Detection of SARS-Cov2 Without High Demand Reagents (Singleplex Assays)

In 1 collection

Allyson Cole-Strauss, Joseph Patterson¹, John Beck¹, Caryl Sortwell¹, Jack Lipton¹

¹Michigan State University

Coronavirus Method Development Community

Joseph Patterson
Michigan State University

ABSTRACT

In the United States, access to testing for the novel coronavirus (SARS-Cov2) is severely limited. Arguably, the PCR based tests are the most reliable when it comes to detecting the virus. Critical reagents for these tests, however, are in short supply. Our group has worked to identify and test alternative reagents and supplies that are not in high demand by clinical labs. We have adapted a more traditional approach to isolating RNA does not use a kit. RNA isolated can be used in traditional quantitative PCR or droplet digital PCR, which has been shown to be ~500 times more sensitive.

GUIDELINES

Samples should be processed for RNA extraction (at least up until they can be frozen at -80 °C) within 48 hours of collection.

SAFETY WARNINGS

Human samples should be handled with care, and sample preparation performed in at least a BSL-2 lab.