

## Understanding test results

Especially during the corona crisis, it is important for physicians and laypeople to interpret test results correctly. Together with the [Robert Koch Institute](#), we have developed methods that make the interpretation of antibody (and other) tests easier.

## What does a test result indicate? When does testing make sense?

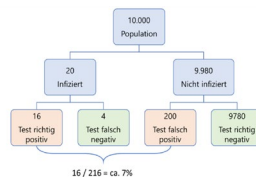
### Identify critical parameters

The sensitivity (true positive rate of a test) and the specificity (true negative rate of a test) describe how good a test is. In addition to these values, the spread of the virus (prevalence) is critical for interpreting test results correctly.



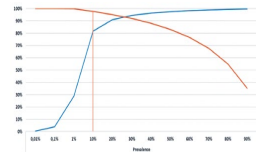
### Natural frequencies

Natural frequency trees graphically represent how a population is divided into subpopulations. This allows the ratio of true-positive to false-positive test results or true negative to false-negative test results to be grasped quickly and intuitively.



### Usefulness at a glance

With the help of two graphs, which show the ratio of correctly tested to incorrectly tested people, it is possible to see at which levels of virus prevalence antibody, antigen, or other tests provide reliable results.



## Using antibody tests sensibly

With this approach, test results can be interpreted more easily in various situations and follow-up decisions can be made more effectively:



### Private

Individuals and medical staff can better understand and communicate the likelihood that their test result is reliable.



### Politics

Decision makers develop a better understanding of the statistics behind corona antibody tests and gain a more solid basis for making decisions.

Can we also help you to communicate complex medical topics?  
Contact us today: [good.decisions@simplyrational.de](mailto:good.decisions@simplyrational.de)