

Development of diagnostic kit for COVID-19 by THSTI

Dr. Gagandeep Kang, executive director of DBT's Faridabad based autonomous institute, the Translational Health Sciences and Technology (THSTI) has proclaimed that the institute is developing its own diagnostic kit for COVID-19. At present most of the kits used in India at current time are developed by the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune. NIV is also validating nine alternative kits from private firms. Such validation involves running clinical samples through the kits and measuring the rates of false-positive and false-negative results. The THSTI's diagnostic kit is still some time away from being ready to use. According to Dr. Kang, Government of India's memo regarding easing the norms of on COVID-19 research will make it easier to validate the test with human samples at THSTI also. Such efforts will boost the development of diagnostics and conducting clinical trials in this regard.

Source: <https://science.thewire.in/the-sciences/covid-19-research-empowered-committee-dst-dbt-niv-testing-kits-hcq-rt-pcr-gisaid/>