01 g/L) (normal range: 0.40–2.30 g/L), one serum with high total IgA (4.47 g/L) (normal range: 0.70–4.00 g/L)

[2b] six sera from COVID-19-negative healthy subjects with no history of known auto-immune pathologies and without any acute infection of viral or bacterial origin

Index tests

Test name:

[A] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 IgG

[B] anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG

Manufacturer:

Tre-Hardy 2021 [A] (Continued)

[A] Diasorin, Saluggia, Italy
[B] Euroimmun, Medizinische Labordiagnostika, Lubeck, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgG
[B] IgG

Antigen target:

[A] S1 and S2 subunits
[B] S1 subunit

Evaluation setting: [A] and [B] Laboratory

Test method:

[A] CLIA
[B] ELISA

Timing of samples: ≥ 14 days post-PCR +

Samples used: Serum stored in the laboratory serum biobank at ≤ -20 °C

Test operator: Clinical laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity: Manufacturer's cut-off:
[A] ≥ 15.0 AU/mL is positive, < 12.0 AU/mL is negative, in between is doubtful.
[B] Ratio ≥ 1.1 is positive, < 0.8 is negative, in between is doubtful.
ROC curve analyses cut-off:
[A] > 6.1 AU/mL
[B] > 0.708

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, using the cut-off provided by the manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-qPCR, threshold not stated.

Samples used: Respiratory samples.

Timing of reference standard: Delay between first symptom onset and RT-qPCR test was estimated at 4 days (± 1 days).

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: NA as pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: NA as pre-pandemic.

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: ≥ 14 days

All patients received same reference standard: No

[1] PCR
[2] Pre-pandemic

Missing data: not stated

Tre-Hardy 2021 [A] (Continued)

Uninterpretable results: not stated

Indeterminate results: Thresholds for 'doubtful' results but no results recorded in this category
[A] For the doubtful sample with the LIAISON®SARS-CoV-2 IgG kit, the sample must be retested in duplicate. If at least two of three results were doubtful, the sample was considered positive.
If two of the results/three are < 12.0 AU/mL, the sample was negative.

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None declared

Publication status: Published paper

Source: De Gruyter Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine

Author COI: Authors stated no conflict of interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
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DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?

Unclear

Was a case-control design avoided?

No

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?

Unclear

Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?

No

Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Tre-Hardy 2021 [A] (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Unclear

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Tre-Hardy 2021 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity, including: [1] Hospitalised patients with PCR-proven or suspected COVID-19 Infection (PCR-negative were excluded), n = 38 samples [2] Pre-pandemic controls (samples collected in 2017-2018 from patients care in the Department of Infectious Diseases), n = 20</p> <p>Recruitment: Consecutive cases</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Prospective</p> <p>Sample size: 58 (38)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion criteria: Patients care at the Montpellier University Hospital suspected of a COVID-19 infection</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient</p> <p>Location: University Hospital, Montpellier</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: From 18 March 2020 (ongoing)</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Severe cases 26/38 (68%); 4/9 day 1 to 6; 9/14 day 7 to 14; 13/15 day >= 15</p> <p>Demographics: Age reported subgroup (mean, SD): Day 1 to 6 72 y (55-90y); Day 7 to 14 65 y (39-86y); Day >= 15 66 y (51-83y). Sex: 22/38 cases were male (58%).</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p>

Tuaillon 2020 [A] (Continued)

Non-Covid group 1: Control

Source: 2017-2018 (pre-pandemic)

Characteristics: Age (mean, SD): 41 (17-72); sex: 10/20 (50%)

Non-Covid group 2: NA

Index tests
Test name:

[A] Zhuhai Livzon Pharmaceutical Group - 2019-nCoV IgM/IgG
[B] UNscience Biotechnology - COVID-19 IgG/IgM
[C] Chongqing iSIA BIO-Technology - 2019-nCoV IgM/IgG kit
[D] Guangdong Hecin Biotech - 2019-nCoV IgM kit
[E] AccuBiotech - Accu-Tell COVID-19 IgG/IgM
[F] Acro Biotech - 2019-nCoV IgM/IgG
[G] EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgA
[H] EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG
[I] EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgA or IgG
[J] ID.Vet - ID Screen SARS-CoV-2-N IgG Indirect ELISA

Manufacturer:

[A] Zhuhai Livzon Pharmaceutical Group
[B] UNscience Biotechnology
[C] Chongqing iSIA BIO-Technology
[D] Guangdong Hecin Biotech
[E] AccuBiotech
[F] Acro Biotech
[G] EUROIMMUN
[H] EUROIMMUN
[I] EUROIMMUN
[J] ID.Vet

Antibody: [A] [B] [C] IgG and IgM, [C] IgM, [D] [E] [F] IgG and IgM, [G] IgA, [H] IgG, [I] IgA and IgG, [J] IgG

Antigen target: [A] [B] [C] [D] [E] [F] unclear, [G] [H] [I] S1, [J] N

Evaluation setting:

[A] to [F] POC tests
[G] to [J] Laboratory

Test method: [A] CGIA, [B] CGIA, [C] LFA, [D] CGIA, [E] CGIA, [F] LFA, [G] ELISA, [H] ELISA, [I] ELISA, [J] ELISA

Timing of samples: [1] 1-6 days (n = 9), 7-14 days (n = 14), ≥ 15 days (n = 15) from the onset of symptoms

Samples used: Plasma (as per Material and Methods, 1st paragraph)

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[A] to [F] any band, even weakly visible: positive
[G] ≥ 1.1 positive
[H] cut-off value for a positive ≥ 70%

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, as per manufacturer's instructions

Tuaillon 2020 [A] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR; no details Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Not stated Blinded to index test: Not stated Incorporated index test: No Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic Samples used: Not stated Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic controls (2017-2018) Blinded to index test: Not applicable (NA) Incorporated index test: NA
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated All patients received same reference standard: No Missing data: PCR-negatives excluded Uninterpretable results: None reported Indeterminate results: EUROIMMUN borderline results considered negative Unit of analysis: samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: This work was supported by Grants from Montpellier University Hospital and Montpellier University (MUSE). Publication status: pre-print Source: medRxiv Author COI: The authors have declared no competing interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Tuaillon 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?

High

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard? Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Tuaillon 2020 [A] (Continued)

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Tuaillon 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Tuaillon 2020 [F] *(Continued)*

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [G]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [H]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [I]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Tuaillon 2020 [I] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Tuaillon 2020 [J]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Valdivia 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection Design: Two-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity: [1] Laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection (n = 90) [2] Pre-pandemic controls (n = 20) Recruitment: Non-consecutive Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective Sample size: 110 (90) Further detail: Inclusion:
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Valdivia 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

[1] Laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR with leftover sera obtained for routine SARS-CoV-2 serological testing
[2] Sera collected from healthy individuals in 2019, 10 of which had prior endemic coronavirus infection
Exclusion:
[1] [2] Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatient
Location: Hospital Clínico Universitario of Valencia
Country: Spain
Dates: March 5 and April 30, 2020
Symptoms and severity: All 51 patients presented with pneumonia and imaging or laboratory findings compatible with COVID-19 and were hospitalised in either the pneumology ward (n = 27) or the intensive care unit (ICU; n = 24)
Demographics: Male/female - 32/19, mean age - 53, median hospitalisation days - 17, number with other comorbidities - 35
Exposure history: Not stated
Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic controls
Source: 20 pre-pandemic sera from healthy individuals collected within 2019, of which 10 belonged to patients with prior endemic coronavirus infections
Characteristics: (n = 10) healthy no disease, HCoV-229E (n = 8); HCoV NL63 (n = 1); HCoV HKU (n = 1)

Index tests

Test name:
[A] LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2
[B] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA
[C] MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG
[D] COVID-19 ELISA IgG
Manufacturer:
[A] DiaSorin S.p.A., Saluggia, Italy
[B] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany
[C] Shenzhen New Industries Biomedical Engineering Co., Ltd., Shenzhen, China
[D] Vircell Spain, S.L.U., Granada, Spain
Antibody: [A][B][C][D] IgG
Antigen target:
[A] S protein
[B] S1 domain
[C] N protein
[D] S1 and N protein
Evaluation setting: Laboratory
Test method:
[A] Chemiluminescent immunoassay
[B] ELISA
[C] CLIA
[D] ELISA

Valdivia 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Timing of samples: Samples were stored for a maximum 1 month from point of collection.</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] > 15 AU/mL positive, 12.0-15.0 AU/mL indeterminate</p> <p>[B] >= 1.1 positive COI, 0.8-1.09 indeterminate</p> <p>[C] >= 1.10 AU/mL positive</p> <p>[D] > 1.6 AI positive, 1.4-1.6 AI indeterminate</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: As per manufacturers specifications</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: SARS-COV2-RT PCR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Indeterminate results to be classed as positive</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Valencian Government grant IDIFEDER/2018/056 to JRD and Covid_19-SCI to RG</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases</p> <p>Author COI: Declared none</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Valdivia 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	No
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Valdivia 2020 [A] *(Continued)*
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Valdivia 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Valdivia 2020 [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Valdivia 2020 [C] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Valdivia 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To evaluate diagnostic performance of 8 antibody tests for COVID</p> <p>Design: Multiple-group design with separate estimates of sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Symptomatic PCR-confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 94)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic patients with a respiratory infection who had a PCR test for respiratory pathogens (n = 49)</p> <p>[3] Pre-pandemic other infections (patients with confirmed non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection) (n = 14)</p> <p>[4] Pre-pandemic other infections (patients with antigens against other pathogens (e.g. CMV, EBV, HIV) from routine serology testing) (n = 40)</p> <p>[Suppl file described all controls as 'pre-pandemic' so I've changed throughout]</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Unclear; described requirement for residual samples so likely retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 197 (94)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion: only patients for whom residual samples were available were included. Exclusion: two cases excluded due to treatment with rituximab for B-cell malignancy</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020a [A] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Hospital inpatient
	Location: University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven
	Country: Belgium
	Dates: March and April 2020
	Symptoms and severity: 29 (35%) of patients were critical (required mechanical ventilation/died).
	Demographics: age: median 67.6 years, range 23-90 years; sex: 66/94 (70%) male
	Exposure history: Unknown
	Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic respiratory infections
	Source: [2] September to November 2019
	Characteristics: [2] Consecutive patients with a respiratory infection who had PCR test for respiratory pathogens
	Non-Covid group 2: [3] Other infection (non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus)
	[4] Other infections (patients with antibodies against other pathogens)
	Source:
	[3] Not stated; 'pre-COVID-19'
	[4] Not stated; 'pre-COVID-19'
	Characteristics:
	[3] PCR-positive for a different coronavirus
	[4] Patients with antibodies against other pathogens e.g. cytomegalovirus (CMV) Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) from routine serology testing

Index tests	Test name:
	[A] Clungene COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid test cassette
	[B] OrientGene COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid test cassette
	[C] VivaDiag COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid test
	[D] StrongStep SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Rapid test
	[E] Dynamiker 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid test
	[F] Multi-G MGA 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid test cassette
	[G] Prima COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid test
	[H] Euroimmun Anti-SARS-Cov-2 IgG/IgA ELISA
	Manufacturer:
	[A] Clungene Biotech, China
	[B] Zhejiang OrientGene Biotech, China
	[C] VivaCheck Biotech, China
	[D] Liming Bio-Products, China
	[E] Dynamiker Biotechnology, China
	[F] Multi-G, Belgium
	[G] Prima Lab SA, Switzerland
	[H] Euroimmun, Germany
	Antibody:
	[A] IgG/IgM
	[B] IgG/IgM
	[C] IgG/IgM
	[D] IgG/IgM
	[E] IgG/IgM

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020a [A] (Continued)

[F] IgG/IgM
[G] IgG/IgM
[H] IgG (specificity data only available for the IgA version; data not included)

Antigen target:

[A] Recombinant envelope antigens
[B] Recombinant antigens
[C] Recombinant antigen
[D] Recombinant antigen
[E] Nucleocapsid protein
[F] Nucleocapsid protein
[G] COVID-19 antigen
[H] S1-protein

Evaluation setting:

[A] to [G]: designed to be POC but unclear whether used at POC or in laboratory
[H] laboratory

Test method:

[A] to [G]: lateral flow assay
[H] ELISA

Timing of samples: Day 0-6 post-symptom onset: 37 (24%)
Day 7-13 post-symptom onset: 78 (51%)
Day 14-25 post-symptom onset: 38 (25%)

Samples used: Serum or plasma (according to suppl file)

Test operator: Unclear

Definition of test positivity:

[A] to [G]: pink/red test line indicating a positive result
[H]: according to manufacturer's instruction, but borderline results (0.8-1.1) were considered positive for further analysis

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR; described as 'in-house method complying with the WHO guidelines'

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs in UTM

Timing of reference standard: During hospital stay

Blinded to index test: Unclear

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] Pre-pandemic
[3] PCR
[4] Antibody test

Samples used:

[2] Unclear
[3] Unclear
[4] "Serology"

Van Elslande 2020a [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)

DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)

Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?

Unclear

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020a [A] (Continued)

Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Unclear
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Van Elslande 2020a [B]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [C]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020a [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [F]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [F] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020a [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid-positive (n = 233 samples, 114 patients)</p> <p>[2] Covid-negative, pre-pandemic (n = 113)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic respiratory infection (n = 49)</p> <p>[2b] Pre-pandemic coronavirus (n = 24)</p> <p>[2c] Pre-pandemic other infections (n = 40)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Patients PCR-positive for COVID-19</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic serum samples from consecutive patients with a respiratory infection who had a PCR test for respiratory pathogens between September and November 2019</p> <p>[2b] Pre-pandemic patients with a confirmed non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection collected 12-42 days after the positive PCR, not stated</p> <p>[2c] Pre-pandemic patients with antibodies against other pathogens (e.g. cytomegalovirus, Epstein Barr virus, human immunodeficiency virus) from routine serology testing</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 346 (233)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion</p> <p>[1] PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>[2a] Respiratory infection</p> <p>[2b] Non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection</p> <p>[2c] Antibodies against other pathogens</p> <p>Exclusion:</p> <p>[1] Immunocompromised patients (e.g. acute leukaemia, treatment with azathioprine) excluded</p> <p>[2a] [2b][2c] Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: All symptomatic, 36/114 patients were classified as critical (needed mechanical ventilation or fatal infection), 78 non-critical (moderate)</p> <p>Demographics: 81 male, 33 female; median age 66.5 years (range 23-90 years)</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Respiratory infections, pre-pandemic</p> <p>Source: September to November 2019, University Hospitals Leuven</p> <p>Characteristics: Confirmed respiratory infection: HSV n = 19, CMV n = 13, entero/rhinovirus n = 8, S. pneumoniae n = 7, RSV n = 3, parainfluenza virus n = 2, HMPV n = 1, P. jirovecii n = 1, bocavirus n = 1, L. pneumophila n = 1</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2:</p> <p>[2b] Other human coronaviruses, pre-pandemic</p> <p>[2c] Antibodies against various viruses, pre-pandemic</p> <p>Source: [2b] [2c] Pre-pandemic (before January 2020), University Hospitals Leuven</p>

Van Elslande 2020b [A] (Continued)

Characteristics:

[2b] Non-SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection: a-Cov HCoV-229E n = 7, a-Cov HCoV-NL63 n = 6, B-Cov HCoV-OC43 n = 7, B-CoV HCoV-HKU1 n = 4

[2c] Antibodies against other pathogens: CMV n = 21, EBV n = 15, VZV IgG n = 10, HIV-1 n = 8, HSV IgG n = 7, HAV/HBV/HCV n = 14

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Roche Ig anti-N
- [B] Abbott IgG anti-N
- [C] Euro NCP IgG anti-N
- [D] Mikrogen IgG anti-N
- [E] Maglumi IgG anti-N/S
- [F] Diasorin IgG anti-S
- [G] Euro S1 IgG anti-S

Manufacturer:

- [A] Roche Diagnostics, Basel, Switzerland
- [B] Abbott Diagnostics, Lake Forest, Illinois
- [C] Euroimmun, Lubeck, Germany
- [D] Mikrogen, Neuried, Germany
- [E] Snibe, Shenzhen, China
- [F] Diasorin, Saluggia, Italy
- [G] Euroimmun, Lubeck, Germany

Antibody: [A] Total Ig antibodies
[B]-[G] IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] N-protein
- [B] N-protein
- [C] N-protein
- [D] N-protein
- [E] N and S-protein
- [F] S-protein (S1 and S2)
- [G] S1-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory performed in laboratory

Test method:

- [A] CLIA
- [B] CLIA
- [C] ELISA
- [D] ELISA
- [E] CLIA
- [F] CLIA
- [G] ELISA

Timing of samples: 0-6 days pso, n = 43
7-13 days pso, n = 98
14-17 days pso, n = 42
18-21 days pso, n = 16
22-27 days pso, n = 13
28-37 days pso, n = 11

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Staff at University Hospitals Leuven (technical assistants)

Definition of test positivity: Cut-off

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Van Elslande 2020b [A] (Continued)

[A] ≥ 1.0
 [B] ≥ 1.4
 [C] ≥ 0.8 positive, equivocal zone 0.8/1.1
 [D] ≥ 20 positive, equivocal zone 20/24
 [E] ≥ 1.0
 [F] ≥ 12 positive, equivocal zone 12/15
 [G] ≥ 0.8 positive, equivocal zone 0.8/1.1

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer

Target condition and
reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR; described as 'in-house method complying with the WHO guidelines', threshold not stated

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs (UTM, Copan, Italy)

Timing of reference standard: 83.3% of patients were admitted the day of the first PCR-positive result.

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: NA pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: Pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior to index test

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: 83.3% of patients were admitted the day of the first PCR-positive result.

The median time between onset of symptoms and admission to the hospital was 7 days.

0-6 days pso, n = 43

7-13 days pso, n = 98

14-17 days pso, n = 42

18-21 days pso, n = 16

22-27 days pso, n = 13

28-37 days pso, n = 11

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Not stated

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Equivocal results [C][D][F][G] treated as positive

Unit of analysis: Samples, only one sample included per patient per time frame

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Pieter Vermeersch reported personal fees from Roche, outside the submitted work. Katrien Lagrou reported personal fees and non-financial support from Pfizer, personal fees and non-financial support from MSD, personal fees from SMB Laboratoires, personal fees from Gilead, and personal fees from FUJIFILM Wako, outside the submitted work.

The research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors.

Publication status: Published paper

Van Elslande 2020b [A] (Continued)

Source: Clinical and Microbiology and Infection

Author COI: Pieter Vermeersch reported personal fees from Roche, outside the submitted work. Katrien Lagrou reported personal fees and nonfinancial support from Pfizer, personal fees and non-financial support from MSD, personal fees from SMB Laboratoires, personal fees from Gilead, and personal fees from FUJIFILM Wako, outside the submitted work. The other authors stated no conflicts of interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation			Unclear

Van Elslande 2020b [A] *(Continued)*
**tation differ from the
review question?**
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference stan-
dards likely to correctly
classify the target con-
dition?

Yes

Were the reference
standard results inter-
preted without knowl-
edge of the results of
the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard
does not incorporate
the index test

Yes

**Could the reference
standard, its conduct,
or its interpretation
have introduced bias?**

Unclear risk

**Are there concerns
that the target condi-
tion as defined by the
reference standard
does not match the
question?**

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropri-
ate interval between in-
dex test and reference
standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive
the same reference
standard?

No

Were all patients in-
cluded in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants re-
ceive a reference stan-
dard?

Yes

Were results presented
per patient?

Yes

**Could the patient flow
have introduced bias?**

High risk

Van Elslande 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020b [D] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [E]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [F]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Van Elslande 2020b [G]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Van Elslande 2020b [G] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Velay 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection of COVID-19</p> <p>Design: Multi-group analysis to estimate sensitivity and specificity (n = 325)</p> <p>[1a] PCR-confirmed hospital patients (n = 55)</p> <p>[1b] PCR-confirmed healthcare workers (n = 143)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic controls (n = 100)</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reactivity negative controls (n = 27)</p> <p>Recruitment: Unclear</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 325 (198)</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1a] Hospitalised PCR-positive Covid patients (n = 55)</p> <p>[1b] PCR-positive healthcare workers (n = 143)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors</p> <p>[2b] Pre-pandemic non-SARS-CoV-2 infection: (n = 20) anti-hCoV positive, (n = 2) anti-influenza A virus positive, (n = 1) anti-rhinovirus positive, (n = 2) rheumatoid factor positive, (n = 2) antinuclear antibodies positive</p> <p>Exclusion: Not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[1a] Hospital inpatients (n = 55)</p> <p>[1b] Outpatients</p> <p>Location: Strasbourg University Hospital (Strasbourg, France)</p> <p>Country: France</p> <p>Dates: 2020 April</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>[1a] 23 were admitted to ICU</p> <p>[1b] Not stated</p>

Velay 2020 [A] (Continued)

Demographics: Patient group - median age 68, male/female = 17/38. Healthcare workers - median age - 32, male/female - 96/47. Total - median age - 43, male/female - 113/85

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Pre-pandemic controls

Source: March to November 2019

Characteristics: Serum samples from 40 patients and plasma samples from 60 healthy blood donors collected before the COVID-19 pandemic onset

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] Controls for cross-reactivity

Source: 27 serum samples collected before the COVID-19 pandemic onset were used to study cross-reactivity.

Characteristics: Previous human coronavirus infections - HCoV-229E, HCoV-HKU1, HCoV-NL63, and HCoV-OC43), 2 from patients previously infected with influenza A virus, 1 from a patient previously infected with human rhinovirus, 2 containing rheumatoid factor, and 2 positive for anti-nuclear antibodies

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] Biosynex COVID-19 BSS
- [B] COVID-19 Sign IgM/IgG
- [C] ELISA anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgA and IgG
- [D] EDI™ novel coronavirus COVID-19 IgM and IgG

Manufacturer:

- [A] Biosynex, Switzerland, Fribourg
- [B] Servibio/VEDALAB, France, Alençon
- [C] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany
- [D] Epitope Diagnostics, San Diego, California

Antibody:

- [A] IgM and IgG
- [B] IgM and IgG
- [C] IgA and IgG
- [D] IgM and IgG

Antigen target:

- [A] N-protein
- [B] S1-protein

Evaluation setting:

- [A][B] POC
- [C][D] Laboratory
- All performed in laboratory

Test method:

- [A] [B] Lateral flow assay
- [C] [D] ELISA

Timing of samples:

- [1a] Serum samples were collected at a median of 7 days pso (range, 0–31 days pso).
- [1b] 24 days pso (range, 15–39 days pso)

Samples used: Serum and plasma

Velay 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity:</p> <p>[A] [B] Visible line</p> <p>[C] ≥ 1.1 positive</p> <p>[D] Values greater than the cut-off positive</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR testing of nasopharyngeal swab specimens according to current guidelines (Institut Pasteur, Paris, France; WHO technical guidance). This assay targets 2 regions of the viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) gene, with a threshold limit of detection of 10 copies per reaction.</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharyngeal</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Total median time since symptom onset - 2 days</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes, prior</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic</p> <p>Samples used: NA</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: NA</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Median time difference 20 days - median time to PCR 2 days and median time to serum collection - 22 days</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: Not stated</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: Not stated</p> <p>Indeterminate results: Not stated</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: Study was supported by the Strasbourg University Hospital (COVID-HUS study)</p> <p>Publication status: Published paper</p> <p>Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease</p> <p>Author COI: None declared</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Velay 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear
Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk

Velay 2020 [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? No

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Unclear

Were results presented per patient? No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Velay 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Velay 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Velay 2020 [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Velay 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Veyrenche 2021 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid-19 cases (n = 45)</p> <p>[2] Non-Covid controls (n = 20)</p> <p>Group [2] not eligible for our review as < 25 samples leaving a single-group study to estimate sensitivity only</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Patients admitted in Montpellier University Hospitals between 14 March and 11 April 2020 who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA</p> <p>[2] Samples collected in the pre-COVID-19 period (2017-2018) in patients</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Prospective</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Veyrenche 2021 [A] (Continued)

[2] Retrospective

Sample size: 65 (45) but 45 (45) included in our study

Further detail:

[1] Inclusion: Hospital inpatients with RT-PCR confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection. Any disease severity

Exclusion: Not stated

[2] Inclusion: Samples from patients collected pre-pandemic (2017-2018)

Exclusion: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Hospital inpatients

Location: Montpellier University hospitals (Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Montpellier, Montpellier)

Country: France

Dates: 14 March to 11 April 2020

Symptoms and severity: 26/45, 58% cases 'severe' according to WHO guideline (similar numbers per Ct subgroup)
All hospitalised

Demographics: 32/45, 71% male

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] SARS-CoV-2 IgG immunoassay (Alinity)

[B] ELISA COVID-19 THERA02 IgM assay

[C] SureScreen COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test

[D] Syzbio SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Assay Kit

Manufacturer:

[A] Abbott Diagnostics, Illinois, USA

[B] Theradiag, Marne la Vallee, France

[C] SureScreen Diagnostics Ltd, Derby, UK

[D] Syzbio Biotech Joint Stock Co., Ltd, Wuhan, China

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgM

[C] IgM and/or IgG

[D] IgM and/or IgG

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] S-protein

[C] not stated

[D] not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A] [B] Laboratory test

[C] [D] POCT performed in lab

Test method:

Veyrenche 2021 [A] (Continued)

[A] CMIA
[B] ELISA
[C] [D] lateral flow

Timing of samples: Day 1-20 pso.
1-7 days (n = 22)
7-14 days (n = 14)
14 - 20 days (n = 9)

Samples used: [A] [B] [C] [D] Plasma

Test operator:

Nicolas Veyrenche, Karine Bolloré and Amandine Pisoni have performed experiments (Pathogenesis and Control of Chronic Infections, INSERM, Etablissement Français du Sang, CHU Montpellier, Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France).
All tests were performed in the laboratory of Virology.

Definition of test positivity:

[A] ratio (S/C) ≥ 1.4 is positive, < 1.4 negative.
[B] positive cut-off is ratio ≥ 1 .
[C] [D] any signal visible, even weak, at 15 mins on the test line is positive.

Blinding reported: Not stated.

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR; Allplex™ 2019-nCoV Assay (Seegene, Seoul, South Korea); COVID-19 confirmed-subjects were grouped according to the average value of the cycle threshold (Ct), $Ct \leq 25$, $25 < Ct < 35$ and $Ct \geq 35$.

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal

Timing of reference standard: Hospital admission ranged from 1-20 days pso; PCR performed prospectively on admission within a few hours after collection

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:
[1] Same day

All patients received same reference standard: Yes for [1], group [2] excluded from review

Missing data: yes, group [2] excluded from review

Uninterpretable results: none reported

Indeterminate results: no indeterminate threshold

Unit of analysis: patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was funded by the Montpellier University Hospital, Muse I-SITE Program Grant, University of Montpellier.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Medical Virology

Author COI: The authors declared that there were no conflicts of interest.

Veyrenche 2021 [A] (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Veyrenche 2021 [A] *(Continued)*

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Veyrenche 2021 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Veyrenche 2021 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Veyrenche 2021 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wang 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity in: [1] patients who visited the hospital with respiratory complaints during January to March 2020 (n = 375)</p> <p>Recruitment: Consecutive (all patients in a time period)</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 375 (141)</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Wang 2020a (Continued)

	Further detail: No more details available
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: First People's Hospital of Jingmen, Hubei Province</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: 25th January to 16th March 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not reported</p> <p>Demographics: 65 (46%) male, median age 58 years, range 21 to 95 years</p> <p>Exposure history: Unclear</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: Xiamen Biotime IgG/IgM</p> <p>Manufacturer: Xiamen Wantai Kairui Biological Technology Co. Ltd, China</p> <p>Antibody: Total antibody</p> <p>Antigen target: Recombinant antigens containing the receptor binding domain (RBD)</p> <p>Evaluation setting: Laboratory</p> <p>Test method: CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Day 0 to > 20 days pso; 0-10 days after symptom onset: 61 (43%) 11-20 days after symptom onset: 72 (51%) 21+ days after symptom onset: 8 (6%)</p> <p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Signal-to-cut off ratio ≥ 1 represented antibody positivity.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: New Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control Program (7th edition) definition; specifically: [1] RT-PCR (Applied Biosystems ViiA7 Dx (Applied Biosystems, Singapore) and RT-PCR reagent BioGerm (Shanghai BioGerm Medical Technology Co., Ltd.); threshold > 40 Ct defined negative, or [2] RT-PCR-negative with characteristic CT changes of the lungs</p> <p>Samples used: Throat swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Of 1415 cases: 39.7% positive day 0-3 62.4% positive by day 5 86.7% positive by day 7 92.2% positive by day 10 or more 11 patients remained PCR-negative</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Wang 2020a (Continued)

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Varied, as reference tests were repeated up to 5 times until positive, and index tests were performed on discharge

Missing data: None reported

Uninterpretable results: None reported

Indeterminate results: None reported

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None reported

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Virological Methods

Author COI: The author declared that there was no conflict of interest related to this article content.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		Low risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

Wang 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? Low concern

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard? Yes

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? Unclear risk

Weidner 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Sensitivity for identification of previous disease
	Design: Single-group study estimating sensitivity
	Used serum samples from convalescent plasma donors with Nucleic Acid Test (NAT)-confirmed COVID-19 (n = 100)
	Recruitment: Unclear
	Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective
	Sample size: 100 (100)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Weidner 2020 [A] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Convalescent plasma donors

Location: Austrian Red Cross, Blood Service for Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland, Vienna

Country: Austria

Dates: Not stated

Symptoms and severity: Severity:

93/100 (93%): mild or no symptoms (WHO class 1-2);

6/100 (6%): moderate-severe symptoms (WHO class 3-6);

no details on 1 individual.

Reported symptoms:

63% fever, 48% headache, 44% body aches, 43% loss of taste and smell, 40% cough, 31% fatigue, 23% gastrointestinal symptoms, 29% sore throat

Demographics: Age range: 18-66 y; age, median (SD): 47 y (12.7); sex: 61/100 (61%) male

Exposure history: Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Euroimmun SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA

[B] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab ELISA

[C] Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2

[D] LIAISON® SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG

[E] MEDsan COVID-19 IgM/IgG Rapid Test

[F] Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab Rapid Test

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun, Lübeck, Germany

[B] Wantai Biological Pharmacy, Beijing, China

[C] Roche Diagnostics, Rotkreuz, Switzerland

[D] DiaSorin S.p.A., Saluggia, Italy

[E] MPC International S.A., Luxemburg

[F] Wantai Biological Pharmacy, Beijing, China

Antibody:

[A] IgG

[B] IgM

[C] Total antibodies

[D] IgG

[E] IgM, IgG

[F] Total antibodies

Antigen target:

[A] S1 domain of the spike-protein

[B] Not stated

[C] N-protein

[D] S1 and S2 domains of the spike-protein

[E] Not stated

[F] Not stated

Evaluation setting:

[A]-[E]: Lab test, done in lab

[F]: POC test, unclear if used as POC

Test method:

[A] [B]: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Weidner 2020 [A] (Continued)

[C]: Electrochemilumescence sandwich assay (ECLIA)

[D]: Chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA)

[E], [F]: Lateral flow assay

Timing of samples: Samples collected between 26 and 61 days pso (median 47 days, standard deviation 6.6 days)

Samples used: Serum, plasma

Test operator: Not stated

ELISA tests performed at the Center for Virology, Medical University of Vienna;

CLIA test performed by Department for Blood Group Serology and Transfusion Medicine, Medical University Graz. Sounded like lab personal for [A]-[E]

Definition of test positivity:

[A]: Positive if ratio ≥ 1.1 ; borderline if ratio 0.8-1.09; negative if ratio < 0

[B]: Positive if ratio > 1.0 (the cut-off is calculated as the mean of three negative controls (minimum 0.03) plus 0.16).

[C]: Positive if COI ≥ 1

[D]: Positive if ≥ 15 AU/mL; equivocal if 12-14.9 AU/mL; negative if < 12 AU/mL

[E], [F]: Visual-based (read after 15 min and classified according to their strength, from 0 to 4+. 0 is negative and 4+ corresponds to an intensity equivalent to the control line. A picture card was used to standardise interpretation of the result)

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: [A]-[F]: Yes, as per manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: positive PCR test for COVID-19

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs or pharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Unclear - multiple assays were likely used

Missing data: Yes: 2 for test [A], 1 for test [C], 1 for test [E], 2 for test [F]

Uninterpretable results: No

Indeterminate results: yes (classed as TPs)

[A] 2 borderline or equivocal results (ID)

[D] 5 ID

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative
Notes

Funding: None reported

(This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors)

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Academic journal (Journal of Clinical Virology)

Weidner 2020 [A] (Continued)

Author COI: Two authors are employees of Baxter AG, a Takeda company and have Takeda stock interest.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Unclear
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Weidner 2020 [A] *(Continued)*

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Unclear

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Weidner 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Weidner 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Weidner 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Weidner 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Weidner 2020 [E] *(Continued)*

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Weidner 2020 [F]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wellinghausen 2020a [A]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group analysis to assess sensitivity</p> <p>[1] Covid patients (n = 67 samples from 58 patients)</p> <p>[1a] Covid outpatients (n = 60 samples from 51 patients)</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic Covid patients (n = 7 samples from 7 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1a] Patients with clinical symptoms and confirmed-PCR, ambulatory treated SARS-CoV-2 infection</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic persons with a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR in the past who were contact persons to PCR-confirmed COVID-19 patients</p> <p>Recruitment unclear.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 67 (67) samples from 58 (58) patients of which 58 (58) samples are used for sensitivity estimation</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1a] PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 in a nasopharyngeal swab (at least 7 days before serum collection) in our laboratory information system (LIS), with clinical symptoms, ambulatory treated patients fulfilling the clinical diagnostic criteria of the Robert-Koch-Institut</p>

Wellinghausen 2020a [A] (Continued)

[1b] Asymptomatic Covid contacts with a positive SARS-CoV-2-PCR in the past
Exclusion: Not stated

Patient characteristics and setting
Setting:

[1a] Outpatients or
[1b] community

Location: MVZ Labor Ravensburg

Country: Germany

Dates: March 24th to May 6th 2020

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] Symptomatic, ambulatory treated
[1b] Asymptomatic

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history:

[1a] Not stated
[1b] Contacts of Covid patients

Index tests
Test name:

[A] Anti-SARS-CoV-2 ELISA IgG
[B] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgG ELISA
[C] Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG
[D] SARS-CoV-2 IgG
[E] Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 (IgM/IgA/IgG)

Manufacturer:

[A] Euroimmun, Luebeck, Germany
[B] Epitope Diagnostics, San Diego (CA)
[C] Diasorin, Dietzenbach, Germany
[D] Abbott Diagnostics, Wetzlar, Germany
[E] Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Germany

Antibody:

[A] IgG
[B] IgG
[C] IgG
[D] IgG
[E] Total Ab

Antigen target:

[A] S1-protein
[B] N-protein
[C] S1 and S2-protein
[D] N-protein
[E] N-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] ELISA
[B] ELISA

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Wellinghausen 2020a [A] (Continued)

[C] ELISA
[D] CLIA
[E] CLIA

Timing of samples:

[1a] 10 to 54 days post-symptom onset (median 24 days)
day 10-20 (n = 11),
day 21 to 54 (n = 40),
plus 3 patients with three follow-up serum samples each.
[1b] 9-56 days post-PCR+

Samples used: serum

Test operator: staff at MVZ Labor Ravensburg

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Ratio < 0.8 negative, 0.8-1.09 equivocal, ≥ 1.1 positive
[B] Ratio < 0.9 negative, 0.9-1.09 equivocal, ≥ 1.1 positive
[C] < 12 AU/mL negative, 12.0-14.5 AU/mL equivocal, ≥ 15 AU/mL positive
[D] COI < 1.4 negative, COI ≥ 1.4 positive
[E] COI < 1.0 negative, COI ≥ 1.0 positive

Blinding reported: Not stated (but study only included COVID cases)

Threshold predefined: Yes, manufacturers

Target condition and reference
standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR with the Cobas SARS-CoV-2 assay, the AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 E-Gen qPCR and the AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 E-Gen PCR (PIIM) and AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 N-Gen PCR (PIIM), threshold not stated

Samples used: nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior.

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: NA

Blinded to index test: NA

Incorporated index test: NA

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: yes, 9 follow-up samples not included in review

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Equivocal results were counted as negative; (n = 2) Euroimmun and Liaison, (n = 4) EDI

Unit of analysis: Samples, 58 patients, 3 patients with 4 samples each
For review, only 58 samples from 58 patients were included.

Wellinghausen 2020a [A] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes

Funding: None stated.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: GMS Infectious Diseases

Author COI: The authors declared no competing interests.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			

Wellinghausen 2020a [A] (Continued)

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Yes	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Wellinghausen 2020a [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Wellinghausen 2020a [B] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wellinghausen 2020a [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wellinghausen 2020a [D]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wellinghausen 2020a [E]
Study characteristics

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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Wellinghausen 2020a [E] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wellinghausen 2020b
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to assess sensitivity</p> <p>[1] Covid patients (n = 137)</p> <p>[1a] Symptomatic outpatients (n = 111)</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic, PCR-confirmed contacts (n = 26)</p> <p>Recruitment: [1] All serum samples sent to our laboratory for SARS-CoV-2-IgG determination between March 24th and May 6th 2020 from outpatients with a positive result of SARS-CoV-2-RT-PCR in a nasopharyngeal swab (at least 7 days before serum collection) were considered for analysis (n = 158). Patients with past hospital treatment for COVID-19 (n = 11) and patients in whom clinical information could not be obtained (n = 10) have been excluded from analysis.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 137 (137) but 126 (126) included in our review</p> <p>Further detail: Inclusion:</p> <p>[1a] PCR-positive for SARS-CoV-2 in a nasopharyngeal swab (at least 7 days before serum collection) in our laboratory information system (LIS), with clinical symptoms, ambulatory treated patients fulfilling the clinical diagnostic criteria of the Robert-Koch-Institute</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic Covid contacts with a positive SARS-CoV-2-PCR at least 7 days before serum collection</p> <p>Exclusion: Patients with past hospital treatment for COVID-19 (n = 11); patients in whom clinical information could not be obtained (n = 10)</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>[1a] Outpatients or</p> <p>[1b] community</p> <p>All had recovered at the time point of blood collection.</p> <p>Location: MVZ Labor Ravensburg, Ravensburg (private laboratory serving a large number of private practices and hospitals in Southwest Germany as well as most coronavirus test centres in the region)</p>

Wellinghausen 2020b (Continued)

Country: Germany

Dates: March 24th to May 6th 2020

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] Symptomatic, ambulatory treated

[1b] Asymptomatic

Demographics: Not stated

Exposure history:

[1a] Not stated

[1b] Contacts of Covid patients

Non-Covid group 1: NA

Index tests

Test name: Anti-SARS-CoV-2-ELISA IgG

Manufacturer: Euroimmun, Luebeck, Germany

Antibody: IgG

Antigen target: S1-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory used in lab

Test method: ELISA

Timing of samples: All had recovered at the time point of blood collection.

[1a] Day 10-20 pso, n = 11; day 21-68 pso, n = 100

[1b] Day 9-20 post-PCR+, n = 10; day 21-56 post-PCR+, n = 16; day 28-56 post-PCR+, n = 14

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Lab staff at MVZ Labor Ravensberg

Definition of test positivity: Not stated, according to the manufacturer's instructions

Blinding reported: No, no negative group

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR with the Cobas SARS-CoV-2 assay, the AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 E-Gen qPCR and the AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 E-Gen PCR (PIIM) and AmpliGnost SARS-CoV-2 N-Gen PCR (PIIM), threshold not stated

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: NA

Blinded to index test: NA

Incorporated index test: NA

Wellinghausen 2020b (Continued)

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1a] Not stated

[1b] 9-56 days

All patients received same reference standard: Yes

Missing data: yes, 11 samples from [1a] with time split 10-20 days pso excluded from review

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Equivocal results counted as negative

[1a] 10-20 days pso, one equivocal result. 21-68 days, three equivocal results

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Journal of Clinical Virology

Author COI: No conflicts of interest by all authors

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Yes		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Yes		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		

Wellinghausen 2020b (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified? Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias? High risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question? Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition? Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests? Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias? Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question? High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard? Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard? Yes

Were all patients included in the analysis? Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard? No

Were results presented per patient? Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias? High risk

Whitman 2020a [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute or convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid patients (n = 128 samples from 79 patients)</p> <p>[2] Non-Covid patients (n = 159)</p> <p>[2a] Pre-pandemic (n = 108)</p> <p>[2b] Cross-reactivity, concurrent (n = 41)</p> <p>[2c] Concurrent, SARS-CoV-2 PCR-negative, no other viruses detected (n = 10)</p> <p>Recruitment:</p> <p>[1] Patients diagnosed at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital. Not admitted, admitted or ICU</p> <p>[2a] Blood donors before 2019</p> <p>[2b] Patients with other respiratory pathogen testing at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital</p> <p>[2c] Patients at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital</p> <p>Recruitment method not stated.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 287 (128)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Inclusion: In or outpatients at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital with symptomatic infection and positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR testing of nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs and remnant plasma and serum samples in associated laboratories</p> <p>Exclusion: If an individual had more than one specimen for a given time interval, only the later specimen was included.</p> <p>[2a] Inclusion: Blood donors before July 2018. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>[2b] Inclusion: Concurrent patients from 2020 with detection of other respiratory viruses. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>[2c] Inclusion: Concurrent patients from 2020, RT-PCR-negative for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>Exclusions: Data that did not fit our study design were excluded after the fact. This included all data and statistics derived from specimens from individuals who were mis-assigned to a data analysis group (including time interval of days from symptom onset, or RT-PCR status), duplicate patient specimens not originally identified prior to obtaining results or data from confirmatory spot testing described in the manuscript.</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatients (82%) and outpatients (ambulatory) (18%)</p> <p>Location: University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital, San Francisco, CA</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 18% (14/79) not admitted, 46% (36/79) inpatients without ICU care, 37% (29/79) required ICU care</p> <p>Demographics: Age range 22-90 years, mean 52.9 (SD 15) years</p> <p>68% Hispanic/Latino</p> <p>9% Asian</p> <p>9% White</p> <p>8% Black</p> <p>6% Other/not reported</p>

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

Male sex 54/79 (68%)

Exposure history: Not stated.

Non-Covid group 1:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

Source: Blood donors before July 2019. From University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital

Characteristics: Healthy

Non-Covid group 2:

[2b] Cross-reactivity

[2c] RT-PCR-negative, no other respiratory viruses detected

Source: [2b] [2c] University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) hospital system or Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital, in 2020

Characteristics:

[2b] Influenza A (n = 2), human rhinovirus/enterovirus (n = 17), human metapneumovirus (n = 54), respiratory syncytial virus (n = 9), parainfluenza (n = 3), adenovirus (n = 2), other coronaviruses (n = 4)

[2c] Not other respiratory viruses

Index tests

Test name:

- [A] COVID-19 IgM-IgG Rapid Test (51-002-20)
- [B] Perfect POC Novel Corona Virus (SARS-CoV-2) IgM/IgG Rapid Test Kit (SC30201 W)
- [C] Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) IgM/IgG Combo Rapid Test-Cassette
- [D] COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) IgG/IgM Antibody Test Kit (Colloidal Gold)
- [E] Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Ab Test (Colloidal Gold) IgM
- [F] COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test Cassette (INGMMC42S) (RightSign assay from Hangzhou Biotest)
- [G] SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Antibody Rapid Test (VC01210 3)
- [H] Coronavirus IgG/IgM Antibody (COVID-19) Test Cassette (U-CoV102)
- [I] VivaDiag SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Rapid Test (VID35-08-011)
- [J] SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test (W195)
- [K] EDI Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 IgM or IgG ELISA (KT-1033; KT-1032)
- [Additional in-House ELISA reported; not included in review]

Manufacturer:

- [A] BioMedomics Inc, Morrisville, NC, USA
- [B] Bioperfectus Technologies Co Ltd, Jiangsu, China
- [C] DecomBio Biotechnology Co Ltd, Beijing, China
- [D] DeepBlue Medical Technology Co Ltd, Anhui, China
- [E] Innovita Biological Technology Co Ltd, Qian'an, China
- [F] Premier Biotech, Minneapolis, MN, USA (RightSign assay from Hangzhou Biotest, marketed by Premier Biotech under a different name)
- [G] Sure Biotech, New York, USA; Wan Chai, Hong Kong
- [H] UCP Biosciences, San Jose, CA, USA
- [I] VivaChek Biotech Co, Hangzhou, China
- [J] Wondfo Biotech Co Ltd, Guangzhou, China
- [K] Epitope Diagnostics, San Diego, USA

Antibody:

- [A]-[I] IgM and/or IgG
- [J] Total Ab
- [K] IgM, or IgG

Antigen target:

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

- [A] RBD
- [B] N and S
- [C] Not stated
- [D] Not stated
- [E] N and S
- [F] Not stated
- [G] N and S
- [H] Not stated
- [I] Not stated
- [J] Not stated
- [K] N

Evaluation setting:

- [A]-[J] POCT, performed in lab
- [K] Laboratory

Test method:

- [C] [F]-[J] Lateral flow assays
- [D] [E] Colloidal gold
- [K] ELISA

Timing of samples: 0- > 20 days pso

1-5 days pso: n = 28

6-10 days pso: n = 36

11-15 days pso: n = 34

16-20 days pso: n = 19

> 20 days pso: n = 11

Samples used: Plasma or serum

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity:

[A]-[J] All visual-based tests, each cartridge was assigned an integer score (0 for negative, 1-6 for positive) for test line intensity by two independent readers blinded to specimen status and to each other's scores.

[K] IgM positive cut-off = $1.1 \times ((\text{average of negative control readings}) + 0.10)$. Values less than or equal to the positive cut-off were interpreted as negative; IgG positive cut-off = $1.1 \times ((\text{average of negative control readings}) + 0.18)$. Values less than or equal to the positive cut-off were interpreted as negative.

Blinding reported:

- [A]-[J] two independent readers blinded to specimen status and to each other's scores
- [K] Not stated

Threshold predefined: [A]-[L] Yes

Target condition
and reference stan-
dard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR, threshold not stated

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2a] Pre-pandemic

[2b] RT-PCR-negative or none

[2c] RT-PCR-negative

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

Samples used:

- [2a] NA, pre-pandemic
- [2b] Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs or none
- [2c] Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Some specimens were exhausted during the analysis and were not included in all tests.
One test result missing for test [E], IgM, 11-15 days

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated.

Unit of analysis: Samples but only 1 sample per patient per time-split included. If an individual had more than one specimen for a given time interval, only the later specimen was included.

Comparative
Notes

Funding: This work was supported by gifts from Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub and anonymous philanthropy.
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C.Y.C. is the director of the UCSF-Abbott Viral Diagnostics and Discovery Center, receives research support funding from Abbott Laboratories and is on the scientific advisory board of Mammoth Biosciences. C.J.Y. is co-founder of DropPrint Genomics and serves as an advisor to them. M.S.A. holds stock in Medtronic and Merck. P.D.H. is a co-founder of Spotlight Therapeutics and serves on the board of directors and scientific advisory board and is an advisor to Serotiny. P.D.H. holds stock in Spotlight Therapeutics and Editas Medicine. A.M. is a co-founder of Spotlight Therapeutics and Arsenal Biosciences and serves on their board of directors and scientific advisory board. A.M. has served as an advisor to Juno Therapeutics, was a member of the scientific advisory board at PACT Pharma and was an advisor to Trizell. A.M. owns stock in Arsenal Biosciences, Spotlight Therapeutics and PACT Pharma. R.Y. owns stock in AbbVie, Bluebird Bio, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Cara Therapeutics, Editas Medicine, Esperion and Gilead Sciences. Unrelated to this current work, the Marson lab has received sponsored research support from Juno Therapeutics, Epinomics, Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline and a gift from Gilead.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Nature Biotechnology

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

Author COI: C.Y.C. is the director of the UCSF-Abbott Viral Diagnostics and Discovery Center, receives research support funding from Abbott Laboratories and is on the scientific advisory board of Mammoth Biosciences. C.J.Y. is co-founder of DropPrint Genomics and serves as an advisor to them. M.S.A. holds stock in Medtronic and Merck. P.D.H. is a co-founder of Spotlight Therapeutics and serves on the board of directors and scientific advisory board and is an advisor to Serotiny. P.D.H. holds stock in Spotlight Therapeutics and Editas Medicine. A.M. is a co-founder of Spotlight Therapeutics and Arsenal Biosciences and serves on their board of directors and scientific advisory board. A.M. has served as an advisor to Juno Therapeutics, was a member of the scientific advisory board at PACT Pharma and was an advisor to Trizell. A.M. owns stock in Arsenal Biosciences, Spotlight Therapeutics and PACT Pharma. R.Y. owns stock in AbbVie, Bluebird Bio, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Cara Therapeutics, Editas Medicine, Esperion and Gilead Sciences. Unrelated to this current work, the Marson lab has received sponsored research support from Juno Therapeutics, Epinomics, Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline and a gift from Gilead.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?

Yes

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Yes

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Whitman 2020a [A] (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	No
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Whitman 2020a [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [C]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Whitman 2020a [C] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [D]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [E]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [F]

Study characteristics	
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Whitman 2020a [F] (Continued)

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [G]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020a [H]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Whitman 2020a [H] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Whitman 2020a [I]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Whitman 2020a [J]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Whitman 2020a [K]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Whitman 2020a [K] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study estimating sensitivity and specificity [1] SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR-positive (n = 44) [2] pre-pandemic asymptomatic adults (n = 30) [3] pre-pandemic other infection controls with febrile and/or respiratory illness (n = 30)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not reported</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Not reported</p> <p>Sample size: 104 (44)</p> <p>Further detail: No further details</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatient</p> <p>Location: Massachusetts General Hospital</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Not stated</p> <p>Demographics: Not stated</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic, healthy</p> <p>Source: No further details</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <p>Non-Covid group 2: Pre-pandemic, other infection controls</p> <p>Source: No further details</p> <p>Characteristics: No further details</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Whitman 2020b [A] (Continued)

Index tests	<p>Test name: See below</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] SD Biosensor - Standard Q COVID-19 IgM/IgG Duo (KT1032; lot P630C)</p> <p>[B] Biolidics - 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM antibody detection kit (CBB-F015016-V; V2020 0330)</p> <p>[C] Biomedomics - COVID-19 IgM and IgG Rapid Test (51-002-20; lot 20200, 22702, 20200, 32103)</p> <p>Antibody: IgG, IgM</p> <p>Antigen target:</p> <p>[A] N-based</p> <p>[B] N- and S-based</p> <p>[C] S-based</p> <p>Evaluation setting: POC or laboratory</p> <p>Test method: LFA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Not stated</p> <p>Samples used: serum/plasma</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Not stated; assume as per manufacturer</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not reported</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Not stated; assume as per manufacturer</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR; threshold NR</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Yes; prior to index</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: [2] + [3]</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: [2] + [3] pre-pandemic</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: No</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Whitman 2020b [A] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	Funding: Not reported; presume as per main study reported in Whitman 2020 (A) Publication status: pre-print Source: medRxiv Author COI: Not reported; presume as per main study reported in Whitman 2020 (A)
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Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Whitman 2020b [A] (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Whitman 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Whitman 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Whitman 2020b [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wolff 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Confirmed Covid patients (n = 111)</p> <p>[1a] Symptomatic Covid (n = 87)</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic Covid (n = 24)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic, non-Covid (n = 96)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective:</p> <p>[1] Unclear</p> <p>[2] Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 207 (111)</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Included symptomatic (mild to moderate or severe) cases and asymptomatic cases confirmed by qRT-PCR</p> <p>[1b] Asymptomatic patients were defined as individuals without any symptoms who were screened positive for SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid due to close contacts with COVID-19 patients.</p> <p>[2] Residual serum samples non-SARS-CoV-2 collected before the pandemic COVID-19 from January to February 2019</p> <p>Exclusion criteria not stated</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting:</p> <p>Not stated (seems to be mixed)</p> <p>Location: Laboratoire Hospitalier Universitaire de Bruxelles, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium</p> <p>Country: Belgium</p> <p>Dates: Not stated</p> <p>Symptoms and severity:</p> <p>Mild to moderate (n = 47): fever, headache, cough, myalgia</p>

Wolff 2020 [A] (Continued)

Severe (n = 40): need for oxygen supplementation, respiratory failure requiring mechanical ventilation, admission to ICU or death
Asymptomatic (n = 24)

Demographics:

[1a] median age 60 years, range 21-88 years, 36 women, 51 men

[1b] median age 61 years, range 20-85 years, 11 women, 13 men

Exposure history:

[1a] not stated

[1b] close contacts of Covid cases

Non-Covid group 1: Pre-pandemic, non-Covid patients (n = 96)

Source: Residual samples collected between January to February 2019. source not stated

Characteristics: Median age 38, range 0 -87 years, 62 women, 38 men

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Elecsys Anti-SARS CoV-2

[B] Liaison SARS-CoV-2 S1/S2 IgG

[C] Euroimmun Anti-SARS CoV-2 IgG ELISA

[D] Euroimmun Anti-SARS CoV-2 IgA ELISA

[E] VIDAS Anti-SARS CoV-2 IgG

[F] VIDAS Anti-SARS CoV-2 IgM

Manufacturer:

[A] Roche Diagnostics, Vilvoorde, Belgium

[B] Diasorin, Saluggia, Italy

[C] [D] Euroimmun, Luebeck, Germany

[E] [F] BioMerieux, Marcy-l'Etoile, France

Antibody:

[A] IgM/IgG (total antibodies including IgG)

[B] IgG

[C] IgG

[D] IgA

[E] IgG

[F] IgM

Antigen target:

[A] N-protein

[B] S1/S2-protein

[C] [D] S1-protein

[E] [F] S-protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] CLIA

[B] CLIA

[C] [D] ELISA

[E] [F] enzyme linked fluorescence assay (ELFA)

Timing of samples:

[1a] 0-54 days pso

[1b] 0-15 days post-PCR +

Wolff 2020 [A] (Continued)

0–7 days post-symptoms or post + PCR: n = 35

8–14 days post-symptoms or post + PCR: n = 31

> 15 days post-symptoms or post + PCR: n = 45

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Laboratory staff

Definition of test positivity:

[A] negative COI < 1, positive COI ≥ 1

[B] negative < 12 AU/mL, borderline ≥ 12 to < 15 AU/mL, positive ≥ 15 AU/mL

[C] [D] negative < 0.8, borderline ≥ 0.8 to < 1.1, positive ≥ 1.1

[E] [F] negative (index < 1) or positive (index ≥ 1)

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes, according to manufacturer

Target condition and reference
standard(s)

Reference standard: qRT-PCR using the RealStar SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR kit 1.0, threshold not stated

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: Yes, prior

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: Pre-pandemic

Samples used: NA, pre-pandemic

Timing of reference standard: NA, pre-pandemic

Blinded to index test: yes, prior

Incorporated index test: no

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests:

[1a] Not stated

[1b] 0–15 days post-PCR + (n = 24)

All patients received same reference standard: No, [2] pre-pandemic

Missing data: 45 samples 16–54 days post not included in review

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Borderline data were found for [B] four samples analysed using the Liaison IgG, two samples using the [C] Euroimmun IgG and [D] IgA.

Borderline data were considered positive for the statistical analyses.

Unit of analysis: Patients

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Not stated

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease

Author COI: No declaration of competing interest

Wolff 2020 [A] (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes		

Wolff 2020 [A] (Continued)

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Low risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

High

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Yes

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Wolff 2020 [B]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s) See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Wolff 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wolff 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wolff 2020 [E]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Wolff 2020 [E] *(Continued)*

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wolff 2020 [F]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wu 2020 [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Two-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity, however it appeared that all participants met Taiwanese reporting criteria for COVID-19: [1] PCR-confirmed symptomatic and hospitalised Covid-19 patients (n = 16) [2] Inpatients with respiratory tract infection or fever but 2 negative PCR results for SARS-CoV-2 (n = 58) (All patients meeting criteria for testing were simultaneously evaluated for SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A/B; if both PCR results were negative, an additional SARS-CoV-2 test was performed using a second sample from the suspected COVID patient)</p> <p>Recruitment: All admitted cases between January 23 and April 25 2020</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 74 (16)</p> <p>Further detail: No more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital inpatient</p> <p>Location: National Taiwan University Hospital</p> <p>Country: Taiwan</p>

Wu 2020 [A] (Continued)

Dates: January 23rd to April 25, 2020

Symptoms and severity: 12/16 (75%) with lower respiratory tract symptoms
10/16 (63%) with upper airway symptoms
8/16 (50%) with body temperature > 38 C
5/16 (31%) with headache or myalgia
3/16 (19%) with gastrointestinal symptoms
3/16 (19%) required intensive care, 1/16 (6%) of which received extracorporeal membrane oxygenation support

Demographics: Age: mean 45.6 years, SD 15.5; sex: 9/16 (56%) male)

Exposure history: Unclear

Non-Covid group 1: Control group

Source: January 23rd to April 25, 2020

Characteristics: Patients hospitalised with respiratory tract infection or fever but with two negative RT-PCR results for SARS-CoV-2

Index tests

Test name:

[A] ALLTEST 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test
[B] Dynamiker 2019-nCoV IgG/IgM Rapid Test
[C] ASK COVID-19 IgG/IgM Rapid Test
[D] Wondfo SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test

Manufacturer:

[A] Hangzhou ALLTEST Biotech Co., Ltd., China
[B] Dynamiker Biotechnology (Tianjin) Co., Ltd., China
[C] TONYAR Biotech Inc., Taiwan
[D] Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech Co., Ltd., China

Antibody:

[A] IgG/IgM
[B] IgG/IgM
[C] IgG/IgM
[D] Total antibody
(Separate results were plotted for IgG and for IgM alone, however insufficient data were available to construct 2 x 2 tables)

Antigen target:

[A] Nucleocapsid
[B] Nucleocapsid
[C] Spike
[D] Not described

Evaluation setting: Designed POC, unclear use

Test method: [A]-[D] Lateral flow assays (no further details)

Timing of samples:

[1] Day 1-14 post-symptom onset: 46/99 (46%)
Day 15-21 post-symptom onset: 23/99 (23%)
> Day 21 post-symptom onset: 30/99 (30%)
[2] Day 1-14 post-symptom onset: 37/58 (64%)
Day 15-21 post-symptom onset: 11/58 (19%)
> Day 21 post-symptom onset: 10/58 (17%)

Wu 2020 [A] (Continued)

	<p>Samples used: Serum</p> <p>Test operator: Unclear</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: Considered as positive according to the manufacturers' instructions</p> <p>Blinding reported: Unclear</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: rRT-PCR targeting envelope, nucleocapsid and RNA-dependent RNA polymerase genes</p> <p>Samples used: Throat or lower respiratory specimens (OP, NP, sputum, gargling)</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: rRT-PCR targeting envelope, nucleocapsid and RNA-dependent RNA polymerase genes (at least two negative results)</p> <p>Samples used: Throat or lower respiratory specimens</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Unclear</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: Yes</p> <p>Missing data: None reported</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: None reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Samples; 99 samples from 16 patients, disaggregated by time period, but certainly multiple examples of multiple samples from the same patient within each time period. If multiple samples per day then only one sample used for rapid antibody testing</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: No funding statement reported</p> <p>Publication status: Published</p> <p>Source: Journal of Infection</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interest.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Wu 2020 [A] (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Wu 2020 [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	No
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Wu 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wu 2020 [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Wu 2020 [C] (Continued)

Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Wu 2020 [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Xiang 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Two-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>Design: PCR conducted for patients presenting with a history of travel to or residence in Wuhan or local endemic areas; [1] 85 RT-PCR-confirmed cases [2] 24 suspected cases with ≥ 2 negative RT-PCR and none positive (and protocol is to retest RT-PCR-negatives every 1-2 days) [3] 60 healthy blood donors (control group) (hospital staff) or from patients with other lung diseases in the same hospital (all PCR-negative) Recruitment: NR Prospective or retrospective recruitment of cases: unclear Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 169 (109; data for 66 lab-confirmed and 24 suspected cases extracted as D+ group) Inclusion and exclusion criteria: unclear</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: hospital inpatients Location: Wuhan Country: China Dates: 19 January-2 March 2020 Symptoms and severity: [1] severe 18/85 (21%) [2] 2/24 (8%) severe Sex: [1] female 54/85 (64%) [2] female 12/24 (50%) [3] 35/60 (58%) female</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Xiang 2020a (Continued)

Age: [1] median 51 (IQR 32-65) [2] median 44 (IQR 36-61) [3] median 34 (IQR 29-51)
Exposure history: NR

Index tests	<p>Test name: Zhuhai Livzon SARS-CoV-2 ELISA Manufacturer: ELISA kits, Livzon Inc, Zhuhai, P.R.China, lot number of IgM: 20200308, IgG: 20200308 Ab targets: IgG IgM Antigens used: N-protein Test method: ELISA Timing of samples: NR Samples used: serum Test operators: NR Definition of test positivity: unclear - "The optical density of each well was determined by a microplate reader set to 450 nm within 30 min. The ratio of optical density to the cut-off value (optical density of the blank well + 0.1) was reported as the Ab concentration. For detection of IgG, the dilution factor was changed (1:20) and the cut off value was modified (optical density of the blank well + 0.13)." Blinded to reference standard: no Threshold predefined: unclear</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard for cases: [1] RT-PCR [2] Symptoms and PCR-negative (no guideline cited but criteria clearly elaborated) Samples used: NP and/or OP swabs Timing of reference standard: NR Blinded to index test: yes Incorporated index test: no Reference standard for non-cases: (no exposure or symptoms) and RT-PCR-negative</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: NR Results presented by time period: no All participants received the same reference standard: Missing data: data per sample were provided for the 85 confirmed cases, however per participant data were available only for 66/85 confirmed cases plus 24/24 suspected cases (total number of cases reported = 90) Uninterpretable results: NR Indeterminate results: NR Unit of analysis: reported both samples and participants</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: this work is funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 81973990, 91643101), and Science Foundation of Huazhong University of Science and Technology (No. 2020kfyXGYJ100). Publication status: published in journal Source: Infectious Disease Society of America Study author COI: declared that they have none</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	No		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		

Xiang 2020a (Continued)

Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?	High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)	
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)	
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?	High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard	
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	Low concern
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear

Xiang 2020a (Continued)

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Xiao 2020a

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity for diagnosing active or prior infection</p> <p>Design: Confirmed cases of COVID-19 (n = 34) according to the diagnosis and treatment guideline for SARS-CoV-2 from Chinese National Health Committee (Version 5) and the interim guidance from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</p> <p>Recruitment method: not reported</p> <p>Sample size: 34 (34)</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Inpatients</p> <p>Location: Tongji Hospital, Wuhan</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: 1-29 February 2020; final follow-up date 3 March 2020</p> <p>Exposure history: NR</p> <p>Patient characteristics: 12 female, 22 male. Median age (review team estimated) 49 years (range 26-87), 22 (65%) male</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>Manufacturer: Shenzhen Yahuilong Biotechnology Co. Ltd.</p> <p>Antibody: IgM and IgG</p> <p>Antigen target: Not described</p> <p>Evaluation setting: laboratory test</p> <p>Test method: CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: Samples acquired ≥ 2 weeks after symptoms onset for 32/34 participants; and on day 2 and day 3 for remaining 2 participants</p> <p>Samples used: Plasma</p> <p>Test operator: not reported</p>

Xiao 2020a (Continued)

Definition of test positivity: not reported

Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: COVID-19 according to diagnosis and treatment guideline for SARS-CoV-2 from Chinese National Health Committee (Version 5) Timing of reference standard: not described Blinded to index test: Not described Incorporated index test:
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference standard: Not described Timing: Not stated Missing data: None Uninterpretable results: None Indeterminate results: None
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: No funding sources declared Author COI: No conflicts of interest declared Source: Pre-proof paper accepted for publication (Journal of Infection)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	

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Xiao 2020a (Continued)

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

Yes

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Low concern

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Unclear

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

Yes

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

Unclear risk

Xiao 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

Purpose: screening and diagnosing asymptomatic carriers; comparing asymptomatic, pre-symptomatic and symptomatic cases
Diagnosis of current or prior infection

Design: Three-group study to estimate sensitivity according to symptomatic status:
(1) 23 asymptomatic cases, (2) 33 pre-symptomatic cases, (3) 19 age-matched symptomatic cases

Recruitment: unclear

Participants selected from consecutive series of 449 COVID-19 patients observed at single hospital:
a. 77 asymptomatic on admission. Excluded: 21 due to severe disease (n = 2), inpatients (n = 5) or having undetectable RNA and IgM (n = 14), leaving 56 discharged patients for inclusion: 1) 23 who remained asymptomatic and 2) 33 who became symptomatic after admission (pre-symptomatic group)
b. 372 symptomatic on admission; random sample of 19 age-matched cases selected (group 3)

Prospective or retrospective: retrospective analysis

Xiao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Sample size: 75 (75)

Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: hospital inpatients</p> <p>Location: Shenzhen Third People's Hospital</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: January 23, 2020-April 1, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Pre-symptomatic* - fever 11 (13%), cough 22 (67%), chest tightness 2 (6%); Symptomatic - fever 13 (68%), cough 13 (68%), chest tightness 1 (5%) *2/77 asymptomatic on admission were excluded due to disease severity and 5/77 excluded as re-mained as inpatients</p> <p>Demographics: Asymptomatic: Age: median (IQR): 30 (41.8), gender, n (%): male 5 (21.7), female 18 (78.3); pre-symptomatic: Age: median (IQR): 45 (30.5), gender, n (%): male 18 (54.6), female 15 (45.5); symptomatic: Age: median (IQR): 25 (36.0), gender, n (%): male 9 (47.4), female 10 (52.6)</p> <p>Exposure history: not clearly reported; asymptomatic on admission (n = 77) identified through active surveillance and contact tracing</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise CLIA Total-Ab assay [B] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA [C] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise SARS-CoV-2 IgM ELISA [D] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise ELISA IgA assay</p> <p>Manufacturer:</p> <p>[A] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise [B] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise [C] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise [D] Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise</p> <p>Antibody: [A] total antibody (Ab), [B] IgG, [C] IgM, and [D] IgA</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] RBD [B] [C] [D] S based</p> <p>Evaluation setting: laboratory test</p> <p>Test method: [A] CLIA [B] [C] [D] ELISA</p> <p>Timing of samples: day 0 to 65 post-symptom onset (or post-admission for asymptomatic group). Number of patients with samples obtained per week varied (total (asymptomatic/pre-symptomatic/symptomatic)): day 1-7 48/75 (17/23/8); day 8-14 38/75 (9/17/22); day 15-30 48/75 (10/21/19); day 31-65 64/75 (17/28/19)</p> <p>Samples used: plasma</p> <p>Test operator: not reported</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: The relative fluorescence of sample to control (COI) was used to estimate the result. Positive: COI > 1</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: not reported; presumably as per manufacturer instructions</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR (GeneoDX Co., Ltd., Shanghai, China on an ABI 7500 thermo cycler) or antibody tests for SARS-CoV-2 (not described), as per Chinese NHC guidelines (version 6)</p>

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Xiao 2020b [A] (Continued)

RT-PCR-positive if Ct < 40.0, and negative if the viral load was undetectable. Samples with Ct > 37 were retested.

Samples used: respiratory specimens for COVID-19 confirmation; anal swabs also obtained (appeared from Figure that fewer anal swabs obtained compared to respiratory)

Timing of reference standard: not reported; appeared to be on admission for majority (64/75) and repeated over time. Tabl 1 reported no obvious difference in the calculated initial Ct value of NP samples between groups: mean (SD) 29.9 (4.8) (n = 19 asymptomatic; 29.1 (6.8) (n = 30 pre-symptomatic); 29.2 (5.7) (n = 15 symptomatic)

Blinded to index test: yes, as only confirmed cases were included

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases: NA

Samples used:

Timing of reference standard:

Blinded to index test:

Incorporated index test:

Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: not reported, but ref standard was performed before index test as only COVID-19 confirmed cases were included</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: not reported, but unlikely, as it was reported that RT-PCR tests or antibody tests for SARS-CoV-2 used to confirm diagnosis</p> <p>Missing data: Unclear; data were not reported for all participants per week since onset and only 32/33 pre-symptomatic were reported in supplementary tables</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: none reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: none reported</p> <p>Unit of analysis: Patients; multiple samples obtained per participant (total 324; 77 asymptomatic, 142 pre-symptomatic, 105 symptomatic), however data per week and overall were reported on a per patient basis (not every patient contributed samples to each week of data post-onset)</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by Shenzhen Bay Laboratory Open Fund (SZBL202002271001).</p> <p>Publication status: Pre-print</p> <p>Source: medRxiv</p> <p>Author COI: Authors declared no competing interests.</p>

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	No		

Xiao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Was a case-control design avoided?	No	
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear	
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear	
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?		High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)		
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)		
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No	
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No	
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Unclear	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Unclear	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Xiao 2020b [A] (Continued)

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

Unclear

Were all patients included in the analysis?

Unclear

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

Yes

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Xiao 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Patient characteristics and setting

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Index tests

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Target condition and reference standard(s)

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Flow and timing

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Comparative

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Xiao 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Xiao 2020b [C] (Continued)

Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Xiao 2020b [D]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Yang 2020 [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to estimate sensitivity and specificity:</p> <p>[1] patients presenting to ED and displaying signs and symptoms suspicious for COVID 19 (n = 87, only 42 PCR-confirmed cases providing 120 samples could be included in the review)</p> <p>[2] Pre-pandemic ED patients (sample number = 320; unclear patient number)</p> <p>[3] Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors (n = 256)</p> <p>Groups [2] and [3] used for different assays</p> <p>Additional cohorts reported but not extracted for the purposes of this review:</p> <p>[4] convalescent patients who were PCR-positive or had Covid-19-like illness but were not tested, and had been symptom-free for at least 14 days (n = 145)</p> <p>[5] Cross-reactivity panel, including: patients treated for recent non-Covid-19 respiratory infections (n = 30); patients with antibodies to known microbial agents or with autoantigens (n = 78); patients who tested positive for one of the respiratory viruses in the Respiratory Pathogen PCR Panel (n = 16)</p>
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Yang 2020 [A] (Continued)

Recruitment: Unclear

Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective

Sample size: 696 (120)

Further detail: Not further described

Patient characteristics and setting

Setting: Accident and Emergency; hospital inpatient

Location: Wells Cornell Medicine, New York

Country: United States

Dates: 6th March to 4th April 2020

Symptoms and severity:

14/42 (33%) discharged from ED

28/42 (67%) inpatients

23/42 (55%) required ICU care

24/42 (57%) required intubation

Demographics: age: mean 56.5 years, SD 16.0; sex: 33/42 male (79%)

Exposure history: Not stated

Non-Covid group 1: [2] Pre-pandemic ED patients

Source: [2] Pre-pandemic (July 2019)

Characteristics: [2] Not stated

Non-Covid group 2: [3] Pre-pandemic healthy blood donors

Source: [3] Pre-pandemic (before 2019)

Characteristics: [3] Not stated

Index tests

Test name:

[A] Pylon COVID-19 IgM and IgG assays; [B] New York SARS-CoV-2 MIA

Manufacturer: [A] ET Healthcare, Palo Alto, CA, USA

[B] Luminex Corporation, Austin, TX, USA (uses recombinant antigen produced at the Wadsworth Center/NYSDOH coupled with a cDNA copy of the N gene of SARS-CoV; coupling carried out using a purchased kit from Luminex)

Antibody:

[A] IgG, IgM, IgG or and IgM

[B] Total antibody

Antigen target:

[A] S-receptor binding domain and recombinant nucleocapsid protein

[B] recombinant nucleocapsid protein

Evaluation setting: Laboratory

Test method:

[A] cyclic enhanced fluorescence assay (CEFA)

Yang 2020 [A] (Continued)

[B] microsphere immunoassay (MIA)

Timing of samples: 0 to > 32 days pso, of the 120 samples from 42 PCR+ cases:

8, 7% day 0-3

33, 28% day 4-7

42, 35% day 8-14

15, 13% day 15-20

21, 18%, day 21-32

1, 0.8% day > 32

Samples used: Serum

Test operator: Not stated

Definition of test positivity:

[A] Samples with an index value ≥ 1 were designated as positive

[B] Samples with an index value ≥ 1.78 were designated as positive

Blinding reported: Unclear

Threshold predefined: Yes

Target condition and reference
standard(s)

Reference standard: RT-PCR (RealStar SARS CoV-2 RT-PCR kit 1.0; Altona Diagnostics USA, Inc)

Samples used: Nasopharyngeal swabs

Timing of reference standard: Unclear; on presentation at ED

Blinded to index test: Unclear; probably yes

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] and [3] Pre-pandemic controls

[4] [5] unclear

[6] PCR+ for other infection

Samples used: NA

Timing of reference standard: NR

Blinded to index test: Yes

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: Yes, MIA results reported for only 114/120 samples from PCR+ cases; no a-b data for 45 PCR- COVID suspects

Uninterpretable results: NR

Indeterminate results: NR

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: Unclear

Yang 2020 [A] (Continued)

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Clinica Chimica Acta

Author COI: ZZ received seed instruments and sponsored travel from ET Healthcare. The manufacturers did not review the article and had no input on data analysis prior to the manuscript submission.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Yang 2020 [A] (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Unclear risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	High risk

Yang 2020 [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Yang 2020 [B] (Continued)

Notes

See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Yongchen 2020

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: one-group study recruiting patients estimating sensitivity</p> <p>Design:</p> <p>[1] 11 non-severe COVID-19 patients</p> <p>[2] 5 severe COVID-19 patients</p> <p>[3] 5 asymptomatic carriers</p> <p>Recruitment: retrospective</p> <p>Sample size (virus/COVID cases): 21 (21)</p> <p>Inclusion and exclusion criteria: no more details available</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Hospital</p> <p>Location: 2 medical centres - Second Hospital of Nanjing and the Affiliated Hospital of Xuzhou Medical University in Jiangsu Province</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: 25 January-18 March 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: 5 severe, 11 non-severe and 5 asymptomatic cases. Asymptomatic carriers were defined as individuals who were positive for COVID-19 nucleic acid but without any symptoms during screening of close contacts.</p> <p>Sex: 13/21 (62%) male; age: median (range) = 37 (10-73)</p> <p>Exposure history: NR</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name: no commercial name stated</p> <p>Manufacturer: Innovita Co., Ltd, China</p> <p>Ab targets: IgG and IgM</p> <p>Antigens used: SARS-CoV-2 S-protein and N-protein</p> <p>Test method: GICA</p> <p>Timing of samples: IPD presented in Fig 1; 1 sample included per patient per time slot</p> <p>Samples used: serum</p> <p>Test operators: NR</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: NR</p> <p>Blinded to reference standard: NR and no assumptions made based on timing of the test</p> <p>Threshold predefined: NR</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard for cases: RT-PCR - confirmed after 2 sequential positive respiratory tract sample results</p> <p>Samples used: throat swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: throat swab samples collected every 1-2 days</p> <p>Blinded to index test: yes (serum samples for serological evaluation were stored for later evaluation)</p> <p>Incorporated index test: no</p> <p>Reference standard for non-cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: NR</p> <p>Results presented by time period: yes</p> <p>All participants received the same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: NR</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: NR</p>

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Yongchen 2020 (Continued)

Indeterminate results: NR
Unit of analysis: participant

Comparative

Notes

Funding: supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Jiangsu Provincial Medical Talent, Six talent peaks project of Jiangsu Province, Advanced health talent of six-one project of Jiangsu Province, Nanjing Medical Science and Technique Development Foundation

Publication status: published paper

Source: Emerging Microbes & Infections

Study author COI: none was declared

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Unclear		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		

Yongchen 2020 (Continued)

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?	Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?	High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing	
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Zhang 2020a [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: Diagnosis of current acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Multi-group study to assess sensitivity and specificity</p> <p>[1] Covid cases (572 samples)</p> <p>[1a] confirmed hospitalised cases (338 samples from 164 patients)</p> <p>[1b] Follow-up cases (234 samples from 234 patients)</p> <p>[2] Non-Covid cases (n = 996)</p> <p>[2a] Healthy controls (n = 600)</p> <p>[2b] With other diseases (n = 396)</p> <p>[3] Suspected COVID patients (162 samples from 154 patients)</p> <p>Recruitment: Samples obtained between December 2019 and March 2020 from Wuhan Recruitment method not stated.</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: Retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 1730 (574) samples</p> <p>Further detail:</p> <p>[1] Inclusion: Hospitalised clinically confirmed Covid patients. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>[2a] Inclusion: Healthy. Exclusion: Not stated</p> <p>[2b] Inclusion: Other diseases, respiratory disease (n = 57), orthopaedic disease (n = 8), hepatobiliary disease (n = 48), gynaecological disease (n = 50), auto-immune disease (n = 10), endocrine disease (n =</p>
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Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Zhang 2020a [A] (Continued)

41), dermal disease (n = 18), nervous system disease (n = 13), kidney disease (n = 32), digestive disease (n = 64), cardiovascular disease (n = 24), blood disease (n = 21), other disease (n = 10).

Exclusion: Not stated.

[3] Suspected COVID cases, close contact with COVID patients

Patient characteristics and setting
Setting:

[1a] Hospitalised

[1b] Outpatients/community (follow-up patients)

[3] close contacts with COVID patients (screening)

Location: Wuhan Huoshenshan Hospital, Wuhan, First Hospital of Changsha, Changsha, and Chinese PLA General Hospital, Beijing

Country: China

Dates: December 2019 to March 2020

Symptoms and severity:

[1a] Ordinary cases (n = 141), severe cases (n = 23) based on the diagnosis and treatment of novel coronavirus pneumonia (trial version 6)

[1b] Not stated

[3] 153/154 asymptomatic (no fever, no abnormalities in CT image)

1/154 first asymptomatic; later developed fever

Demographics:

[1a] Male (n = 92), female (n = 72), age range 25-91 years, median age 62 years

[1b] male (n = 115), female (n = 119), age range 1-84 years, median age 49 years

[3] Not stated

Exposure history:

[1] Not stated

[3] Close contacts of confirmed COVID patients.

Non-Covid group 1: [2a] Healthy controls

Source: [2a] December 2019 to March 2020, Wuhan Huoshenshan Hospital, First Hospital of Changsha and Chinese PLA General Hospital?

Characteristics: Healthy, male, n = 313, female, n = 287; age range: 9-74, median age: 45 years

Non-Covid group 2: [2b] With other diseases

Source: December 2019 to March 2020, Wuhan Huoshenshan Hospital, First Hospital of Changsha and Chinese PLA General Hospital?

Characteristics: male, n = 185, female, n = 211; age range: 1-94, median age: 50 years, respiratory disease (n = 57), orthopaedic disease (n = 8), hepatobiliary disease (n = 48), gynaecological disease (n = 50), auto-immune disease (n = 10), endocrine diseases (n = 41), dermal disease (n = 18), nervous system diseases (n = 13), kidney disease (n = 32), digestive disease (n = 64), cardiovascular disease (n = 24), blood diseases (n = 21), other diseases (neonatal diseases, oral diseases) (n = 10)

Index tests
Test name:

[A] 2019-nCoV IgM Antibody Determination Kit

[B] 2019-nCoV IgG Antibody Determination Kit

Manufacturer:

[A] [B] Beijing Diagreat Biotechnology Co., Ltd., Beijing, People's Republic of China

Zhang 2020a [A] (Continued)

Antibody:

[A] IgM

[B] IgG

Antigen target: [A] [B] S1 and N-protein

Evaluation setting: POCT, unclear setting

Test method: [A] [B] Fluorescence-based lateral flow assay

Timing of samples: [1] 0-70 days of onset of fever

[1a] < 15 days pso: n = 9

15-21 days pso (n = 38)

> 21 days pso (n = 291)

[1b] > 21 days pso: n = 234

[3] Asymptomatic

Samples used: whole blood

Test operator: Lab staff

Definition of test positivity: The 95% percentile of the T/C ratio (the ratio between the fluorescence intensity in test area [T] and the fluorescence intensity in control area [C] on test strip card) was defined as 1 U/L, and this was set as the cut-off value.

Blinding reported: Not stated

Threshold predefined: No, in the present primary experiment, 200 samples obtained from healthy controls were detected to determine the cut-off value.

Target condition and reference standard(s)

Reference standard:

[1] Clinically defined, criteria not described

Possibly RNA test and CT image

[3] RNA test and characteristic CT image

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test:

[1] Yes, prior

[3] Not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Definition of non-COVID cases:

[2] Not stated, none

Samples used: Not stated

Timing of reference standard: Not stated

Blinded to index test: [2] yes, prior

[3] Not stated

Incorporated index test: No

Flow and timing

Time interval between index and reference tests: Not stated

All patients received same reference standard: No

Missing data: yes (9 samples collected in first two weeks not included in review)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Zhang 2020a [A] (Continued)

Uninterpretable results: Not stated

Indeterminate results: Not stated

Unit of analysis: Samples

Comparative

Notes

Funding: This work was supported by the Beijing Science and Technology Planning Project.

Publication status: Published paper

Source: Emerging Microbes and Infections

Author COI: XXL and ZJP are employees of Beijing Diagreat Biotechnology, the commercial manufacturer of the test strips.

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	No		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	No		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the in-		High risk	

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Zhang 2020a [A] (Continued)

dex test have introduced bias?

Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard

Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?

No

Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?

Unclear

The reference standard does not incorporate the index test

Yes

Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?

High risk

Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?

Unclear

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?

Unclear

Did all patients receive the same reference standard?

No

Were all patients included in the analysis?

No

Did all participants receive a reference standard?

No

Were results presented per patient?

No

Could the patient flow have introduced bias?

High risk

Zhang 2020a [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Zhang 2020b [A]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	<p>Purpose: To investigate the potential relationships between immune antibodies and disease progression Diagnosis of acute and convalescent-phase infection</p> <p>Design: Single-group study to estimate sensitivity only: [1] COVID-19 patients (all RT-PCR-positive)</p> <p>Recruitment: Not stated</p> <p>Prospective or retrospective: retrospective</p> <p>Sample size: 112 (112)</p>
Patient characteristics and setting	<p>Setting: Department of Neurology, Inpatient (all admitted)</p> <p>Location: Renmin Hospital of Wuhan University, Hubei</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Dates: February 1 to February 29, 2020</p> <p>Symptoms and severity: Severity: all described as mild, none sent to ICU Symptoms: 10 (8.9%) asymptomatic; 61 (54%) fever, 52 (46%) cough, 29 (26%) fatigue, 15 (13%) pharyngeal pain, (< 10%) diarrhoea, vomiting, myalgia, headache, and eye discomfort</p> <p>Demographics: 33 (29.5%) male; median age 38.6 SD 14.9) y, range 25-78 y</p> <p>Exposure history: Not stated</p> <p>Non-Covid group 1: NA</p>
Index tests	<p>Test name:</p> <p>[A] YHLO SARS-CoV-2 iFlash IgM assay [B] YHLO SARS-CoV-2 iFlash IgG assay</p>

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Zhang 2020b [A] (Continued)

	<p>[C] YHLO SARS-CoV-2 iFlash IgG/IgM assay</p> <p>Manufacturer: [A] [B] [C] Shenzhen YHLO (Yahuilong Biotechnology, Shenzhen, China)</p> <p>Antibody: [A] IgM, [B] IgG, [C] IgG and IgM</p> <p>Antigen target: [A] [B] [C] N and S based</p> <p>Evaluation setting: laboratory</p> <p>Test method: [A] [B] [C] CLIA</p> <p>Timing of samples: range < 10 to 49 d post-symptom onset; data presented by time period</p> <p>Serological antibody tests were performed at different times post-disease onset: < 10 days, 10-20 days, 20-30 days, 30-40 days, 40-50 days</p> <p>Samples used: Not stated; presume serum from introduction/discussion</p> <p>Test operator: Not stated</p> <p>Definition of test positivity: > 10 AU/mL was considered as positive.</p> <p>Blinding reported: Not stated</p> <p>Threshold predefined: Yes (as per manufacturer instructions)</p>
Target condition and reference standard(s)	<p>Reference standard: RT-PCR (SARS-CoV-2 open reading frame 1ab (ORF1ab)/nucleocapsid protein (N) gene); BioGerm, Shanghai, China</p> <p>Samples used: Nasopharynx and oropharynx swabs</p> <p>Timing of reference standard: Not stated</p> <p>Blinded to index test: Unclear</p> <p>Incorporated index test: No</p> <p>Definition of non-COVID cases: NA</p>
Flow and timing	<p>Time interval between index and reference tests: unclear</p> <p>All patients received same reference standard: yes</p> <p>Missing data: Unclear</p> <p>Uninterpretable results: None reported</p> <p>Indeterminate results: no</p> <p>Unit of analysis: patients</p>
Comparative	
Notes	<p>Funding: This work was supported by grants from National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.81822016 and 81771382) to Z. Zhang.</p> <p>Publication status: Accepted manuscript (NB Journal of Infectious Diseases® 2020;XX:1–6 as major article)</p> <p>Source: Journal of Infectious Diseases</p> <p>Author COI: The authors declared no conflict of interests.</p>

Zhang 2020b [A] (Continued)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	Unclear		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Yes		
Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?			Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard			
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes		
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Unclear		
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes		
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Unclear risk	
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?			High

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Zhang 2020b [A] (Continued)

DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing

Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	Yes
Were all patients included in the analysis?	Unclear
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes
Were results presented per patient?	Yes
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?	Unclear risk

Zhang 2020b [B]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Zhang 2020b [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Zhang 2020b [C] (Continued)

Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Comparative	
Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

Zhao 2020a [A]
Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	Purpose: Two-group design estimating sensitivity and specificity in acute-phase sera Design: [1] Confirmed COVID-19 cases (n = 173) with positive RT-PCR testing for COVID-19 (providing 535 plasma samples) [2] Controls - pre-pandemic healthy individuals (n = 213) Recruitment: Not stated Sample size: 386 (173)
Patient characteristics and setting	Setting: Hospital Location: Shenzhen Third People's Hospital Country: China Dates: 11 January to 9 February, 2020 Symptoms and severity: 32/173 (18%) considered critical Demographics: Median (IQR) age 48 (35-61). 84/173 (49%) male Exposure history: 26/173 (73%) clear exposure identified Non-Covid group 1: No information given
Index tests	Test name: IgM and IgG antibody detection kit Manufacturer: Beijing Wantai Antibody: [A] Total Ab, [B] IgM, [C] IgG Antigen target: [A] RBD [B] RBD [C] N-protein Evaluation setting: laboratory Test method: All ELISA assays Timing of samples: Median 7 days pso [IQR 5 - 10 d) Samples used: Plasma Definition of test positivity: Not stated Blinding reported: Not stated Threshold predefined: Not stated
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Reference standard: RT-PCR

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

Zhao 2020a [A] (Continued)

	Samples used: Respiratory tract samples
	Timing of reference standard: Not stated
	Blinded to index test: Not stated
	Incorporated index test: No
	Definition of non-COVID cases: Reference standard based on being pre-pandemic samples
Flow and timing	Time interval between index and reference tests: Unclear
	All patients received same reference standard: No
	Missing data: Inadequate plasma samples for 2 IgM tests and 1 IgG test
	Uninterpretable results: None reported
	Indeterminate results: not stated
	Unit of analysis: Samples
Comparative	
Notes	Funding: Supported by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Author COI: No conflicts of interest noted Publication status: Report from a preprint (not peer reviewed)

Methodological quality

Item	Authors' judgement	Risk of bias	Applicability concerns
DOMAIN 1: Patient Selection			
Was a consecutive or random sample of patients enrolled?	Unclear		
Was a case-control design avoided?	No		
Did the study avoid inappropriate exclusions?	Unclear		
Did the study avoid inappropriate inclusions?	Yes		
Could the selection of patients have introduced bias?		High risk	
Are there concerns that the included patients and setting do not match the review question?			High
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (All tests)			
DOMAIN 2: Index Test (Antibody tests)			
Were the index test results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the reference standard?	No		
If a threshold was used, was it pre-specified?	Unclear		

Zhao 2020a [A] (Continued)

Could the conduct or interpretation of the index test have introduced bias?		High risk
Are there concerns that the index test, its conduct, or interpretation differ from the review question?		Low concern
DOMAIN 3: Reference Standard		
Is the reference standards likely to correctly classify the target condition?	Yes	
Were the reference standard results interpreted without knowledge of the results of the index tests?	Yes	
The reference standard does not incorporate the index test	Yes	
Could the reference standard, its conduct, or its interpretation have introduced bias?		Low risk
Are there concerns that the target condition as defined by the reference standard does not match the question?		High
DOMAIN 4: Flow and Timing		
Was there an appropriate interval between index test and reference standard?	Unclear	
Did all patients receive the same reference standard?	No	
Were all patients included in the analysis?	No	
Did all participants receive a reference standard?	Yes	
Were results presented per patient?	Yes	
Could the patient flow have introduced bias?		High risk

Zhao 2020a [B]

Study characteristics	
Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment

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Zhao 2020a [B] (Continued)

Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Zhao 2020a [C]

Study characteristics

Patient Sampling	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Patient characteristics and setting	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Index tests	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Target condition and reference standard(s)	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Flow and timing	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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Comparative

Notes	See main entry for this study for characteristics and QUADAS-2 assessment
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A&E: Accident and Emergency Department

Ab: antibody

ABEI: (4-aminobutyl)-N-ethylisoluminol

AdV: adenovirus

AFI: acute febrile illness

ANA: antinuclear antibody

ARDS: acute respiratory distress syndrome

ARI: acute respiratory infection

ASLO: antistreptolysin O antibody

AU: arbitrary unit

BMI: body mass index

CDC: Center for Disease Control

CE: Conformité Européenne

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

CMIA: chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay

CMV: cytomegalovirus

CT: computed tomography

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CHIKV: chikungunya virus

CLIA: chemiluminescence immunoassay

COI: conflict of interest

CRU: cardiorespiratory unit

CU: chemiluminescent units

D-: disease negative

D+: disease positive

DABA: double antigen binding assay

DENV: dengue virus

DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid

DRE: digital rectal exam

E: envelope

EBV: Epstein-Barr virus

ECDC: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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ECLIA: electrochemiluminescent immunoassay
ECMO: Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
ED: emergency department
DTA: ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid
EIA: enzyme immunoassay
ELFA: enzyme-linked fluorescent assay
ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
ER: emergency room
EUA: emergency use authorisation
Flu: fluorescence intensity
FMN: flavin mononucleotide
GGO: ground-glass opacity
GI: gastrointestinal
GICA: gold immunochromatography assay
GP: general practitioner
H: hour
HAMA: human anti-mouse antibodies
HAV: hepatitis A virus
HBV: hepatitis B virus
HBcAb: hepatitis B core antibody
HCV: hepatitis C virus
HCW: healthcare worker
HepB: hepatitis B
HEV: hepatitis E virus
HIV: Human immunodeficiency virus
HMPV: Human metapneumovirus
HS: Hidradenitis suppurativa
HTLV: Human T-lymphotropic virus
IAV: influenza A virus
IBV: Infectious bronchitis virus
IC: intensive care
ICU: intensive care unit
ID: immunodiagnostics
IgA: immunoglobulin A
IgG: immunoglobulin G
IgM: immunoglobulin M
IFU: instructions for use
IIFT: indirect Immunofluorescence test
IQR: interquartile range
LFA: lateral flow assay
LFIA: lateral flow immunoassay
LIPS: luciferase immunoprecipitation system
LIS: laboratory information system
LRTI: lower respiratory tract infection
MCLIA: magnetic chemiluminescent immunoassay
MERS: middle east respiratory syndrome
MFI: multiplex fluorescent immunoassay
MPV: mean platelet volume
MuV: mumps virus
MV: measles virus
N-protein: nucleocapsid protein
NA: not applicable
NAAT: nucleic acid amplification test
NAT: nucleic acid testing
NB: nota bene
NC: negative control
NHS: National Health Service
NIH: National Institutes of Health
NIHR: National Institute for Health Research
NP: nasopharyngeal
NR: not reported
NTU: NovaTec-Units

OD: optical density
OP: oropharyngeal
PBS: phosphate buffered saline
PCR: polymerase chain reaction
PHE: Public Health England
PIV: parainfluenza
PLHA: people living with HIV/AIDS
P/N: positive/negative ratio
POC: point-of-care
POCT: point-of-care test
PRNT: plaque reduction neutralization test
pso: post-symptom onset
PUI: person under investigation
QUADAS-2: quality assessment tool for diagnostic accuracy studies 2
RBD: receptor binding domain
RdRp: RNA-dependent RNA polymerase
RDT: rapid diagnostic test
RF: rheumatoid factor
RLU: relative light unit
rN: recombinant
RNA: ribonucleic acid
rpm: revolutions per minute
RPNA: reverse phase protein microarray
RPP: respiratory pathogen panel
ROC: receiver operating characteristic
rS: recombinant spike
RSVA/B: respiratory syncytial virus A/B
RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction
RT-qPCR: reverse transcriptase quantitative polymerase chain reaction
RuV: rubella virus
RV: rhinovirus
S1: spike 1
SARS-CoV-2: severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2
S/C: signal/calibrator
S/CO: signal/cutoff
SD: standard deviation
SE: standard error
S-flow: flow-cytometry based test
SLE: systemic lupus erythematosus
SP: spike-protein
TB: tuberculosis
T/C: ratio between the fluorescence intensity in test area [T] and the fluorescence intensity in control area [C] on test strip card
TDM: therapeutic drug monitoring
Tg: thyroglobulin
TMA: transcription-mediated amplification
TN: true negative
TP: true positive
TPHA: treponema pallidum haemagglutination
TPO: thyroid peroxidase
UTM: universal transport medium
VE: Virotech units
VIDRL: Victorian infectious diseases research laboratory
VZV: varicella-zoster virus
WHO: World Health Organization
WNV: west Nile virus
YFV: yellow fever virus
y: years
ZIKV: Zika virus

Characteristics of excluded studies *[ordered by study ID]*

Study	Reason for exclusion
Abravanel 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Adams 2020b	Index test - assays could not be identified
Alger 2020	Population - no data for sensitivity
Amanat 2020	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Amrun 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Antoine-Reid 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Arumugam 2020	Ineligible study design
Ayouba 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Barallat 2020	Study design - not test accuracy
Baron 2020	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Batra 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Becker 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Bendavid 2020	Index test - cannot identify assay
Black 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Bortz 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Brandstetter 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Brantley 2020	Index test - assay not identified
Brecher 2020	Population - specificity only
Bruni 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Bryan 2020b	Index test - no eligible time split
Buntinx 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Burbelo 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Byrnes 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Cai 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Cassaniti 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Chatzidimitriou 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Chen 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Choe 2020	Index test - no eligible time split

Study	Reason for exclusion
Chughtai 2020	Index test - assay not identified
Colavita 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Comar 2020	Ineligible reference standard
Dahlke 2020	Inadequate sample size
Das 2020	Inadequate sample size
Demey 2020	Inadequate sample size
Di Lorenzo 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Dittadi 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Dobaño 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Dohla 2020	Index test - cannot identify assay
Du 2020	Inadequate sample size
Edouard 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Erikstrup 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Espino 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Fong 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Freeman 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Garcia-Basteiro 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Garcia Garmendia 2020	Inadequate sample size
Grzelak 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Guo 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Guo 2020c	Ineligible population
Guthmiller 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
He 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
He 2020a	Index test - no eligible time split
Hou 2020	Ineligible study design - not test accuracy
Huang 2020a	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Huang 2020b	Index test - inhouse assay
Huang 2020c	Accuracy data cannot be extracted

Study	Reason for exclusion
Hung 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Imam 2020	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Infantino 2020	Population pre-selected - all sero-positive in week 1
Jia 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Jiang 2020b	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Karp 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Karp 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Klumpp-Thomas 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Kruttgen 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Kushemererwa 2020	Index test - assay not identified
Lahner 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Lapunte 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Lee 2020	Inadequate sample size
Lei 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Li 2020a	Index test - no eligible time split
Li 2020b	Index test - no eligible time split
Li 2020c	Index test - no eligible time split
Li 2020d	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Li 2020e	Index test - no eligible time split
Lin 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Linares 2020	Paper withdrawn by authors; https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.07.01.182618v2
Lippi 2020	Ineligible reference standard - used EUROIMMUN ELISA
Liu 2020d	Index test - cannot identify assay
Liu 2020e	Index test - no eligible time split
Liu 2020f	Index test - no eligible time split
Lopez de la Iglesias 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Ma 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
McAndrews 2020	Index test - inhouse assay

Study	Reason for exclusion
Morley 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Munitz 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Mutnal 2020	Inadequate sample size
Nath 2020	Population - specificity only
Nguyen 2020a	Inadequate sample size
Nie 2020	Ineligible study design
Norman 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Nuccetelli 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Okba 2020a	Ineligible study design - not intended as test accuracy
Olivares 2020	Inadequate sample size
Ossareh 2020	Ineligible study design - not test accuracy
Ozturk 2020	Inadequate sample size
Paradiso 2020a	Inadequate sample size
Paradiso 2020b	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Patel 2020	Ineligible reference standard - no reference standard
Pellanda 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Perkmann 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Phan 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Plebani 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Prince 2020	Ineligible reference standard - serological consensus-based
Qian 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Qu 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Rabets 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Randad 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Robledo Gomez 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Rosado 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Rosendal 2020	Inadequate sample size
Rushworth 2020	Index test - inhouse assay

Study	Reason for exclusion
Santos 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Serrano 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Shaw 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Solodky 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Song 2020	Inadequate sample size
Spicuzza 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Staines 2020	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Steiner 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Strömer 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Sun 2020a	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Tan 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Tan 2020a	Ineligible study design
Teng 2020	Population - specificity only
Thevis 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
To 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Tre-Hardy 2020	Inadequate sample size
Valenti 2020	Inadequate sample size
Van Praet 2021	Inadequate sample size
Varadhachary 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Vasarhelyi 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Vidal-Anzardo 2020	Inadequate sample size
Villarreal 2020	Ineligible study design - development phase; may be commercial assay
Wajnberg 2020	Inadequate reference standard
Wan 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Wang 2020b	Inadequate sample size
Wang 2020c	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Wang 2020d	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Wang 2020e	Accuracy data cannot be extracted

Study	Reason for exclusion
Wechselberger 2020	Ineligible reference standard - composite based on 5 commercially available assays
Weiss 2020	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Wen 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Wheeler 2020	Inadequate sample size
Woelfel 2020	Ineligible reference standard
Wu 2020a	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Xiang 2020b	Index test - no eligible time split
Xie 2020a	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Xu 2020a	Index test - inhouse assay
Xu 2020b	Index test - no eligible time split
Xu 2020c	Inadequate sample size
Xue 2020	Inadequate sample size
Yamaoka 2021	Index test - inhouse assay
Yan 2021	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Yildirim 2020	Ineligible population - all seropositive
Yokoyama 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Yu 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Yue 2020	Index test - no eligible time split
Zeng 2020a	Ineligible stdy design
Zeng 2020b	Accuracy data cannot be extracted
Zhang 2020c	Index test - inhouse assay
Zhang 2020d	Index test - inhouse assay
Zhang 2020e	Index test - no eligible time split
Zhang 2020f	Inadequate sample size
Zhao 2020b	Index test - inhouse assay
Zhong 2020	Index test - inhouse assay
Zhou 2020	Index test - no eligible time split

ELISA: enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay

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ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 1. Description of studies

Participants		Studies (percentage) (n = 178 studies)
Sample size ¹	Total (no. cases)	64,688 (25,724)
	Median sample size (IQR)	185 (92, 386); range 16 to 5565
	Median number of SARS-CoV-2 cases (IQR)	94 (47, 168); Range 12 to 1853
Continent	Asia	45 (25)
	Europe	94 (53)
	North America	35 (20)
	South America	2 (1)
	Australia	2 (1)
Setting (SARS-CoV-2 cases only)	Hospital inpatient	78 (44)
	Hospital outpatient	5 (3)
	Emergency departments	6 (3)
	Community	14 (8)
	Quarantine (COVID-19 suspects)	1 (1)
	Mixed	35 (20)
	Unclear	39 (22)
Patient group (SARS-CoV-2 cases only)	Acute	45 (25)
	Acute and asymptomatic	7 (4)
	Acute and convalescent	77 (43)
	Convalescent	40 (40)
	Convalescent and asymptomatic	3 (2)
	Mixed	6 (3)

Table 1. Description of studies (Continued)

Study design		
Recruitment structure	Single group, SARS-CoV-2 cases only	48 (27)
	Single group, both SARS-CoV-2 cases and non-cases	5 (3)
	Two or more groups, both SARS-CoV-2 cases and non-cases	124 (70)
	Unclear	1 (1)
Reference standards		
For COVID-19 cases	All RT-PCR-positive	162 (91)
	China criteria including RT-PCR-negative patients	7 (4)
	Other criteria including RT-PCR-negative patients	4 (2)
	Other criteria	1 (1)
	Mixed	2 (1)
	Unclear	2 (1)
For non-COVID-19 cases (n = 180 control groups from 130 studies)		Denominator = 180
	Pre-pandemic	81 (45)
	Contemporaneous COVID-19 suspects (RT-PCR-negative)	21 (12)
	Contemporaneous healthy or other disease (RT-PCR-negative)	16 (9)
	Contemporaneous healthy or other disease (no RT-PCR reported)	14 (8)
	Cross-reactivity or confounder panel (any time period)	31 (17)
	Mixed	17 (9)
Reference standard controls detail for non-SARS-CoV-2 cases		
Pre-pandemic (n = 81)	Healthy	27 (34)
	Healthy and other disease	50 (63)
	Other disease	1 (1)
	Not specified	2 (3)
Suspected of COVID-19 (n = 21)	Double PCR-negative	6 (29)
	Single PCR-negative	15 (71)
Current RT-PCR-negative (n = 16)	Healthy	3 (19)

Table 1. Description of studies *(Continued)*

	Healthy and other disease	2 (13)
	Other disease	9 (56)
	Current other disease (RT-PCR-negative)	1 (6)
	Not specified	1 (6)
Current untested (n = 14)	Healthy	10 (71)
	Healthy and other disease	4 (29)
Cross-reactivity (n = 31)	Pre-pandemic	11 (35)
	Concurrent	12 (39)
	Mixed timing	4 (13)
	Timing not specified	4 (13)
Mixed (n = 17)	Mixed	17 (100)
Tests		
Number of assays per study (n = 178)	1	76 (43)
	2	34 (19)
	3	32 (18)
	4	23 (13)
	5	9 (5)
	6	6 (3)
	7	7 (4)
	8	4 (2)
	More than 8*	13 (7)
Test technology (n = 527)	ELISA	165 (31)
	CLIA	167 (32)
	LFA	188 (36)
	Other/unclear	7 (1)
Antigen used (n = 522)	N-based	161 (31)
	S-based, including	213 (40)

Table 1. Description of studies (Continued)

S1-based	89 (17)
RBD	42 (8)
S-based (not further specified)	82 (16)
N- and S-based	96 (18)
2019-nCoV	3 (1)
Unclear	54 (10)

¹Based on total number reported per study and does not relate to any particular time slot; the numbers reported in primary studies could be either samples or participants

*Number of assays was 10 in 2 studies, 11 in 2 studies, 12 in 2 studies, 13 in 1 study, 14 in 1 study and 16 in 1 study.

Ab: antibody

CDC: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescence immunoassay

ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

FIA: fluorescence immunoassay

IQR: interquartile range

IIFT: indirect immunofluorescence assay

IQR: interquartile ratio

LFA: lateral flow assay

LIPS: luciferase immunoprecipitation system

max: maximum

min: minimum

N-based: nucleocapsid protein

RBD: receptor binding domain

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

S-based: spike-protein

S-flow: flow-cytometry assay

WHO: World Health Organization

Table 2. Sensitivity by week after onset of symptoms (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)					
Sensitivity (95% CI)					
Target	Days 1-7 (week 1)	Days 8-14 (week 2)	Days 15-21 (week 3)	Days 22-28 (week 4)	Days 29-35 (week 5)
IgG ^a	189 (2177/6679)	202 (5883/9078)	190 (4328/5027)	42 (828/940)	21 (482/531)
	27.2	64.8	88.1	92.6	93.5
	(24.9, 29.7)	(62.1, 67.4)	(86.6, 89.5)	(90.5, 94.3)	(90.8, 95.4)
IgM ^a	126 (1770/4492)	122 (3715/5577)	118 (2416/3231)	23 (220/411)	9 (128/220)
	29.5	64.6	78.3	63.8	59.8

Table 2. Sensitivity by week after onset of symptoms (IgG, IgM, total Ab) *(Continued)*

	(25.8, 33.6)	(60.3, 68.7)	(74.8, 81.4)	(56.5, 70.6)	(50.5, 68.5)
IgG/IgM^a	103 (1593/3881)	96 (2904/3948)	103 (2571/2929)	28 (649/734)	14 (208/225)
	41.1	74.9	88.0	91.3	94.4
	(38.1, 44.2)	(72.4, 77.3)	(86.3, 89.5)	(88.8, 93.3)	(90.7, 96.7)
Total anti-bodies (Ab)^a	27 (428/1010)	29 (804/1030)	33 (908/1016)	7 (208/233)	6 (139/147)
	37.7	79.4	90.9	94.1	97.3
	(31.0, 44.9)	(74.0, 83.9)	(87.8, 93.2)	(89.9, 96.6)	(93.8, 98.8)

^aP values for comparisons across weeks < 0.0001

CI: confidence interval

Table 3. Sensitivity and heterogeneity investigations for convalescent phase infection (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Overall result		Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)			
		Sensitivity (95% CI)			
		IgG	IgM	IgG or IgM	Total Ab
		253 (14,183/16,846)	125 (4683/7124)	108 (3206/3571)	58 (6652/7063)
		89.8	71.2	92.9	94.3
		(88.5, 90.9)	(65.5, 76.2)	(91.0, 94.4)	(92.8, 95.5)
Subgroup analyses					
By test method	ELISA	77 (4642/5888)	18 (721/1138)	6 (146/161)	10 (1631/1729)
		89.4	72.4	93.4	95.2
		(87.0, 91.3)	(56.8, 83.9)	(83.6, 97.5)	(91.5, 97.3)
	CLIA	76 (4666/5135)	17 (431/678)	4 (69/71)	47 (5002/5315)
		92.4	76.2	98.2	94.0
		(90.6, 93.9)	(61.2, 86.7)	(89.9, 99.7)	(92.3, 95.4)
	Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	96 (4791/5734)	88 (3496/5250)	96 (2940/3288)	-
		86.9	69.9	92.3	-
		(84.4, 89.1)	(62.9, 76.0)	(90.3, 93.9)	
Comparison between groups ^a		P < 0.001	P = 0.704	P = 0.194	P = 0.49
By antigen used	N-based	74 (4272/5308)	25 (782/1297)	15 (393/436)	36 (3752/4009)
		89.7	65.4	92.5	93.3

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Table 3. Sensitivity and heterogeneity investigations for convalescent phase infection (IgG, IgM, total Ab) *(Continued)*

	(87.3, 91.7)	(50.7, 77.7)	(86.5, 96.0)	(91.2, 94.9)
S-based	95 (5650/6403)	24 (1041/1465)	26 (1016/1126)	22 (2900/3054)
	90.4	77.9	92.7	95.6
	(88.4, 92.0)	(65.7, 86.6)	(89.0, 95.3)	(93.6, 97.0)
N- and S-based	54 (3122/3657)	50 (1902/3137)	27 (710/797)	-
	90.1	64.6	92.6	-
	(87.2, 92.3)	(54.5, 73.6)	(88.3, 95.4)	
Unclear/not reported	30 (1139/1406)	26 (958/1225)	33 (796/873)	-
	86.8	79.0	93.7	-
	(81.2, 90.9)	(71.1, 85.2)	(90.1, 96.1)	
Comparison between group-_{sa,b}	P = 0.897	P = 0.201	P = 1	P = 0.075
S-based as- says by sub- group	S-based (no further detail)			
	42 (2978/3440)	16 (426/678)	24 (862/978)	1 (24/28)
	88.3	76.3	92.9	86.4
	(85.2, 90.8)	(66.0, 84.3)	(88.3, 95.8)	(54.6, 97.1)
	S1-based			
	42 (2069/2295)	-	2 (233/252)	3 (225/235)
	91.4	-	96.1	95.9
	(88.9, 93.4)		(80.9, 99.3)	(89.5, 98.4)
	RBD			
	11 (603/668)	8 (615/787)	5 (170/189)	18 (2651/2791)
	91.1	79.2	90.7	95.8
	(85.6, 94.6)	(65.2, 88.5)	(76.2, 96.7)	(93.7, 97.2)
Comparison between groups^a	0.1980	0.7130	0.6717	0.3710

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CI: confidence interval

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay **ELISA:** enzyme linked immunosorbent assay **FIA:** fluorescence immunoassay

^aP values generated using the likelihood ratio test comparing the model for each target antibody including a covariate for each variable (test type, antigen or S-antigen) to the model without the covariate

^bexcluding 'unclear/not reported' group

Table 4. Sensitivity in asymptomatic populations (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)
Sensitivity (95% CI)

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Table 4. Sensitivity in asymptomatic populations (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

Target	Days 0-14 post-RT-PCR-positive	Days > 14 post-RT-PCR-positive	Timing unknown
IgG	9 (96/208)	10 (85/111)	9 (82/155)
	49.8	78.2	28.4
	(25.7, 73.9)	(61.5, 88.9)	(10.7, 56.9)
IgM	6 (55/144)	1 (7/27)	2 (22/28)
	42.9	25.9^a	78.6
	(19.5, 70.0)	(11.1, 46.3)^b	(59.8, 90.0)
IgA	3 (41/64)	1 (27/27)	-
	64.1	100^a	-
	(51.7, 74.8)	(87.2, 100)^c	
IgG/IgM	2 (28/68)	-	2 (51/81)
	41.2	-	63.0
	(30.2, 53.1)		(52.0, 72.7)
Total antibodies (Ab)	4 (35/52)	2 (33/38)	2 (6/20)
	67.1	95.5	30.0
	(45.8, 83.1)	(7.2, 100)	(14.2, 52.7)

Ab: antibody

CI: confidence interval

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

^aEstimates and confidence intervals by summing the counts of true positive and false negative across 2 x 2 tables

^b95% exact binomial confidence interval

^c97.5% one-sided exact binomial confidence interval

Table 5. Specificity for non-COVID cases by reference standard (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Test groups (true negatives/non-COVID cases)						
Specificity (95% CI)						
Target	Pre-pandemic	Suspected of COVID-19 (PCR-negative)	Current healthy/ other disease (RT-PCR-negative)	Current untested	Other/ mixed unclear	Comparison between groups ^a
IgG	179 (37,385/38,090)	19 (1496/1569)	29 (7239/7336)	16 (2514/2561)	28 (7319/7384)	
	98.9	97.8	98.5	98.6	98.4	P = 0.006

Table 5. Specificity for non-COVID cases by reference standard (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

	(98.6, 99.1)	(96.5, 98.6)	(97.9, 98.9)	(97.8, 99.1)	(97.4, 99.1)	
IgM	83 (14,691/15,126)	9 (532/597)	20 (2652/2735)	10 (2145/2195)	19 (7088/7153)	
	98.6 (98.0, 99.1)	96.0 (92.9, 97.8)	97.9 (96.7, 98.6)	98.1 (96.6, 98.9)	98.3 (96.9, 99.1)	P < 0.001
IgG/IgM	68 (8989/9262)	18 (1796/1887)	7 (348/359)	6 (705/713)	20 (1809/1887)	
	99.2 (98.5, 99.5)	98.2 (96.3, 99.1)	97.9 (94.4, 99.2)	98.4 (94.8, 99.5)	97.2 (95.2, 98.4)	P = 0.012
Total anti-bodies	45 (12,166/12,207)	4 (534/540)	4 (364/364)	3 (1329/1329)	3 (5373/5388)	
(Ab)	99.8 (99.6, 99.9)	99.5 (97.9, 99.9)	100^a (99.0, 100)**	100^a (99.7, 100)**	99.4 (97.2, 99.9)	P = 0.056

Ab: antibody

CI: confidence interval

PCR: polymerase chain reaction

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

^aP values were generated using the likelihood ratio test by comparing the model including a covariate for each reference standard group to the model without the covariate; the "Other/mixed/unclear" group was not included in the comparison.

^bEstimates and confidence intervals by summing the counts of true positive and false negative across 2 x 2 tables

^c97.5% one-sided exact binomial confidence interval

Table 6. Specificity by test method (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Target	Subgroup	Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)				
		Specificity (95% CI)				
		Pre-pandemic	Suspected of COVID-19	Current RT-PCR-negative	Current untested	Other/mixed unclear
IgG	ELISA	55 (9999/10,336)	6 (585/609)	4 (298/308)	9 (739/745)	9 (544/562)
		98.4 (97.7, 98.9)	96.9 (92.5, 98.7)	97.0 (91.9, 98.9)	99.2 (98.2, 99.7)	97.2 (94.1, 98.7)
	CLIA	55 (16,413/16,545)	9 (640/661)	11 (5854/5899)	2 (820/829)	3 (132/135)
		99.5 (99.2, 99.7)	97.2 (93.8, 98.8)	99.3 (98.6, 99.7)	98.9 (97.5, 99.5)	98.0 (91.5, 99.6)
	Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	68 (10,657/10,889)	4 (271/299)	14 (1087/1129)	5 (955/987)	15 (1393/1425)

Table 6. Specificity by test method (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

		98.7 (98.2, 99.1)	90.7 (77.2, 96.5)	97.3 (95.1, 98.5)	97.5 (95.2, 98.7)	98.5 (97.1, 99.2)
Comparison between groups^a		P < 0.001	P = 0.172	P = 0.01	P = 0.099	P = 0.452
IgM	ELISA	14 (2743/2840)	2 (206/213)	2 (97/98)	4 (617/620)	2 (354/360)
		98.1 (95.7, 99.2)	97.1 (81.6, 99.6)	99.1 (92.3, 99.9)	99.6 (98.3, 99.9)	97.2 (87.6, 99.4)
	CLIA	10 (4232/4298)	3 (79/84)	4 (1471/1510)	1 (583/586)	1 (72/72)
		99.2 (97.7, 99.7)	96.1 (78.0, 99.4)	98.1 (95.3, 99.2)	99.5 (97.6, 99.9)	99.7 (97.6, 100)
	Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	58 (7398/7668)	4 (247/300)	14 (1084/1127)	5 (945/989)	18 (2424/2494)
		98.3 (97.3, 98.9)	80.9 (51.6, 94.4)	97.1 (94.9, 98.4)	97.2 (93.4, 98.9)	97.1 (95.5, 98.1)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.412	P = 0.205	P = 0.436	P = 0.075	P = 0.048
IgG/IgM	ELISA	6 (1269/1294)	-	-	3 (316/320)	-
		99.2 (95.9, 99.9)	-	-	99.2 (94.9, 99.9)	-
	CLIA	1 (40/40)	2 (180/188)	-	-	2 (304/307)
		100^b (91.2, 100)^c	97.3 (28.3, 100)	-	-	99.3 (96.0, 99.9)
	Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	60 (7180/7428)	13 (1404/1477)	7 (348/359)	3 (389/393)	18 (1505/1580)
		98.5 (97.4, 99.2)	99.3 (94.7, 99.9)	96.9 (94.6, 98.3)	99.2 (95.8, 99.8)	96.7 (94.5, 98.0)
Comparison between groups		P = 0.397	P = 0.578	-	P = 0.948	P = 0.085
Total anti-bodies (Ab)	ELISA	8 (2009/2020)	1 (50/50)	-	1 (300/300)	1 (97/100)
		99.6 (98.7, 99.9)	100^b (92.9, 100)^c	-	100^b (98.8, 100)^c	97.0^b (91.5, 99.4)^d

Table 6. Specificity by test method (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

CLIA	36 (9903/9931)	3 (484/490)	4 (364/364)	2 (1029/1029)	1 (26/26)
	99.9	98.8	100^b	100^b	100^b
	(99.7, 99.9)	(97.3, 99.4)	(99.0, 100)^c	(99.6, 100)^c	(86.7, 100)^c
Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Comparison between groups	P = 0.183	-	-	P = 0.948	-

CI: confidence interval

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

ELISA: enzyme linked immunosorbent assay

FIA: fluorescence immunoassay

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

^aP values were generated using the likelihood ratio test comparing the model for each reference standard group including a covariate for test method to the model without the covariate

^bEstimates and confidence intervals by summing the counts of true positive and false negative across 2 x 2 tables

^c97.5% one-sided exact binomial confidence interval

^d95% exact binomial confidence interval

Table 7. Sensitivity by test method by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Target	Test method	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)				
Sensitivity (95% CI)				
IgG	By test method			
	ELISA	56 (487/1780)	62 (1783/2991)	54 (1227/1416)
		21.8	63.7	89.6
		(17.1, 27.4)	(58.7, 68.4)	(86.5, 92.1)
	CLIA	46 (480/1616)	51 (1541/2382)	43 (1125/1282)
		28.0	66.1	87.4
		(22.0, 34.9)	(60.8, 71.0)	(83.5, 90.5)
	Lateral flow/CGIA/FIA	83 (881/2816)	85 (2122/3171)	90 (1901/2236)
		28.1	67.6	87.1
		(23.5, 33.3)	(63.6, 71.5)	(84.3, 89.4)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.178	P = 0.461	P = 0.38

Table 7. Sensitivity by test method by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab) *(Continued)*

IgM	By test method			
	ELISA	21 (670/208)	21 (802/1217)	16 (367/461)
		29.3	68.2	84.5
		(21.6, 38.4)	(57.1, 77.5)	(73.5, 91.4)
	CLIA	19 (208/536)	17 (590/889)	14 (488/613)
		35.0	64.2	78.7
		(25.5, 45.7)	(51.3, 75.4)	(65.0, 88.1)
	Lateral flow/ CGIA/FIA	82 (1020/2819)	82 (1970/3099)	87 (1548/2142)
		32.6	63.4	76.9
		(28.1, 37.4)	(57.6, 68.9)	(71.4, 81.7)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.69	P = 0.74	P = 0.422
IgG/IgM	By test method			
	ELISA	8 (67/197)	8 (376/514)	8 (225/237)
		33.8	72.9	95.9
		(21.6, 48.6)	(64.5, 79.9)	(91.0, 98.2)
	CLIA	4 (78/173)	4 (224/286)	2 (173/178)
		43.9	75.9	97.3
		(25.0, 64.8)	(64.1, 84.7)	(89.6, 99.3)
	Lateral flow/ CGIA/FIA	90 (1439/3470)	83 (2275/3115)	91 (2127/2454)
		40.5	74.6	88.7
		(36.2, 44.9)	(71.9, 77.2)	(86.3, 90.7)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.634	P = 0.886	P = 0.006
Total antibodies (Ab)	By test method			
	ELISA	6 (158/292)	8 (304/342)	7 (209/219)
		56.5	88.5	96.4
		(37.4, 73.8)	(80.1, 93.6)	(91.4, 98.6)
	CLIA	19 (252/660)	20 (474/648)	25 (685/782)
		34.6	76.0	88.4

Table 7. Sensitivity by test method by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab) *(Continued)*

	(24.3, 46.6)	(68.2, 82.4)	(83.6, 92.0)
Lateral flow/ CGIA/FIA	7 (103/272)	-	-
	39.2 (7.9, 82.9)	-	-
Comparison between groups^a	P = 0.181	P = 0.029	P = 0.013

CI: confidence interval

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

ELISA: enzyme linked immunosorbent assay

FIA: fluorescence immunoassay

^aP values were generated using the likelihood ratio test comparing the model for each target antibody by week after onset including a covariate for test method to the model without the covariate; comparison does not include the 'unclear/not reported' test method category

Table 8. Sensitivity by antigen type by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Target	Antigen	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Test groups (true positives/COVID cases)				
Sensitivity (95% CI)				
IgG	N-based	52 (553/1928)	61 (1715/2688)	53 (1173/1307)
		26.2	66.7	91.2
		(20.9, 32.2)	(61.9, 71.1)	(88.5, 93.2)
	S-based	64 (577/2236)	65 (1864/3222)	65 (1433/1717)
		21.1	59.8	85.4
		(17.0, 26.0)	(54.9, 64.5)	(82.2, 88.2)
	N- and S-based	43 (765/1509)	47 (1752/2272)	40 (1168/1323)
		37.7	76.7	89.2
		(30.4, 45.5)	(72.1, 80.8)	(86.0, 91.8)
Unclear/not reported	30 (282/1006)	29 (552/896)	32 (554/680)	
	22.6	61.2	82.5	
	(14.2, 34.1)	(52.0, 69.6)	(76.6, 87.2)	
Comparison between groups ^a		P = 0.001	P < 0.0001	P = 0.01
IgM	N-based	31 (311/1062)	33 (952/1607)	26 (442/630)
		25.4	57.8	72.2

Table 8. Sensitivity by antigen type by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab) *(Continued)*

		(18.9, 33.1)	(47.5, 67.5)	(61.1, 81.1)
	S-based	24 (365/905)	21 (846/1116)	22 (573/675)
		37.8	78.2	89.0
		(28.6, 48.1)	(67.7, 86.1)	(81.8, 93.5)
	N- and S-based	43 (754/1529)	41 (1456/2060)	39 (966/1292)
		35.1	66.3	76.5
		(28.2, 42.8)	(57.3, 74.2)	(68.4, 83.0)
	Unclear/not re- ported	28 (340/996)	27 (461/794)	31 (435/634)
		29.6	61.2	76.0
		(20.9, 40.1)	(52.5, 69.3)	(66.6, 83.4)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.084	P = 0.025	P = 0.011
IgG/IgM	N-based	22 (294/836)	21 (742/1042)	21 (507/549)
		34.0	71.2	94.9
		(27.7, 40.9)	(65.8, 76.1)	(91.3, 97.0)
	S-based	24 (431/1016)	22 (705/921)	26 (810/920)
		41.8	77.3	90.6
		(35.4, 48.5)	(72.4, 81.6)	(86.0, 93.7)
	N- and S-based	25 (377/829)	23 (717/947)	20 (539/628)
		44.6	76.7	87.1
		(37.9, 51.5)	(71.8, 81.0)	(80.6, 91.7)
	Unclear/not re- ported	31 (469/1162)	30 (740/1038)	35 (681/788)
		37.9	73.4	87.3
		(28.5, 48.2)	(68.7, 77.7)	(83.2, 90.5)
Comparison between groups^a		P = 0.058	P = 0.166	P = 0.032
Total antibodies (Ab)	N-based	15 (169/535)	17 (432/608)	20 (502/565)
		28.9	74.6	90.8
		(19.1, 41.2)	(66.2, 81.5)	(85.5, 94.3)
	S-based	12 (259/475)	12 (372/422)	13 (406/451)
		54.6	86.5	91.0

Table 8. Sensitivity by antigen type by week after onset (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

	(40.1, 68.4)	(78.9, 91.7)	(84.5, 95.0)
N- and S-based	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Comparison between groups^a	P = 0.011	P = 0.033	P = 0.942

Ab: antibody

CI: confidence interval

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

ELISA: enzyme linked immunosorbent assay

FIA: fluorescence immunoassay

N: nucleocapsid protein

S: spike-protein

^aP values were generated using the likelihood ratio test comparing the model for each target antibody by week after onset including a covariate for antigen type to the model without the covariate; for each comparison, the 'unclear/not reported' category was not included

Table 9. Specificity by antigen type (IgG, IgM, total Ab)

Test groups (true negatives/non-COVID cases)						
Specificity (95% CI)						
Target	Antigen subgroup	Pre-pandemic	Suspected of COVID-19	Current RT-PCR negative	Current untested	Other/mixed unclear
IgG	N-based	55 (13,929/14,159)	7 (542/559)	6 (834/840)	4 (697/705)	6 (508/526)
		99.1	97.3	99.4	99.0	97.6
		(98.7, 99.4)	(94.5, 98.7)	(97.9, 99.8)	(97.6, 99.6)	(93.4, 99.2)
	S-based	66 (14,331/14,615)	7 (696/722)	11 (4569/4604)	7 (521/525)	12 (836/854)
		98.9	96.9	98.4	99.3	98.4
		(98.4, 99.2)	(94.0, 98.4)	(96.6, 99.2)	(98.0, 99.8)	(96.4, 99.3)
	N- and S-based	37 (7325/7449)	3 (197/204)	9 (1661/1706)	5 (1296/1331)	5 (5550/5573)
		99.0	95.8	98.0	97.9	98.7
		(98.4, 99.4)	(87.7, 98.7)	(95.7, 99.1)	(95.9, 98.9)	(96.0, 99.6)
	Un-clear/not reported	21 (1800/1867)	2 (61/84)	3 (175/186)	-	5 (425/431)
		98.8	73.4	96.5	-	98.8
		(97.0, 99.5)	(53.3, 87.0)	(83.9, 99.3)		(96.2, 99.6)
Comparison between groups ^a		P = 0.594	P = 0.804	P = 0.276	P = 0.167	P = 0.748

Table 9. Specificity by antigen type (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

IgM	N-based	22 (5564/5674)	3 (258/268)	2 (99/99)	3 (455/464)	5 (476/501)
		98.4	96.3	100^b	98.6	95.9
		(96.9, 99.2)	(93.2, 98.0)	(96.3, 100)**	(95.0, 99.6)	(89.9, 98.4)
	S-based	16 (2800/2870)	1 (38/40)	6 (720/746)	2 (400/400)	4 (379/387)
		98.3	95.0	96.9	100^b	98.4
		(96.3, 99.2)	(82.1, 98.7)	(93.2, 98.6)	(99.1, 100)^c	(94.6, 99.5)
N- and S-based	28 (4957/5114)	3 (194/204)	9 (1655/1704)	5 (1290/1331)	5 (5809/5834)	
	98.9	95.1	97.8	98.4	99.0	
	(97.8, 99.5)	(91.1, 97.3)	(95.5, 99.0)	(95.5, 99.4)	(97.2, 99.6)	
Un-clear/not reported	17 (1370/1468)	2 (42/85)	3 (178/186)	-	5 (424/431)	
	97.2	47.3	95.7	-	98.6	
	(93.9, 98.8)	(9.9, 88.0)	(91.6, 97.8)		(95.7, 99.6)	
Comparison between groups ^a		P = 0.653	P = 0.803	P = 0.089	P = 0.04	P = 0.173
IgG or IgM	N-based	11 (2595/2637)	3 (236/236)	1 (4/4)	4 (361/368)	5 (416/451)
		99.2	100^b	100^b	98.1	94.1
		(96.7, 99.8)	(98.4, 100)^c	(39.8, 100)^c	(96.1, 99.1)	(87.9, 97.2)
	S-based	16 (3748/3800)	7 (994/1018)	3 (231/238)	2 (344/345)	5 (468/479)
		99.4	99.0	97.1	99.7	98.0
		(97.9, 99.8)	(95.3, 99.8)	(94.0, 98.6)	(97.9, 100)	(95.2, 99.2)
	N- and S-based	19 (1106/1170)	4 (385/406)	1 (38/39)	-	4 (491/513)
		98.8	95.6	97.4	-	96.3
		(96.1, 99.6)	(82.8, 99.0)	(83.9, 99.6)		(91.5, 98.5)
	Un-clear/not reported	21 (1347/1455)	4 (181/227)	2 (75/78)	-	6 (434/444)
		97.6	79.7^a	96.2	-	98.3
		(94.4, 99.0)	(73.9, 84.8)^d	(88.7, 98.8)		(94.6, 99.5)

Table 9. Specificity by antigen type (IgG, IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

Comparison between groups ^a		P = 1	P = 0.021	P = 0.617	-	P = 0.236
Total Ab	N-based	26 (5808/5824)	3 (303/306)	2 (277/277)	2 (1029/1029)	1 (26/26)
		99.9	99.0	100^b	100^b	100^b
		(99.6, 99.9)	(97.0, 99.7)	(98.7, 100)^c	(99.6, 100)^c	(86.8, 100)^c
	S-based	19 (6358/6383)	1 (231/234)	2 (87/87)	1 (300/300)	1 (97/100)
		99.8	98.7	100^b	100^a	97.0
		(99.4, 99.9)	(96.1, 99.6)	(95.8, 100)^c	(98.8, 100)^c	(91.1, 99.0)
	N- and S-based	-	-	-	-	1 (5250/5262)
		-	-	-	-	99.8
						(99.6, 99.9)
	Unclear/not reported	-	-	-	-	-
Comparison between groups ^a		P = 0.525	P = 0.741	-	-	-

CI: confidence interval

N: nucleocapsid protein

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

S: spike-protein

^aP values were generated using the likelihood ratio test comparing the model including a covariate for test method to the model without the covariate for each reference standard group per target antibody; for each comparison, the 'unclear/not reported' group was not included

^bEstimates and confidence intervals by summing the counts of true positive and false negative across 2 x 2 tables

^c97.5% one-sided exact binomial confidence interval

^d95% exact binomial confidence interval

Table 10. Sensitivity and specificity by brand (IgG, IgG or IgM, total Ab)

Target antibody	Test brand	Test name	Antigen	95% CI > 90% ^a	Convalescent	Sensitivity (% 95% CI)	95%CI > 96% ^b	Pre-pan-demic	Specificity (% 95% CI) ^c
Method				(Yes/No)	N evalua-tions (N sam-ples)			N evalua-tions (N samples)	
IgG alone									
CLIA	Autobio Diag-nostics	SARS-CoV-2 CLIA Microparti-cles IgM/IgG	S	Y	1 (271/273)	99.3(97.4, 99.9)	N		no data
LFA	Qingdao HIGHTOP	SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM Ab Rapid Test	N, S	Y	1 (216/229)	94.3 (90.5, 96.9)	N	1 (149/150)	99.3 (96.3, 100)
LFA	Sure Biotech	SARS-CoV-2 IgG/IgM Antibody Rapid Test	N, S	Y	2 (226/235)	96.2 (92.8, 98.0)	N	2 (370/378)	98.7 (87.2, 99.9)
CLIA	Abbott Diag-nostics	Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid IgG/IgM	N	Y	33 (1824/1977)	92.5 (90.3, 94.3)	Y	24 (7460/7483)	99.7 (99.5, 99.8)
CLIA	Shenzhen YH-LO Biotech	YHLO iFlash IgG/IgM assay	N, S	Y	5 (260/268)	97.0 (94.1, 98.5)	Y	2 (657/661)	99.4 (98.4, 99.8)
LFA	Augurix SA	SimtomaX Corona Check IgG	N, S	N	1 (124/220)	56.4 (49.5, 63.0)	Y	1 (267/268)	99.6 (97.9, 100)
LFA	bioMerieux	Vidas SARS-CoV-2 IgG	S (RBD)	N	2 (101/107)	94.4 (88.1, 97.5)	Y	2 (1084/1085)	99.9 (99.3, 100)
LFA	Biopanda	COVID-19 Rapid Ab test	N, S	N	1 (102/163)	62.6 (54.7, 70.0)	Y	1 (499/500)	99.8 (98.9, 1.00)
LFA	Dynamiker Biotechnolo-gy	2019-nCoV IgG Rapid Test	N	< 100	1 (72/75)	96.0(88.8, 99.2)	Y	1 (395/403)	98.0(96.1, 99.1)
LFA	Fortress Diag-nostics	COVID-19 Total Ab	S	N	1 (258/307)	84.0 (79.5, 88.0)	Y	1 (493/500)	98.6 (97.1, 99.4)

Table 10. Sensitivity and specificity by brand (IgG, IgG or IgM, total Ab) (Continued)

LFA	SD Biosensor	COVID-19 IgG Duo	N	< 100	4 (50/69)	74.2 (52.1, 88.3)	Y	4 (1125/1127)	99.8 (96.2, 100)
ELISA	Beijing Wantai	ELISA IgG assay	S	< 100	2 (57/58)	98.3 (90.8, 99.9)	Y	1 (195/197)	99.0 (96.4, 99.9)
ELISA	Eagle Bio-sciences	COVID-19 IgG Quantitative ELISA	N	N	1 (539/1134)	47.5 (44.6, 50.5)	Y	1 (429/437)	98.2 (96.4, 99.2)
ELISA	Epitope Diag-nostics	EDI nCov COVID-19 IgM ELISA kit	N	N	13 (780/934)	87.7 (78.1, 93.4)	Y	13 (2892/3014)	98.0 (96.2, 99.0)
ELISA	EUROIMMUN	anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG ELISA	S (S1)	N	41 (2200/2442)	90.8 (88.6, 92.7)	Y	29 (4998/5144)	98.4 (97.5, 98.9)
CLIA	Abbott Diag-nostics	Abbott Alinity anti-SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid IgG	N	N	2 (149/163)	91.3 (83.8, 95.5)	Y	2 (636/640)	99.4 (98.3, 99.8)
CLIA	Beckman Coulter	Beckman Coulter - Access SARS-CoV-2 IgG	S (RBD)	< 100	2 (78/94)	92.4 (38.8, 99.6)	Y	1 (396/399)	99.2 (97.8, 99.8)
CLIA	DiaSorin	LIAISON SARS-CoV-2 S1/S1 IgG CLIA	S	N	21 (1523/1735)	88.1 (84.1, 91.2)	Y	16 (4290/4367)	98.6 (97.8, 99.1)
CLIA	Ortho Clinical Diagnostics	VITROS Anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total assay IgG	S (S1)	N	3 (201/221)	92.3 (80.8, 97.1)	Y	3 (1139/1141)	99.8 (99.3, 100)
CLIA	SNIBE	MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV IgG kits	N, S	N	7 (325/369)	89.9 (83.3, 94.1)	Y	7 (1801/1818)	99.1 (98.5, 99.4)
Other	ET Healthcare	Pylon 3D automated im-munoassay system IgG	N, S	< 100	2 (37/37)	100 (90.5, 100)	Y	1 (316/320)	98.8 (96.8, 99.7)
IgG or IgM									
LFA	SureScreen Diagnostics	COVID-19 Coronavirus Rapid Test Cassette IgG/IgM	S	Y	3 (248/257)	96.5 (93.4, 98.2)	Y	2 (497/500)	99.4 (98.2, 99.8)
LFA	Guangzhou Wondfo	SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test	S	N	6 (211/265)	85.1 (69.0, 93.6)	Y	4 (1644/1648)	99.8 (98.8, 100)
LFA	SD Biosensor	COVID-19 IgG Duo	N	< 100	1 (6/7)	85.7 (42.1, 99.6)	Y	1 (933/942)	99.0 (98.2, 99.6)
LFA	NG Biotech	NG-Test IgG COVID-19	N	N		no data	Y	2 (274/276)	99.3 (97.2, 99.8)

**Table 10. Sensitivity and specificity by brand (IgG, IgG or IgM, total Ab)** (Continued)

ELISA	Epitope Diagnostics Inc.	EDI nCov COVID-19 IgM ELISA kit	N	< 100	2 (42/50)	84.0 (71.1, 91.8)	Y	4 (1159/1184)	97.9 (96.9, 98.6)
Total Ab									
ELISA	Beijing Wantai	ELISA Total-Ab assay	S (RBD)	Y	8 (1562/1649)	95.7 (92.6, 97.5)	Y	8 (2009/2020)	99.5 (99.0, 99.7)
CLIA	Ortho Clinical Diagnostics	VITROS anti-SARS-Cov-2 Total assay	S (S1)	Y	2 (192/200)	96.0 (92.2, 98.0)	Y	2 (995/997)	99.8 (98.5, 100)
CLIA	Roche Diagnostics	Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody assay	N	Y	34 (3669/3916)	93.4 (91.1, 95.1)	Y	25 (5569/5579)	99.8 (99.7, 99.9)
CLIA	Siemens Healthcare	Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay	S (RBD)	Y	7 (979/1009)	96.7 (94.2, 98.1)	Y	6 (2435/2439)	99.9 (99.3, 100)
CLIA	Xiamen Inn-oDx	2019-nCoV antibody test kit Total-Ab	S (RBD)	< 100	1 (37/38)	97.4(86.2, 99.9)	Y	1 (267/270)	98.9(96.8, 99.8)
CLIA	Siemens Healthcare	Siemens Vista Total-Ab assay	S (RBD)	N	1 (94/116)	81.0 (72.7, 87.7)	Y	1 (596/596)	100 (99.4, 100)
Other	Luminex	SARS-CoV-2 MIA Total Ab	N	< 100	1 (19/19)	100(82.4, 100)	Y	1 (254/256)	99.2(97.2, 99.9)

a pre-set criteria for sensitivity were assay evaluation in ≥ 200 samples and lower bound of 95% CI for sensitivity was 90% or higher

b pre-set criteria for specificity were assay evaluation in ≥ 200 samples, point estimate for specificity $\geq 98\%$ and lower bound of 95% CI was 96% or higher

c sensitivity and specificity estimates per brand are not necessarily paired estimates from the same set of studies (i.e. were not calculated from the same meta-analytic model) but were calculated separately using univariate analyses such that there may be differences in the set of studies contributing to sensitivity and to specificity for any given test brand (although there will be overlap between them).

CI: confidence interval

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

ELISA: enzyme linked immunosorbent assay

FIA: fluorescence immunoassay

LFA: lateral flow assay

N: nucleocapsid antigen

RBD: receptor binding domain

RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

S: soluble antigen

Table 11. Direct comparisons of test brands: convalescent phase IgG, IgG or IgM or total Ab (with around 100 samples per brand)

Study	Setting (cases)	Test method	New combined name	Antigen	Target	TP/D+	Sensitivity	Range in percentage points
Comparison of lateral flow assays								
Flower 2020 [A]	Community	CGIA	Guangzhou Wondfo - SARS-CoV-2 Ab	S-based	IgG or IgM	75/99a	75.8%	26.4
Flower 2020 [B]	Community	CGIA	Zhejiang Orient-Gene IgG/IgM	N- and S-based	IgG	113/127	89.0%	
Flower 2020 [C]	Community	Not detailed	Fortress Diagnostics - COVID-19 Total Ab	S-based	IgG	258/307	84.0%	
Flower 2020 [D]	Community	Not detailed	Biopanda - COVID-19 Rapid Ab test	N- and S-based	IgG	102/163	62.6%	
Flower 2020 [E]	Community	Not detailed	Mologic - IgG COVID-19	N- and S-based	IgG	99/148	66.9%	
Rudolf 2020 [A]	Unclear	CGIA	CTK OnSite COVID-19 IgG/IgM	S-based	IgG	158/212	74.5%	40.6
Rudolf 2020 [B]	Unclear	CGIA	Sure Biotech - SARS-CoV-2 IgM/IgG Ab	N- and S-based	IgG	216/224	96.4%	
Rudolf 2020 [C]	Unclear	CGIA	Augurix SimtomaX Corona Check	N- and S-based	IgG	124/220	56.4%	
Rudolf 2020 [D]	Unclear	Not detailed	TAmRNA SARS-CoV-2 Ab	S1-based	IgG or IgM	203/222	91.4%	
Rudolf 2020 [E]	Unclear	Not detailed	NTBIO One Step IgG/IgM	Unclear	IgG	188/219	85.8%	
Rudolf 2020 [F]	Unclear	Not detailed	MEXACARE QuickTestCorona IgG/IgM	N- and S-based	IgG	190/224	84.8%	
Rudolf 2020 [G]	Unclear	CGIA	Xiamen Biotime SARS-Cov-2 IgG/IgM	Unclear	IgG	183/200	91.5%	
Rudolf 2020 [H]	Unclear	Not detailed	Inzek - BIOZEK COVID-19 IgG/IgM	Unclear	IgG	106/115	92.2%	

Table 11. Direct comparisons of test brands: convalescent phase IgG, IgG or IgM or total Ab (with around 100 samples per brand) (Continued)

Rudolf 2020 [I]	Unclear	CGIA	MEDsan COVID19 IgG/IgM	N- and S-based	IgG	201/227	88.5%	
Rudolf 2020 [J]	Unclear	Not detailed	Qingdao HIGHTOP IgM/IgG	N- and S-based	IgG	216/229	94.3%	
Rudolf 2020 [K]	Unclear	Not detailed	Hangzhou Biotest - RightSign IgG/IgM	S-based	IgG	130/134	97.0%	
Weidner 2020 [E]	Community	CGIA	MEDsan COVID19 IgG/IgM	N- and S-based	IgG or IgM	92/99 ^a	92.9%	4.1
Weidner 2020 [F]	Community	CGIA	Wantai SARS-CoV-2 Ab rapid assay	RBD	IgG or IgM	87/98 ^a	88.8%	
Comparison of laboratory-based tests								
Chaudhuri 2020 [A]	Mixed	CLIA	Diasorin - LIAISON SARS-CoV-2	S-based	IgG	313/379	82.6%	6.9
Chaudhuri 2020 [B]	Mixed	ELISA	Zyodus Covid Kavach IgG	Unclear	IgG	287/379	75.7%	
DomBourian 2020 [A]	Unclear	ELISA	Epitope Diagnostics - EDI nCov COVID-19	N-based	IgG	84/99 ^a	84.8%	7.0
DomBourian 2020 [B]	Unclear	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	90/98 ^a	91.8%	
Gudbjartsson 2020 [A]	Community	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total ab	1120/1215	92.2%	46.6
Gudbjartsson 2020 [B]	Community	ELISA	Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	1143/1215	94.1%	
Gudbjartsson 2020 [C]	Community	ELISA	EDI/Eagle COVID-19 IgG/IgM	N-based	IgG	539/1134	47.5%	
Harritshoej 2021 [A]	Community	ELISA	Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	120/123	97.6%	16.6
Harritshoej 2021 [B]	Community	CLIA	Ortho Clinical VITROS Anti-SARS-Cov-2	S-based	IgG	118/123	95.9%	
Harritshoej 2021 [C]	Community	CLIA	Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	117/121	96.7%	

Table 11. Direct comparisons of test brands: convalescent phase IgG, IgG or IgM or total Ab (with around 100 samples per brand) (Continued)

Harritshoej 2021 [D]	Community	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total ab	118/123	95.9%	
Harritshoej 2021 [E]	Community	CLIA	YHLO SARS-CoV-2 iFlash IgG/IgM assay	N- and S-based	IgG	118/123	95.9%	
Harritshoej 2021 [F]	Community	CLIA	Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	115/123	93.5%	
Harritshoej 2021 [G]	Community	CLIA	Abbott Alinity anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	115/123	93.5%	
Harritshoej 2021 [H]	Community	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	102/123	82.9%	
Harritshoej 2021 [I]	Community	CLIA	Snibe Diagnostic - MAGLUMI 2019-nCoV	N- and S-based	IgG	101/122	82.8%	
Harritshoej 2021 [J]	Community	CLIA	Diasorin - LIAISON SARS-CoV-2	S-based	IgG	110/123	89.4%	
Harritshoej 2021 [L]	Community	CLIA	Ortho Clinical VITROS Anti-SARS-Cov-2	S1-based	Total ab	120/123	97.6%	
Harritshoej 2021 [M]	Community	CLIA	Siemens Vista Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	94/116	81.0%	
Horber 2020 [A]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	128/132	97.0%	7.6
Horber 2020 [B]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total ab	118/132	89.4%	
Horber 2020 [C]	Hospital inpatient	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	126/132	95.5%	
Kaltenbach 2020 [B]	Community	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	226/239	94.6%	5.1
Kaltenbach 2020 [C]	Community	ELISA	Epitope Diagnostics - EDI nCov COVID-19	N-based	IgG	214/239	89.5%	
Korte 2021 [A]	Unclear	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	132/141	93.6%	7.8
Korte 2021 [C]	Unclear	ELISA	Epitope Diagnostics - EDI nCov COVID-19	N-based	IgG	121/141	85.8%	

Table 11. Direct comparisons of test brands: convalescent phase IgG, IgG or IgM or total Ab (with around 100 samples per brand) (Continued)

MacMullan 2020 [B]	Unclear	ELISA	Gold Standard SARS-CoV-2 IgG ELISA	N-based	IgG	85/123	69.1%	21.1
MacMullan 2020 [D]	Unclear	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	111/123	90.2%	
NSAE 2020 [A]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	458/490	93.5%	4.9
NSAE 2020 [B]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Diasorin - LIAISON SARS-CoV-2	S-based	IgG	468/490	95.5%	
NSAE 2020 [C]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total Ab	481/490	98.2%	
NSAE 2020 [D]	Hospital inpatient	CLIA	Siemens Atellica Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total Ab	482/490	98.4%	
Patel 2021 [A]	Community	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	S1-based	IgG	127/146	87.0%	17.5
Patel 2021 [B]	Community	ELISA	Epitope Diagnostics - EDI nCov COVID-19	N-based	IgG	115/146	78.8%	
Patel 2021 [C]	Community	ELISA	ImmunoDiagnostics SARS-CoV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	107/140	76.4%	
Patel 2021 [D]	Community	CLIA	Abbott Architect anti-SARS-CoV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	135/146	92.5%	
Patel 2021 [E]	Community	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total ab	201/214	93.9%	
Weidner 2020 [A]	Community	ELISA	EUROIMMUN - anti-SARS-COV-2 IgG	N-based	IgG	179/197	90.9%	10.0
Weidner 2020 [B]	Community	ELISA	Wantai ELISA Total-Ab assay	RBD	Total ab	98/100	98.0%	
Weidner 2020 [C]	Community	CLIA	Roche - Elecsys anti-SARS-CoV-2 Ab	N-based	Total ab	94/99	94.9%	
Weidner 2020 [D]	Community	CLIA	Diasorin - LIAISON SARS-CoV-2	S-based	IgG	88/100	88.0%	

Ab: antibody

CGIA: colloidal gold immunoassay

CLIA: chemiluminescent immunoassay

D+: number of positive cases included in the analysis

ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

TP: true positive

^aIn principle the cut-off for inclusion was evaluation in at least 100 samples, however, to allow inclusion of as many studies with direct test comparisons as possible, we reported studies reporting evaluation in 98 samples or more.

WHAT'S NEW

Date	Event	Description
1 September 2022	New search has been performed	Review updated to include studies available up to 30 September 2020. This is the first update of the review.
1 September 2022	New citation required and conclusions have changed	This iteration of the review restricts study inclusion to evaluations of commercially produced tests and to those reporting sensitivities according to time after onset of infection, primarily defined as time from symptom onset. The number of test brands with available data has increased as has the amount of data by week after symptom onset (up to day 35). We have also been able to analyse data for those in the convalescent phase of infection (defined as 21 days or more after symptom onset, or 14 days or more after a positive PCR test) and for those reported as asymptomatic at the time of testing.

HISTORY

Review first published: Issue 6, 2020

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS

JDi was the contact person with the editorial base.

TF and JDi co-ordinated contributions from the co-authors and wrote the final draft of the review.

JDi, CD, YT, JJD, JG, STP, GS, JB screened papers against eligibility criteria.

RS conducted the literature searches

TF, JG, JDi, JB, GS, DH, YM, PW, DW, BB, HB, KP, YS, JJD, YT, CD, STP appraised the quality of papers.

TF, JG, JDi, JB, GS, DH, YM, PW, DW, BB, HB, KP, YS, JJD, YT, CD, STP extracted data for the review

TF, JG, JDi sought additional information about papers from study authors.

TF and JDi entered data into Review Manager 5.4.1.

KS, TF and JDi analysed and interpreted data.

TF, JDi, JJD, YT, CD, STP, RS, ML, MM, LH, AVB, DE, SD, JC, JV worked on the methods sections.

All authors reviewed, edited, contributed to, and approved this review.

JDi is the guarantor of the update.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Tilly Fox: none known

Julia Geppert: none known

Jacqueline Dinnes: FIND (grant/contract); Cochrane DTA editor

Katie Scandrett: none known

Jacob Bigio: none known

Giorgia Sulis: none known

Dineshani Hettiarachchi: none known

Yasith Mathangasinghe: none known

Praveen Weeratunga: none known

Dakshitha Wickramasinghe: none known

Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2 (Review)

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Hanna Bergman: none known

Brian S Buckley: none known

Katrin Probyn: none known

Yanina Sguassero: Cochrane Response (employment); editor assistant of CDPLPG and Cochrane Clinical Answers.

Jane Cunningham: no relevant interests; affiliated to WHO, which produces guidance on use of SARS-CoV-2 rapid tests.

Sabine Dittrich: FIND (employment), the global alliance for diagnostic.

Devy Emperador: no relevant interests; employed by FIND with funding from FCDO and KFW. FIND is a global non-for profit product development partnership and WHO Diagnostic Collaboration Centre. It is FIND's role to accelerate access to high quality diagnostic tools for low-resource settings and this is achieved by supporting both R&D and access activities for a wide range of diseases, including COVID-19. FIND has several clinical research projects to evaluate multiple new diagnostic tests against published Target Product Profiles that have been defined through consensus processes. These studies are for diagnostic products developed by private sector companies who provide access to know how, equipment/reagents, and contribute through unrestricted donations as per FIND policy and external SAC review.

Lotty Hooft: no relevant interests; DTA Editorial Team; PMG implementation team.

Mariska MG Leeftang: no relevant interests; Diagnostic Test Accuracy Editorial Team member.

Matthew DF McInnes: no relevant interests; works as a health professional at the Ottawa Hospital.

René Spijker: none known

Thomas Struyf: none known

Ann Van den Briel: none known

Jan Verbakel: none known

Clare Davenport: no relevant interests; Contact Editor for the Cochrane DTA Editorial Team; not involved in the editorial process for this review update because of this conflict of interest.

Yemisi Takwoingi: no relevant interests; Member, Cochrane Editorial Board; Editor, Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group; Statistical Editor, Cochrane BJMT Group; Cochrane DTA Editor.

Sian Taylor-Phillips: finddx (grant/contract) - funding to Warwick University from Birmingham University to fund a staff member time (approx 6 months part time) working on this review. No funding to individuals (funds originally came from FIND diagnostics, a charity); National Institute for Health Research (grant/contract) - NIHR Career Development Fellowship NIHR-CDF-2016-018 for methods of evaluating screening tests. Money to institution (University of Warwick); involved with the EDSAB-HOME study, Public Health England, as co-author but did not receive any funds for participation.

Jonathan J Deeks: no relevant interests; Eight podcasts, including Talk Evidence (BMJ), More-or-Less (Radio 4), Inside Science (Radio 4), The Newscast (Radio 4). Five opinion pieces in Guardian, unHerd and the BMJ. Numerous television, radio and mainstream media interviews giving substantial coverage of scientific issues related to test evaluation for COVID-19. Presented evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee, and the All Parliamentary Party Investigation on COVID-19. Two invited editorials on COVID-19 for the BMJ; Cochrane DTA editor.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Internal sources

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
- University of Birmingham, UK

External sources

- Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), UK

Project number: 300342-104

- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), UK
- NIHR Birmingham Biomedical Research Centre at the University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and the University of Birmingham, UK

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

- We planned to check the following websites for eligible index tests, however, these did not prove to be very accessible or easy to use and, after initial review, were not further considered:
 - National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Innovation Observatory (www.io.nihr.ac.uk/)
 - www.rapidmicrobiology.com/test-method/testing-for-the-wuhan-coronavirus-a-k-a-covid-19-sars-cov-2-and-2019-ncov
 - Meta-evidence (meta-evidence.co.uk/the-role-of-evidence-synthesis-in-covid19/)
- QUADAS-2 (Whiting 2011), item "Was there an appropriate interval between index test(s) and reference standard?" was dropped from assessment because, for antibody tests, the body's immune response to SARS-CoV-2 infection tends to increase over time such that the time between confirmation of the presence of SARS-CoV-2 and the index test is less relevant than the time from symptom onset to the application of the index test.
- We intended for two authors to independently perform data extraction, however, one review author extracted study characteristics, and a second author checked them. Contingency table data were extracted independently by two review authors as planned.
- We did not undertake planned sensitivity analyses because we did not include any unpublished studies, company documents, and no study used spiked samples.

Differences between the original review and this review update

As the evidence base evolves over the course of the pandemic, we have made some adjustments to our original approach with the following changes between earlier versions of the review and this update:

- Review inclusion criteria amended to only include studies evaluating commercially developed tests and to only include studies reporting sensitivity in predefined time periods.
- Search sources included in the protocol and the previous version of this review, the Cochrane COVID-19 Study Register and the CDC Database of COVID-19 Research Articles, were not included in this version as the single source from the University of Bern living search database did not involve manual effort to de-duplicate and, therefore, proved more efficient to process. The exceptionally large numbers of COVID-19 studies available only as preprints also contributed to this decision as preprints were not covered by the Cochrane COVID-19 Study Register at that time.
- We checked for published versions of studies identified only as preprints in the electronic searches such that some studies have study IDs reflecting a 2021 publication date, despite the study having been identified prior to the 30 September 2020 search cut-off.
- We increased the minimum number of samples or participants required for a study to be included to 25. In the previous version of this review we excluded studies with fewer than 10 samples or participants.
- We made further efforts to separate studies that evaluated the test in patients who were symptomatic (with active infection) from those who had recovered from their symptoms (convalescent), however, differences in reporting between studies (some by week after onset of symptoms and some in longer time periods) meant that we were still not able to fully separate these groups. Our stratification of results according to time since onset of symptoms will better reflect these categorisations compared to the previous review iteration, however.
- We did not conduct planned heterogeneity investigations by reference standard for COVID-19 cases because the majority used RT-PCR alone.
- We investigated differences in reference standards used for non-COVID-19 cases and time after onset of symptoms as part of the primary analyses.

INDEX TERMS

Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

Antibodies, Viral; *COVID-19 [diagnosis] [epidemiology]; COVID-19 Vaccines; Immunoglobulin G; Immunoglobulin M; Pandemics; *SARS-CoV-2; Seroepidemiologic Studies

MeSH check words

Humans