

DNA Xperts: Faster COVID-19 diagnosis solutions

The year 2020 was all about the global health pandemic that caused widespread disruptions. The outbreak of novel coronavirus has taken the world by storm and the magnitude of the crisis has literally overwhelmed our health systems. Several start-ups have come up with potential solutions to address the COVID-19 challenges. One such start-up is DBT's Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), New Delhi, supported DNA Xperts that has come up with faster COVID-19 diagnosis solutions.

The start-up has been funded under BIRAC Fast Track review for the ***Xpert COVID-19 - Fast RT-PCR Kit*** and ***Xpert VTM (Viral Transport Medium) Kit***. The fast RT-PCR Kit *in vitro* amplification assay is designed for detection of SARS Corona Virus 2019 (COVID-19) for the highly sensitive, accurate and fast qualitative detection of viral RNA from clinical specimens.



Features of the kit:

- Fast-RNA to PCR results in 57 minutes.
- The kit has been developed based on CDC guidelines & validated by NIV/ICMR.
- It is compatible with various Real-Time PCR instruments available in the market and is highly scalable.
- Highly sensitive with superior limit of detection.

- Highly specific: It has zero cross-reactivity with other respiratory viruses, and has 100% homology with all published SARS-CoV-2 sequences
- User friendly – It has got easy to use protocol.

The Viral Transport Media Kit (VTM kit) is designed for the efficient sample collection and transport of clinical samples to the test site for molecular detection. This kit is a specially formulated liquid medium used for the collection and transport of clinical specimens from the collection site to the testing laboratory. This medium can be used for the recovery of viral agents including; Coronavirus, Herpes Simplex Type I, Herpes Simplex Type II, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Influenzae A, Influenzae B, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Echovirus, Adenovirus. It is designed to maintain the optimum viability and virulence of the viral sample. This Kit is a fast, safe and convenient system for transport of samples to the testing site. Sample collection swabs are of the best quality and tested to be leak proof during transportation.



This start-up is undoubtedly striving to be true to its vision of delivering the best support and the best results.

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