# Syphilis Total Antibody (SYP) Test

**Syphilis total Antibody - 3rd generation ELISA for the detection of IgG and IgM antibodies to Treponema pallidum**

**Related investigations:** SYPM SYPR Syphilis PCR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen type</th>
<th>Venous blood</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Container</td>
<td>A serum gel, CE marked blood tube</td>
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</table>
| Volume / quantity requirements | Minimum volume
- Adults 3-5 mls
- Children 1-2 mls |

**Optimal time and method of collection**
- This is a screening test only, if clinical history suggests recent contact with Syphilis please note date of last contact in clinical details as further, in depth testing may be required.

**Transportation**
- Place the labelled specimen inside a sealed plastic bag attached to a correctly filled in microbiology request form.
- Transport the specimen to the Microbiology Department at UHND as soon as possible.
- For general transportation information refer to the transport page.

**Storage**
- Specimens that cannot be transported or processed immediately should be refrigerated (2-8°C)

**Special considerations and limitations**
- Interference may be encountered with certain sera containing antibodies directed against reagent components

**Relevant clinical information**
- State the date of onset of infection or other relevant clinical details.
- State the date of contact or if appropriate.
- State if the patient is immunocompromised / pregnant.

**Consent information**
- Healthcare professionals: Consent must be obtained from patient before testing. Consent is only assumed when the tests are listed individually on the request form.

**Biological reference intervals and clinical decision values**
- Samples testing positive for Syphilis are sent to Freeman Laboratory Newcastle for confirmation.

**Availability of testing**
- Syphilis testing is available 3-4 days per week depending on number of samples.
- Please contact the laboratory to arrange priority testing during routine laboratory hours.
- Urgent Syphilis testing is not available outside of routine laboratory hours.

**Measured turnaround time**
- Refer to the Microbiology Turnaround Times page for current information

**Information for patients**
- Information on this page is intended for clinical staff. Please refer to your healthcare professional if you have any queries regarding your test or visit the NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk).