Researchers at WashU Med, led by Michael Diamond, MD, PhD, have found that antibodies elicited by COVID-19 vaccination become steadily more powerful for at least a year after infection. (WashU Med News, Feb. 15, 2022)

Antibodies improve in quality for months after COVID-19 vaccination

Antibodies' efficacy in fighting off a new infection.

Ali Ellebedy, PhD, who cautions the emergence of new variants could diminish antibody quality may partially compensate for falling levels, says senior author Sabina Yoo, MD, of the School of Medicine.

Antibody tests have not always been reliable at confirming prior infection, whereas the protection from vaccination is more predictable. In consideration of this, we need to be careful about interpreting the levels of antibodies alone as an indicator of how well protection is going to be. We see a lot of variability in the quality of antibodies and how robust they will be.