



# SUNCOAST

AMPLIFYING WHAT WORKS  
COVID-19 RESPONSE

Charlotte  
DeSoto  
Manatee  
Sarasota

Through the COVID-19 Response initiative at The Patterson Foundation, this weekly Amplify communication aims to weave together what works in each of the counties for a healthier and more thriving Suncoast. You're receiving this message because you've been identified as a community advocate, and we hope you'll share these stories and messages far and wide in your network.

## COVID-19 Antibody Testing Now Available To All Blood Donors At SunCoast Blood Centers

By Elizabeth Djinis, Herald-Tribune

At the start of the pandemic, antibody tests were a valuable way for people to determine whether they once had an asymptomatic case of COVID-19, as well as the strength of their current immunity.

Now that vaccines are widely available, [third doses are being offered to the immunocompromised](#) and [booster shots are under discussion by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#), antibody levels have taken on a different significance. Those in Sarasota-Manatee who want more information about their own antibodies have a new and free opportunity to get them — at [SunCoast Blood Centers' local blood banks and mobile drives](#).

All SunCoast Blood Centers are now offering a free COVID-19 antibody test along with a successful blood donation. The test does not delineate by level of antibodies but indicates whether someone has the presence of COVID-19 antibodies or not, whether due to a vaccine or because they had contracted COVID-19 at some point. Read more [here](#).

### When Should You Get Tested?

The CDC recommends that anyone with any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 get tested, regardless of vaccination status or prior infection. To learn more about when you should get tested or additional testing options, click [here](#).



#### DID YOU KNOW?

The COVID-19 antibody test detects whether someone has developed antibodies to COVID-19 or has antibodies due to a vaccine. The

antibody test is not a diagnostic test and will not indicate whether you currently have COVID-19 or prevent infection or re-infection. You can find more answers to commonly asked questions by visiting the Suncoast Blood centers FAQ page [here](#).

Graphic:

You can download this image in English [here](#), Spanish [here](#), or Haitian Creole [here](#).

### Suncoast COVID-19 Stats Week of October 11, 2021

COUNTY	7 Day Rolling Ave. of Daily New Cases	A Population ^12 with at Least One Vaccination Dose
Charlotte	41  last wk: 53	73%
DeSoto	6  last wk: 12	57%
Manatee	69  last wk: 108	68%
Sarasota	51  last wk: 80	76%

We all can do our part to get us back to normal! Encourage your family, friends, stakeholders, clients, and others to continue to get vaccinated. [Getting vaccinated](#) is the best protection against COVID-19 and its variants.

### CONTACT US

Please forward this to your network, and when you have stories about overcoming and thriving during COVID-19, please send them to Cheri Coryea at:

[CCoryea@thepattersonfoundation.org](mailto:CCoryea@thepattersonfoundation.org)



#COVID19  
@ThePattersonFdn

