



# Molecular Diagnostics & Point of Care Testing

Ellis Jacobs, Ph.D., DABCC, FACB

Director, Scientific Affairs, Abbott Rapid Diagnostics

Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Meeting Name

Location

day | month | year

# Disclaimers

- I am a salaried employee of Abbott Rapid Diagnostics
- ARDx produces molecular testing devices for use at the POC
- All data in this presentation can be found in product labeling or peer reviewed literature
- This will be a balanced presentation describing the characteristics of various molecular POCT systems

# Advantages of Rapid Testing for Infectious Diseases

Faster directed therapy to reduce:

- **antibiotic resistance**
- **hospital length-of-stay**

**Less adverse consequences**

**Teachable moment**

**Reduced length-of-stay** in Emergency Department

Timely application of **appropriate infection control** procedures

# What are the issues of respiratory disease?

## The symptoms of respiratory diseases are vague

- Pneumonia symptoms
  - Cough
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Difficulty breathing
- Influenza
  - Cough
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Malaise

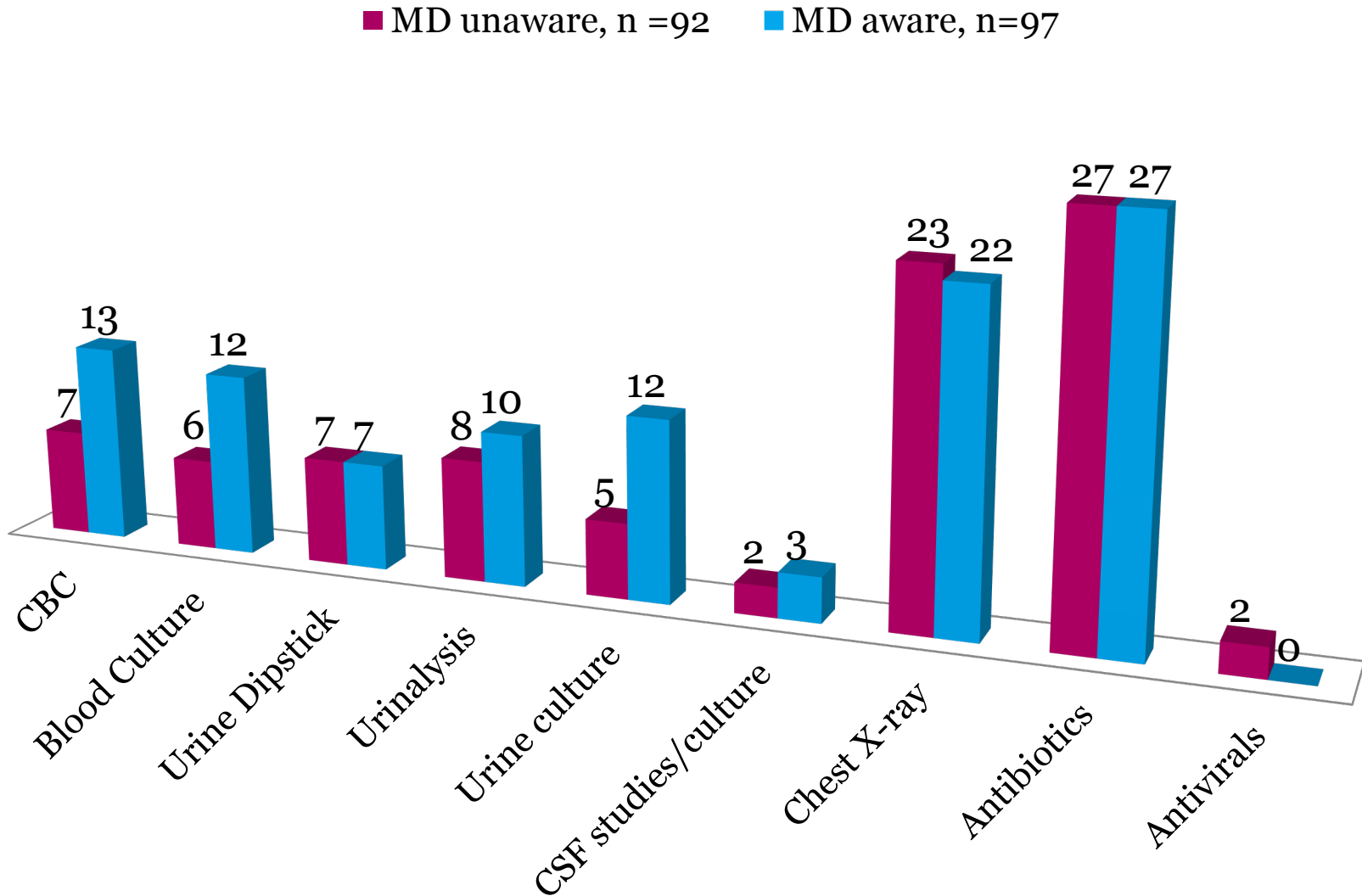
## Treatment is different

- Bacteria
  - Broad spectrum antibiotic
  - Narrow spectrum antibiotic
- Influenza
  - Antiviral
  - Treat symptoms only

## Complications of mistreatment

- Mistreatment of bacterial etiology
  - May increase morbidity/mortality
  - May have longer hospital stay
  - May get *C. difficile*
- Mistreatment of influenza
  - May have increased resistance and *C. difficile*

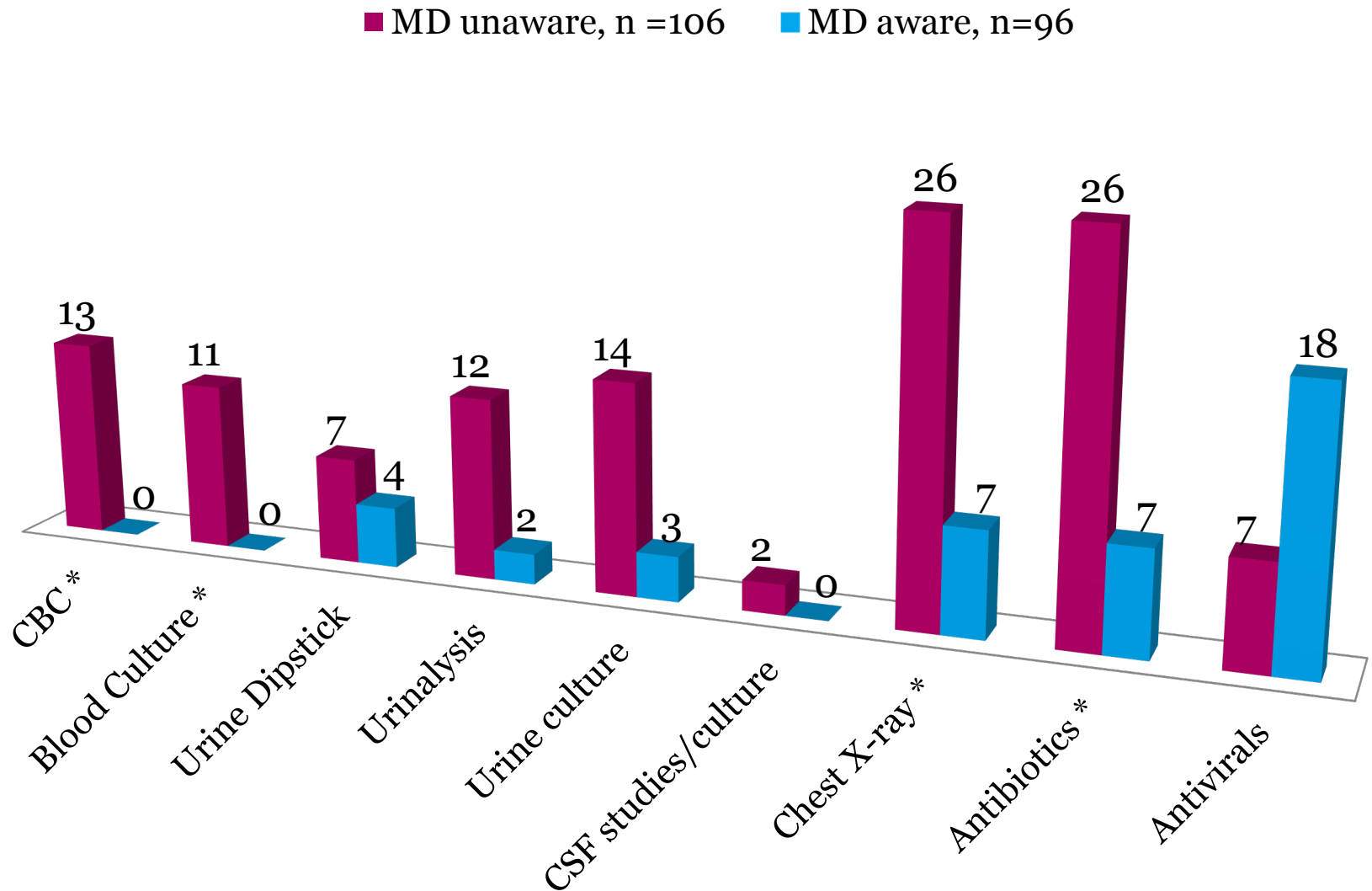
# Results – Flu Negative



Data sourced from Bonner, *et al*, Pediatrics (2003) 112:363-367

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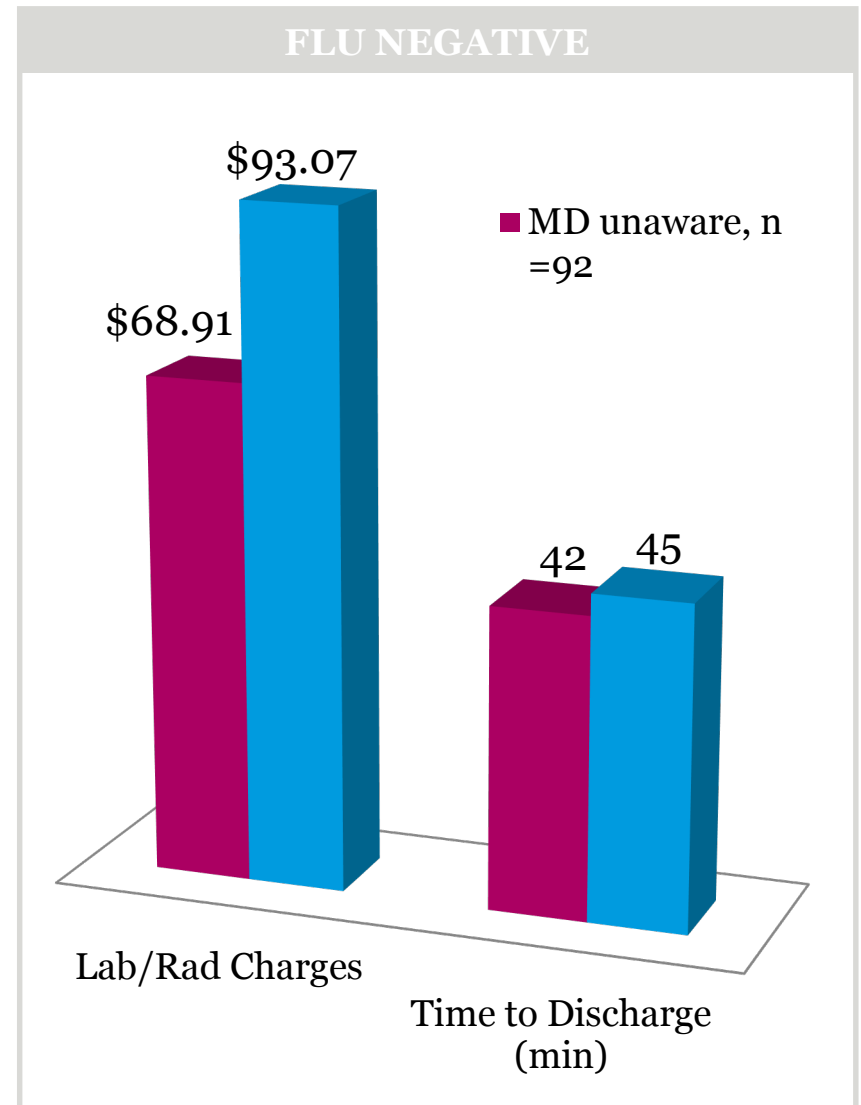
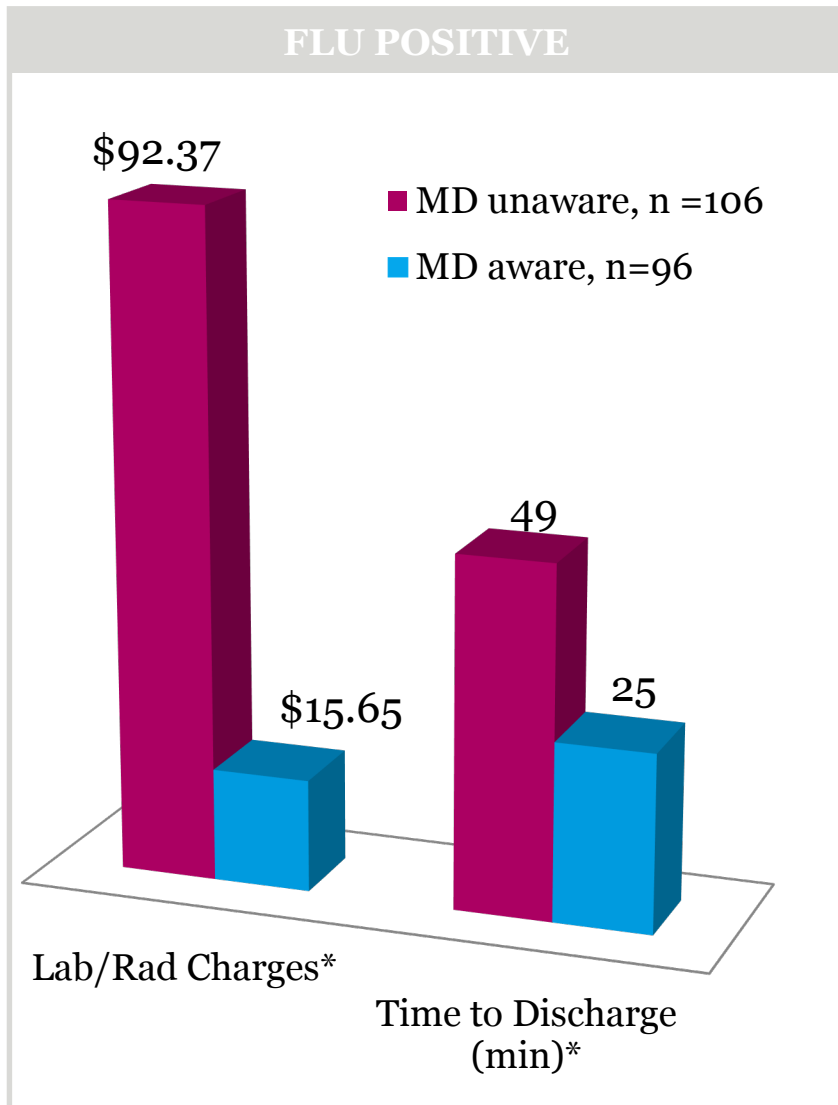
# Results – Flu Positive



Data sourced from Bonner, *et al*, Pediatrics (2003) 112:363-367

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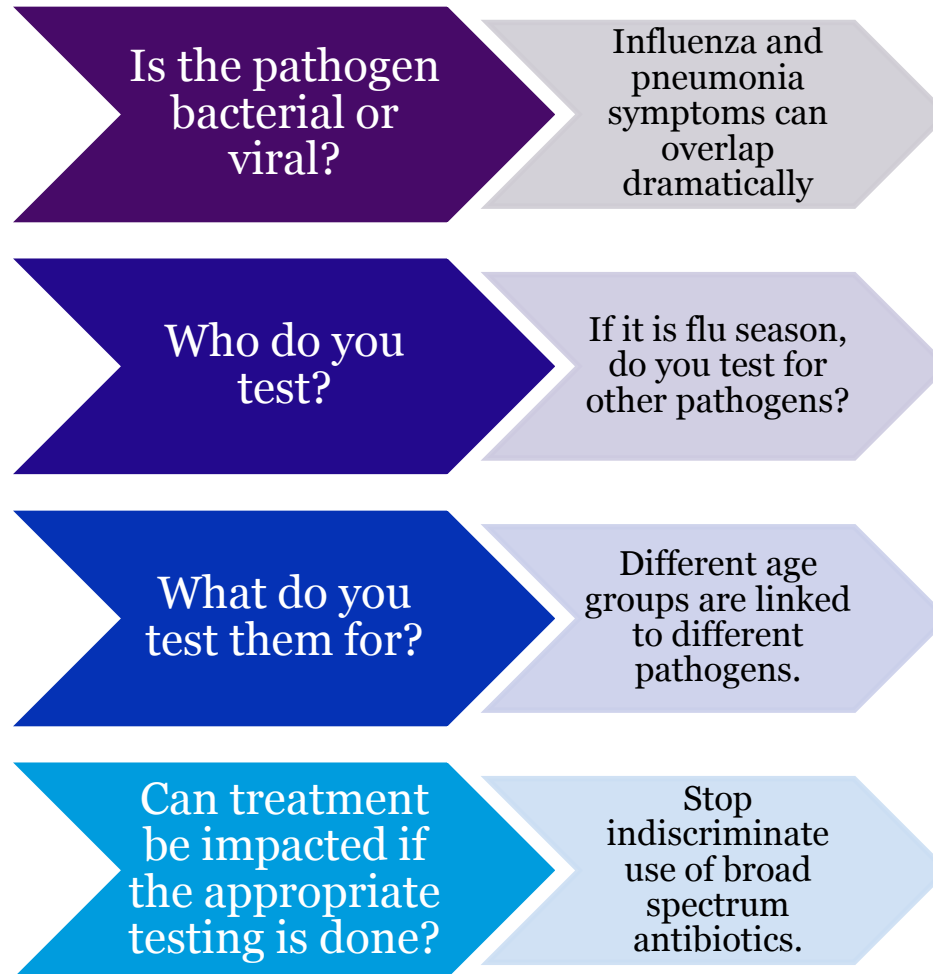
# Key Operational Metrics



Data sourced from Bonner, *et al*, Pediatrics (2003) 112:363-367

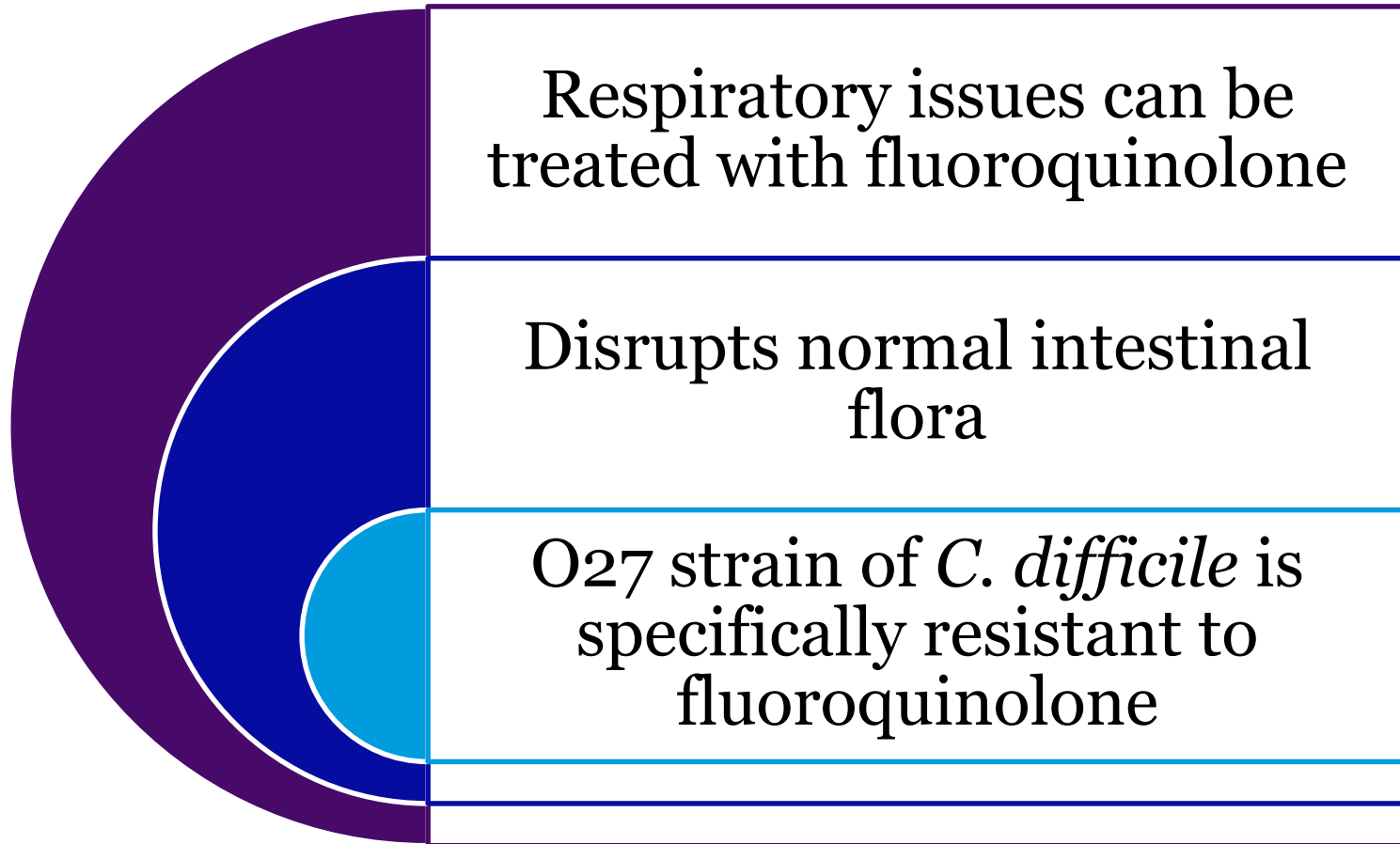
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# Treating Respiratory Diseases in the Emergency Department





# Misuse of Antibiotics Can Lead to Other Medical Issues



# Issues with Clinical Samples

Viral titer is highest in first 48 hours

Proper sample collection is necessary

Dilution in transport media

# Rapid Tests

## Pro

- Tests take minimal time
- Some tests are so simple that they are CLIA-waived
- Can be used to triage patients
- Positive results can be used to rule out other issues like pneumonia so don't give unnecessary chest x-ray, antibiotics, etc.

## Con

- Performance is not as good as culture, PCR, or DFA
- Often used as a screening test, usually with negatives requiring additional confirmation.

# Molecular Tests

## Pro

- For respiratory specimens, high performance
- Same day results

## Con

- Turn around time from lab may be extensive, especially if batching specimens
- Expensive
- May require experienced technicians, labs, dedicated equipment, etc.

# Pros and Cons of Molecular Testing

## Pros

Good for pathogens that you only have when you are sick

- Influenza

Good for living things which would have RNA/DNA

Good to see if active infection & can test where the infection is

- Not things like sepsis

## Cons

May only be a screen for bacteria/viruses that people may normally carry

- *Clostridium difficile*

Bad for non living things

- Protein, DOA

Bad for past infection

- Want test that detects antibody

# Molecular Tests on the Market

## PCR – Polymerase Chain Reaction

- Rely on the ability to amplify due to temperature cycling
- Many traditional molecular companies, e.g,
  - **Alere™ q** - Competitive Reporter Amplification
  - Cepheid GeneXpert®
  - BD Affirm™ VPIII – direct probe
  - Biocartis Idylla™ – qPC
  - Enigma® MiniLab™ – qPCR - Flu A/B, RSV
  - Roche cobas® Liat – Lab in a tube
  - Spartan RX (PGx) – PCR

## Isothermal

- Rely on the ability to do the reaction at a single temperature
- Meridian **illumigene**® - LAMP (loop mediated isothermal amplification)
- Quidel Solana® – HDA (Helicase dependent amplification)
- **Alere™ i** – NEAR (Nicking enzyme amplification reaction)

# Introducing the Players in PCR

Patient sample  
containing DNA (or  
RNA)

- May or may not have target gene

Primers

- short bits of manufactured DNA that recognize the target gene

Nucleotides

- building blocks of DNA

Taq Polymerase

- Enzyme that replicates DNA in a PCR reaction

Fluorescent dye for  
reporting results

- realtime PCR



# PCR Cycle

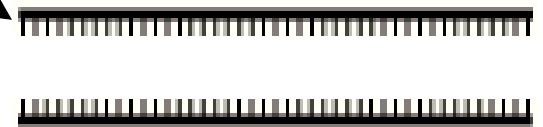


**Double-stranded DNA**



**95° Denaturation**

**Heating separates strands**

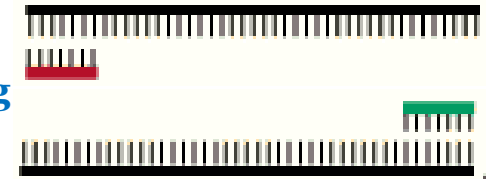


**72° Extension**

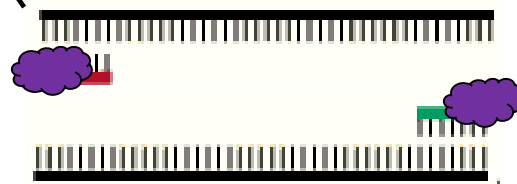


**Taq Polymerase reads existing DNA strand to create a new matching one**

**57° Annealing**



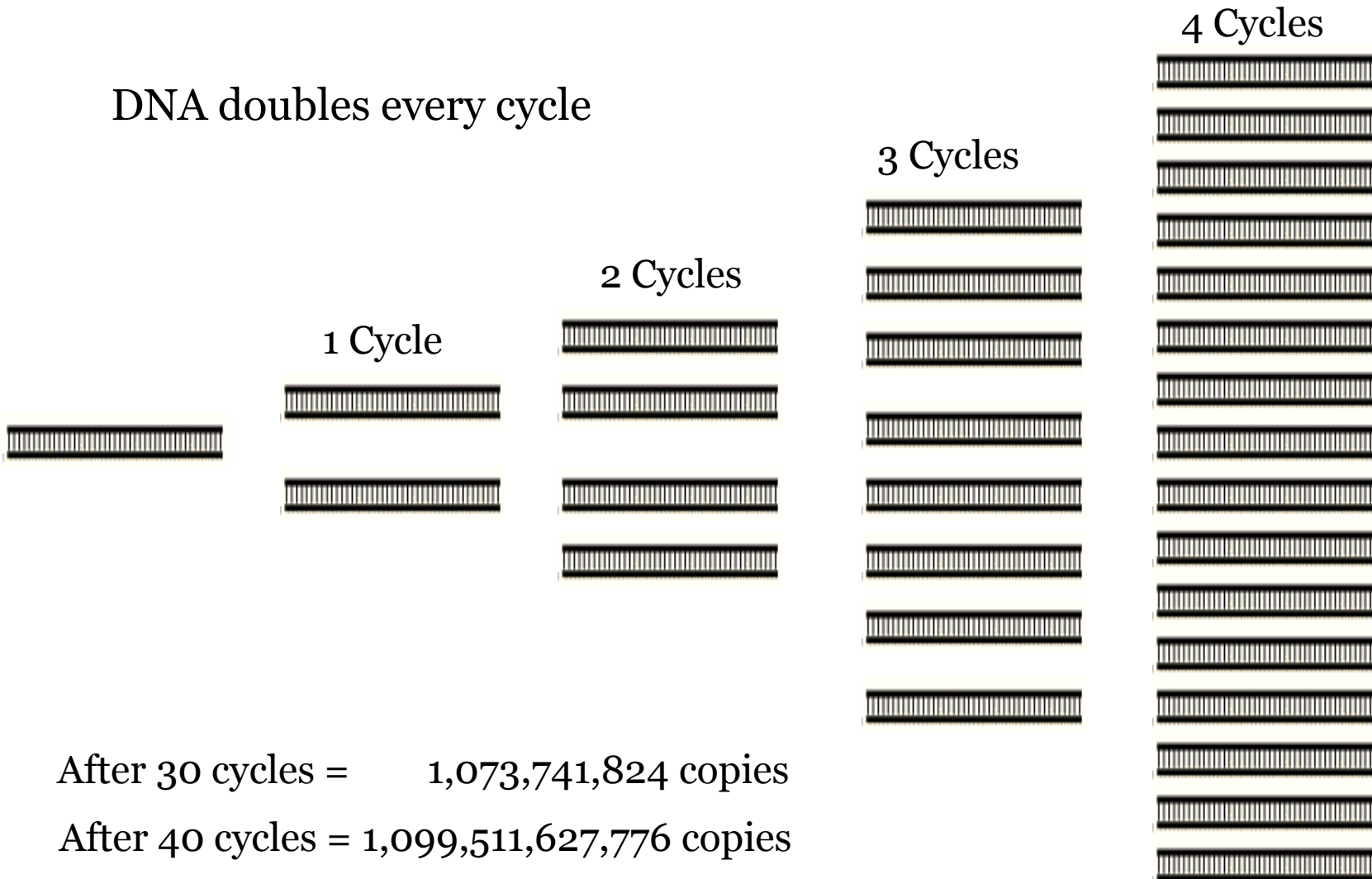
**Taq Polymerase Binds at Primer Sites**





# PCR Amplification

DNA doubles every cycle



# Roche cobas<sup>®</sup> Liat - Lab In a Tube



20 minutes to results Flu

15 minutes to results Strep A

Footprint 4.5 x 9.5 x 7.5

Weight 8.3 lbs

Flu A/B

- Sensitivity 100%/100%
- Specificity 96.8%/ 94.1%
- LOD  $10^{-2} - 10^{-1} / 10^{-3} - 10^{-1}$  TCID<sub>50</sub>/mL

Strep A

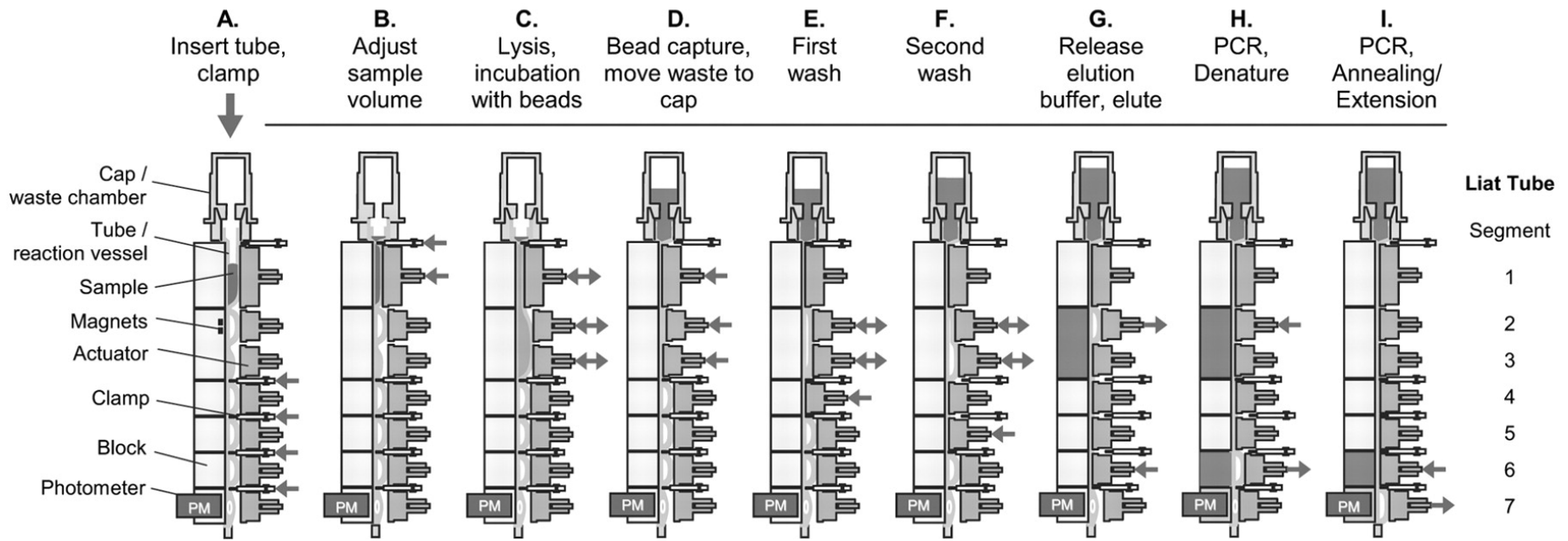
- Sensitivity 98.3%
- Specificity 94.2%
- LOD 5-20 CFU/mL

RSV

- Sensitivity 97.0%
- Specificity 98.7%
- LOD 4 CFU/mL

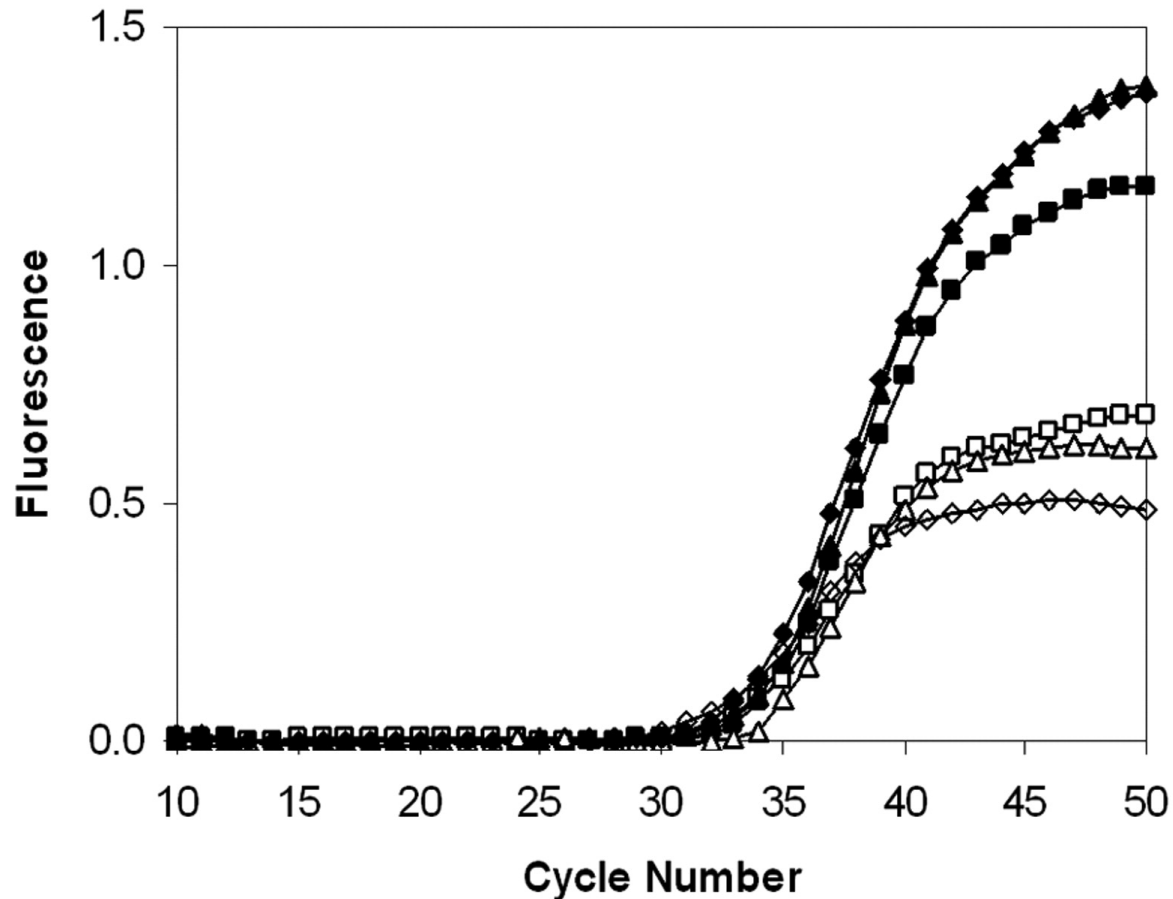
Data sourced from Roche Product Labeling  
Permission granted by Roche Diagnostics

# Sample processing in the Liat Tube



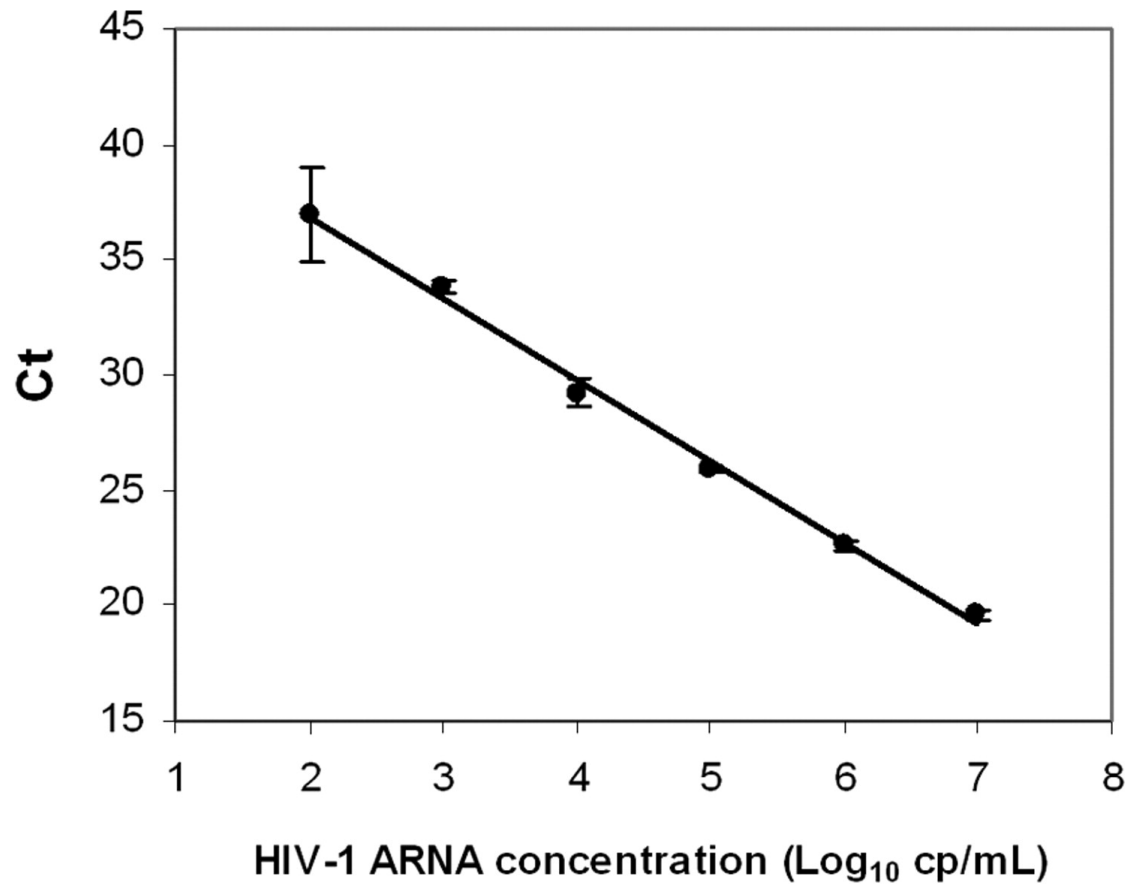
Tanriverdi, Chen, Chen. A rapid and automated sample to result HIV load test for near patient application. *J Infect Dis.* 2010;201:S52-S58 by permission of Oxford University Press

# Liat HIV Quant Assay amplification plot



Tanriverdi, Chen, Chen. A rapid and automated sample to result HIV load test for near patient application. *J Infect Dis.* 2010;201:S52-S58 by permission of Oxford University Press

# Linearity of the Liat HIV Quant Assay



Tanriverdi, Chen, Chen. A rapid and automated sample to result HIV load test for near patient application. *J Infect Dis.* 2010;201:S52-S58 by permission of Oxford University Press

# The Alere™ q

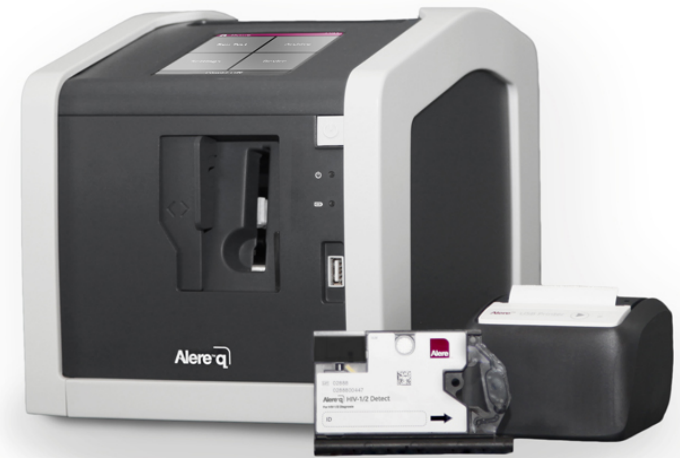
Portable bench-top real time (rt) Reverse Transcriptase (RT) PCR system for processing and analysis of Alere q HIV-1/2 test cartridges

50 minutes to results

7.8 kg (3.5 lbs)

In-built battery to seamlessly bridge power outages

Not Available in US



# The Alere™ q HIV-1/2 Detect Cartridge

Qualitative measurements of HIV-1 (subtypes M/N and O) and HIV-2

Low sample volume - only 25 µl of capillary/EDTA venous whole blood or plasma

All reagents and controls enclosed in the test cartridge

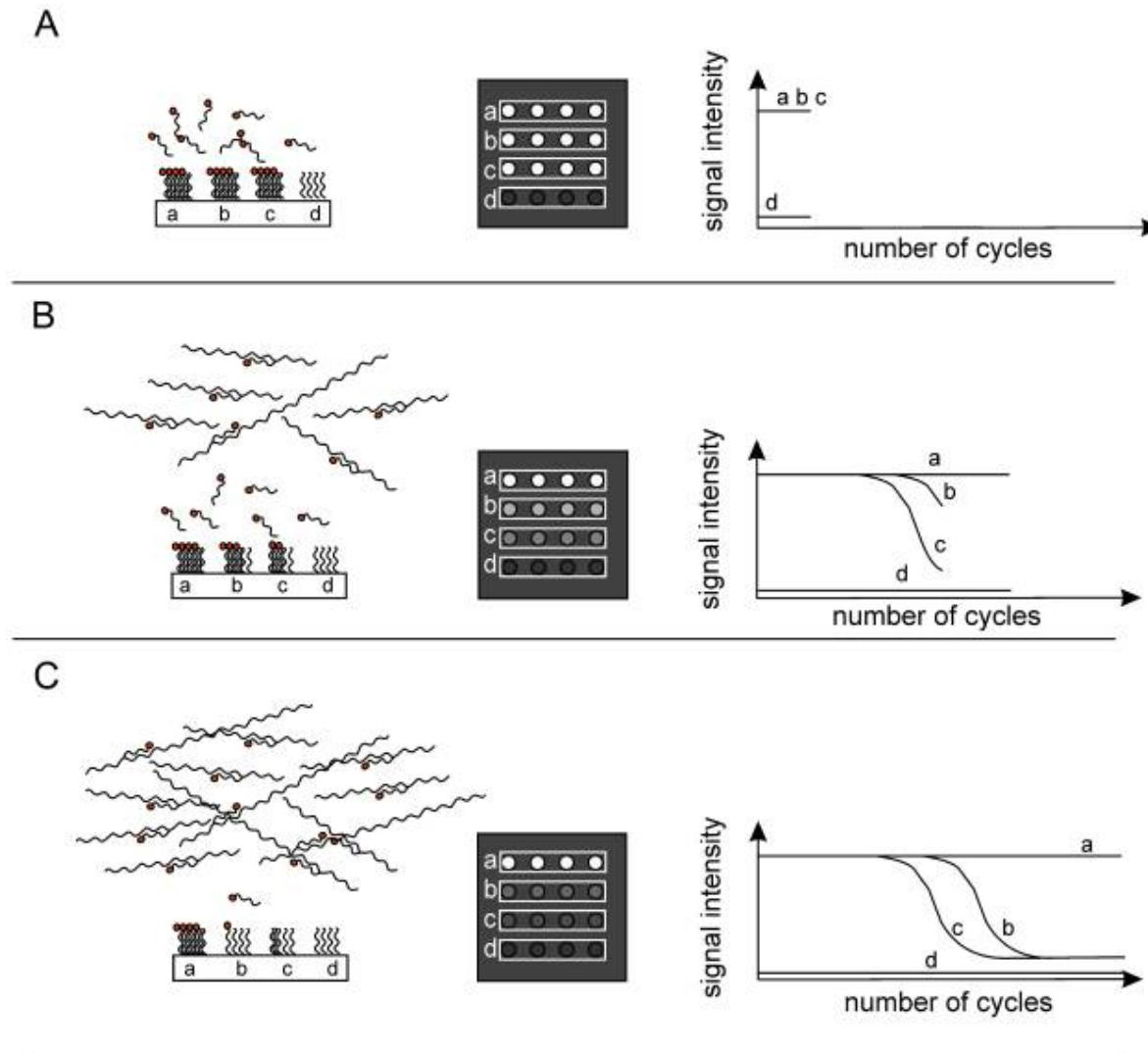
No manual sample processing

Fully automated capture and enrichment of the specific RNA target, reverse transcription and real time PCR

High speed target amplification and real time multiplex detection based on CMA (Competitive reporter Monitored Amplification) assay format



# Competitive Reporter Monitored Amplification



Permission granted from: Ullrich T et al (2012) Competitive Reporter Monitored Amplification (CMA) - Quantification of Molecular Targets by Real Time Monitoring of Competitive Reporter Hybridization. PLoS ONE 7(4): e35438. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0035438



# Alere™ q HIV 1/2 Detect – Performing a Test

Alere™ Test Report	
Alere™ q HIV-1/2 Detect	
Sample ID	22-07-2014-ABC
HIV-1 M/N	Detected
HIV-1 O	Undetected
HIV-2	Undetected
Result No.	107
Date / Time	2014-07-22 15:50
Cartridge ID	0123456789
Operator	Sam Miller
Device Serial	Nat-04000035
Software	0.20.0
<b>QC</b>	
Sample Detection	Pass
Device	Pass
HIV-1 Positive Control	Pass
HIV-2 Positive Control	Pass
Negative Control	Pass
Analysis	Pass
Signature	

## Test Results:

For HIV-1 (subtypes M/N and O) and HIV-2 a **qualitative** (detected/undetected) result is given.

## QC Parameters:

Sample Detection: control for sufficient sample volume  
Device: multiple QC parameters for the functionality of **Alere™ q**  
HIV-1 Positive Control: internal amplification control for HIV-1  
HIV-2 Positive Control: internal amplification control for HIV-2  
Negative Control: control for non-specific hybridization  
Analysis: multiple QC parameters for the Analysis process, incl. positive hybridization control

**Failing of at least one of these controls renders the test invalid.**

# Alere™ q HIV 1/2: Mozambique EID Study

- Blinded cross-sectional study of 827 HIV-exposed infants (1-18 months)
- **Alere™ q** HIV 1/2 performed by nurses at POC in 4 primary health care centres and 1 hospital ward
- Reference Method: Roche Diagnostics PCR at the reference laboratory

AGE	Overall	HIV-pos*	%-pos
1-2m	500	19	3.8%
2-3m	124	6	4.8%
3-6m	111	12	10.8%
6-9m	58	14	24.1%
>9m	34	14	41.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>7.9%</b>

\* HIV-positivity defined by the Roche technology

		<u>Conventional Results</u>	
		Positives	Negatives
<b>POC NAT Results</b>	Positives	64	1
	Negatives	1	761

Overall agreement	95% C.I.	Positive percent agreement	95% C.I.	Negative percent agreement	95% C.I.
99.8%	99.1 - 100%	98.5%	95.5 - 100%	99.9%	99.3 - 100%

Cohen's Kappa	95% C.I.	McNemar's Test	p-value
0.981	0.960 - 1.000	0.500	0.480

Data sourced from Jani et al. ,J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Volume 67, Number 1, September 1, 2014

# GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> - Cepheid



Not Yet  
Available

75 minutes to results

- 2 min hands on time

Broad molecular menu

- 11 FDA approved assays\*

Footprint 3 x 4.2 x 9.1”

2.2 lbs

Battery powered

Data sourced from Cepheid Product Labeling  
Permission granted by Cepheid

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# Isothermal Molecular Technologies

**cHDA** : Circular Helicase-dependent amplification

**HDA** : Helicase-dependent amplification

**IMDA** : Isothermal multiple displacement amplification

**LAMP** : Loop-mediated isothermal amplification

**MPRCA** : Multiply-primed rolling circle amplification

**NASBA** : Nucleic acid sequence based amplification

**NEAR**: Nicking enzyme amplification reaction

**RAM** : Ramification amplification method

**RCA** : Rolling circle amplification

**RPA** : Recombinase polymerase amplification

**SDA** : Strand displacement amplification

**SMART** : Signal mediated amplification of RNA technology

**SPIA** : Single primer isothermal amplification

**TMA** : Transcription mediated amplification

# Isothermal Molecular Technologies

**cHDA** : Circular Helicase-dependent amplification

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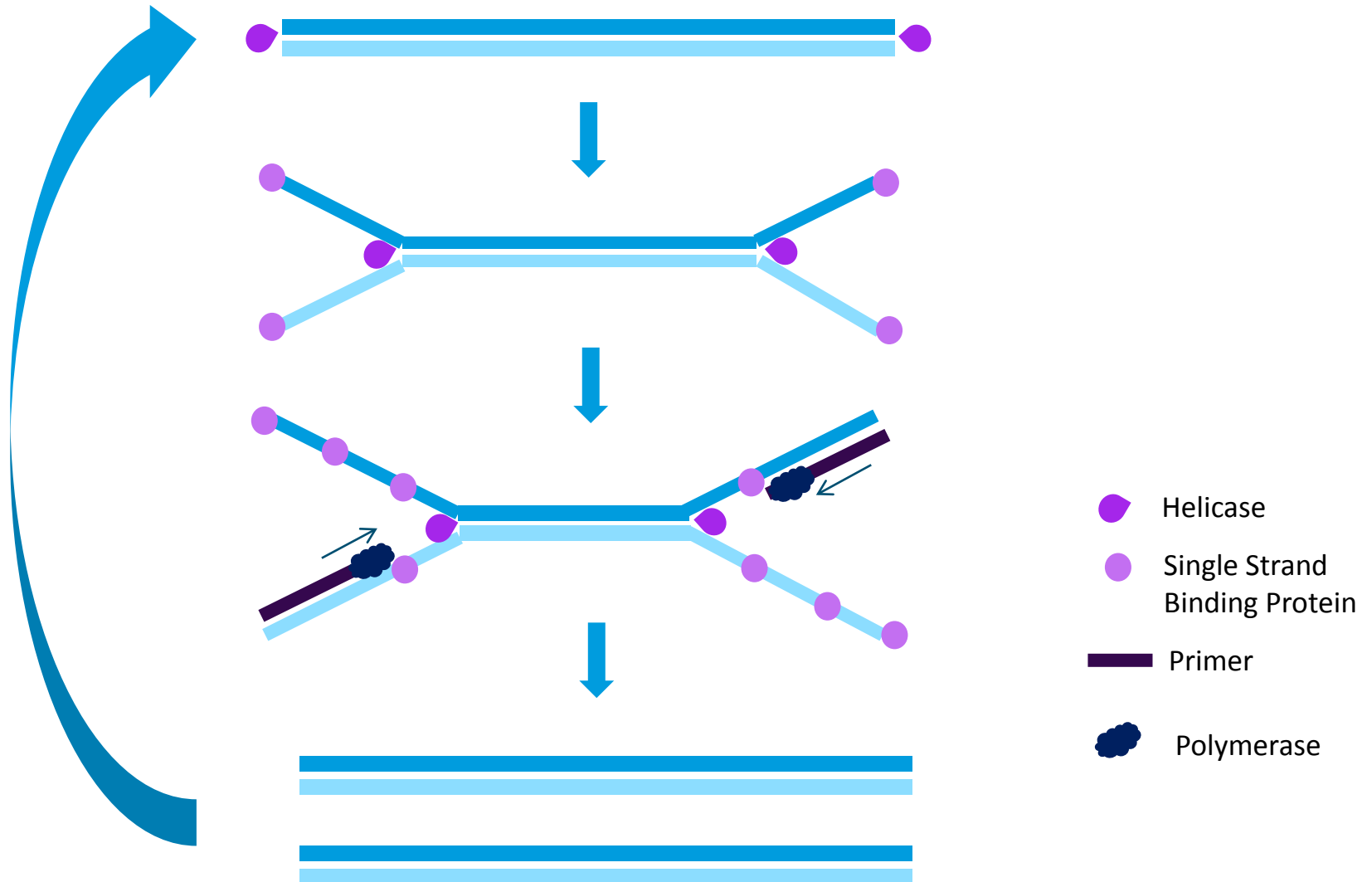
**SDA** : Strand displacement amplification

**SMART** : Signal mediated amplification of RNA technology

**SPIA** : Single primer isothermal amplification

**TMA** : Transcription mediated amplification

# Helicase Dependent Amplification Assays



# Solana<sup>®</sup> - Quidel



35 minutes to results

- Including heat pretreatment step

Small footprint (9.4" x 9.4" x 5.9")

8.8 lbs

Battery pack available

GAS only FDA approved test

- Sensitivity – 98.2%
- Specificity – 97.2%
- LOD –  $6.81 \times 10^4$  CFU/mL

Data sourced from Quidel Product Labeling

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# Solana<sup>®</sup> - Quidel

## **Step 1**

Specific primers bind to target sequences that have been separated by the helicase.

## **Step 2**

Specific DNA probes labeled with a quencher on one end and a fluorophore on the other end bind to the single-stranded biotinylated amplicons.

## **Step 3**

Upon annealing to the amplicons, the fluorescence probes are cleaved and the fluorescence signal increases due to physical separation of fluorophore from quencher.

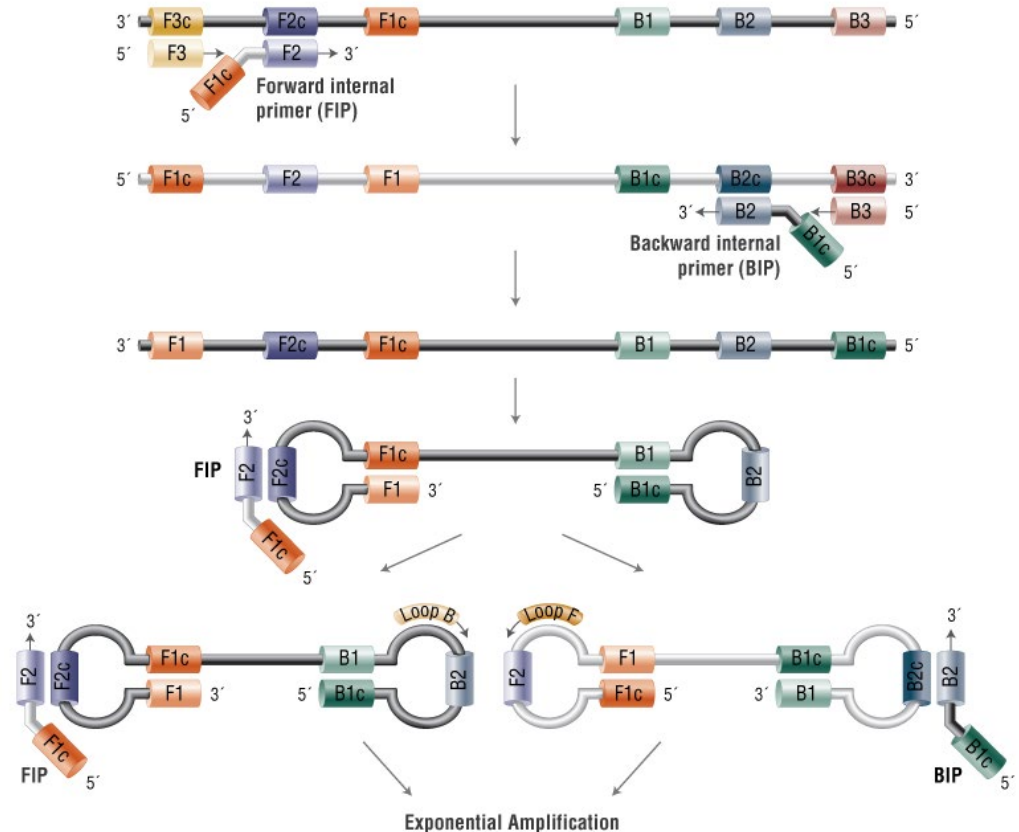


# Loop Mediated Amplification

Use of 4–6 different primers to recognize 6–8 distinct regions

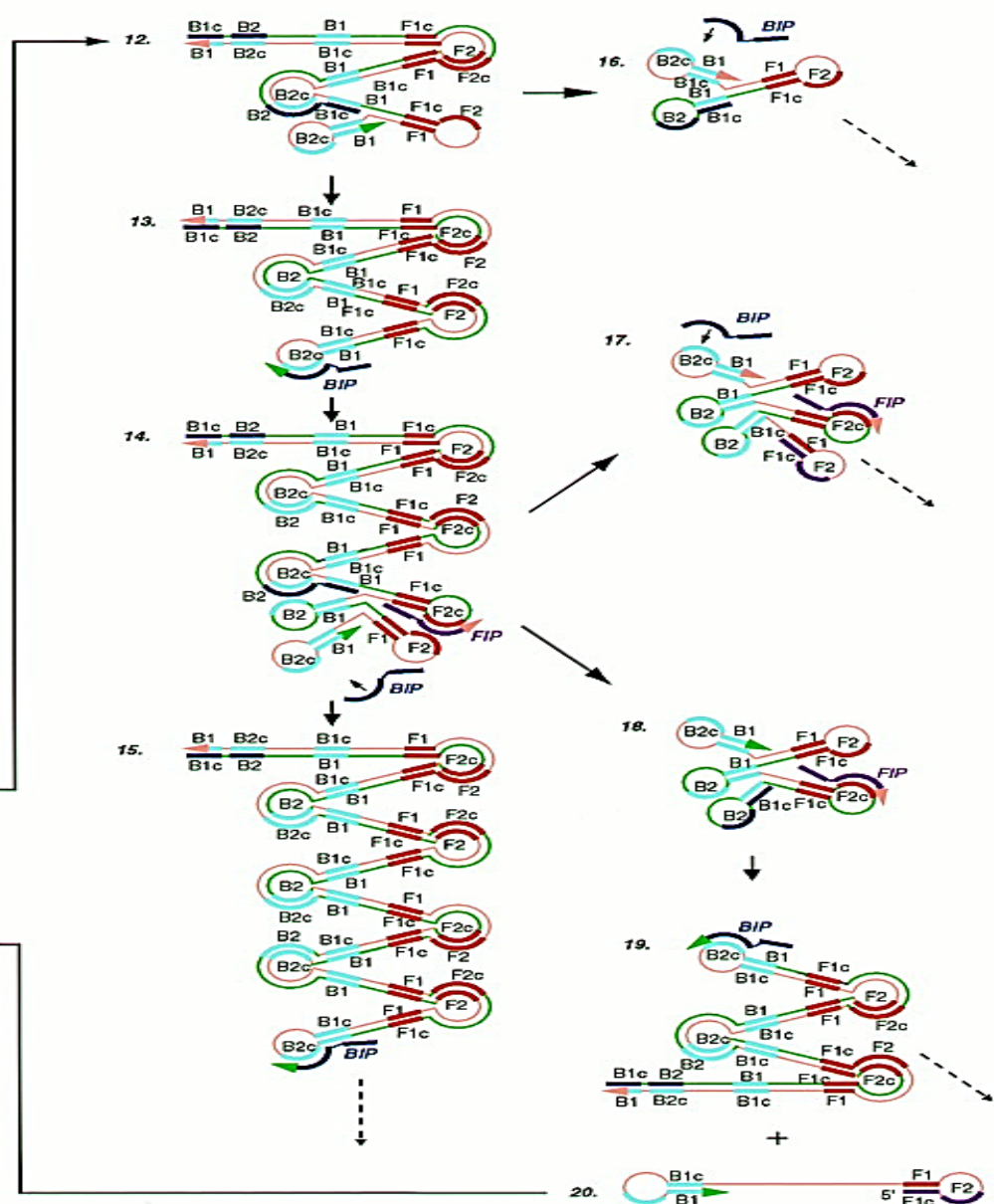
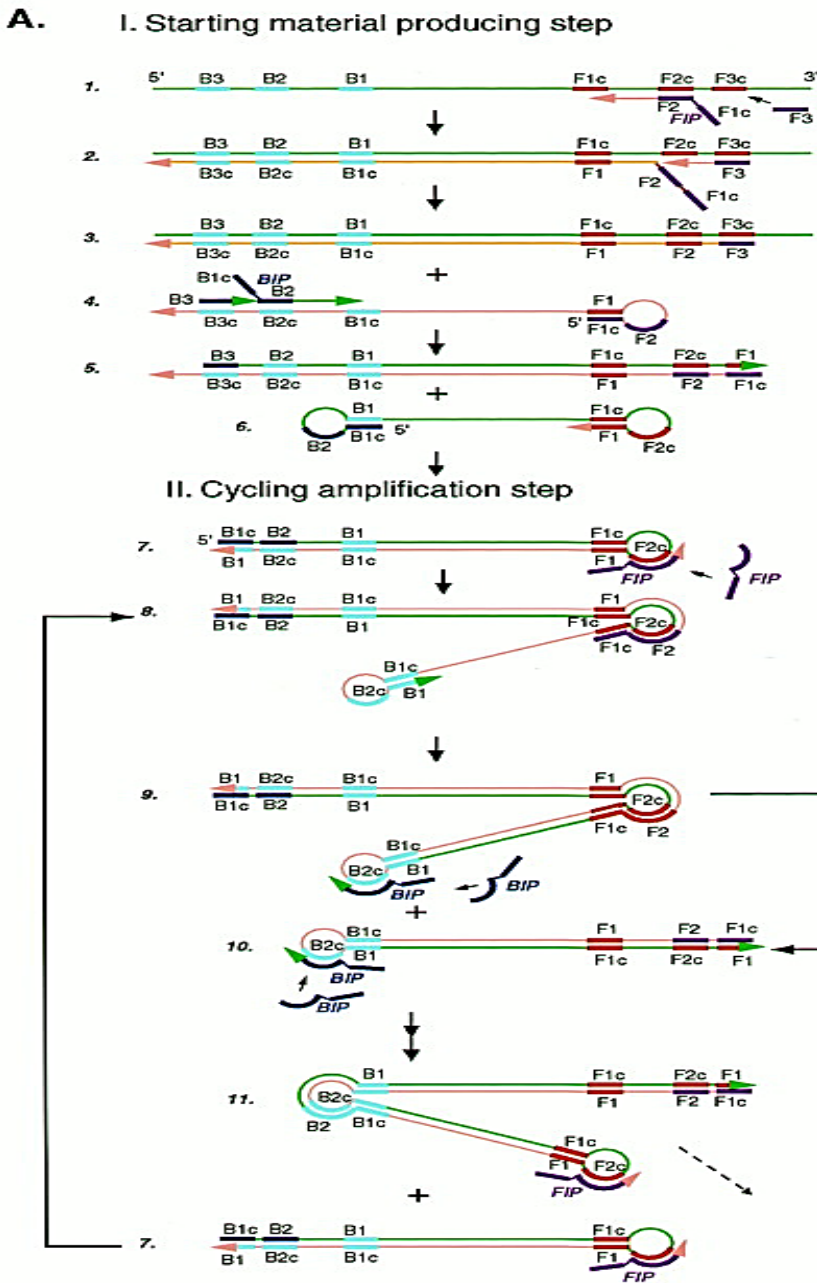
Outer primers are known as F3 and B3

Inner primers are forward inner primer (FIP) and backward inner primer (BIP)



Reprinted from Trends in Parasitology, 31/8, Alhassan, Li, Poole, Carlow, Expanding the MDx toolbox for filarial diagnosis and surveillance, 391-400, (2015), with permission from Elsevier

### III. Elongation and recycling step



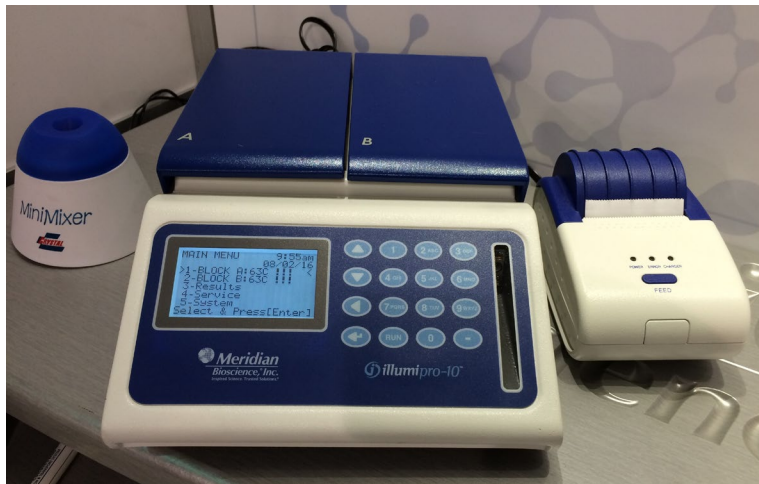
Permission granted from: Zanolli L & Spotto G (2013) Isothermal Amplification Methods for the Detection of Nucleic Acids in Microfluidic Devices, Biosensors 2013, 3, 18-43; doi:10.3390/bios3010018  
Molecular Diagnostics & POCT October 12, 2018

# LAMP final products are stem loop DNAs

The final products are stem loop DNAs with several inverted repeats of the target and **cauliflower-like structures** with multiple loops due to hybridization between alternately inverted repeats in the same strand

Positive LAMP reactions can be visualized with the naked eye

# illumigene<sup>®</sup> – Meridian Bioscience



< 60 minutes to results

- Including heat pretreatment step

< 2 minutes hands on time

Small footprint (8.3" x 11.5" x 3.7")

6.5 lbs

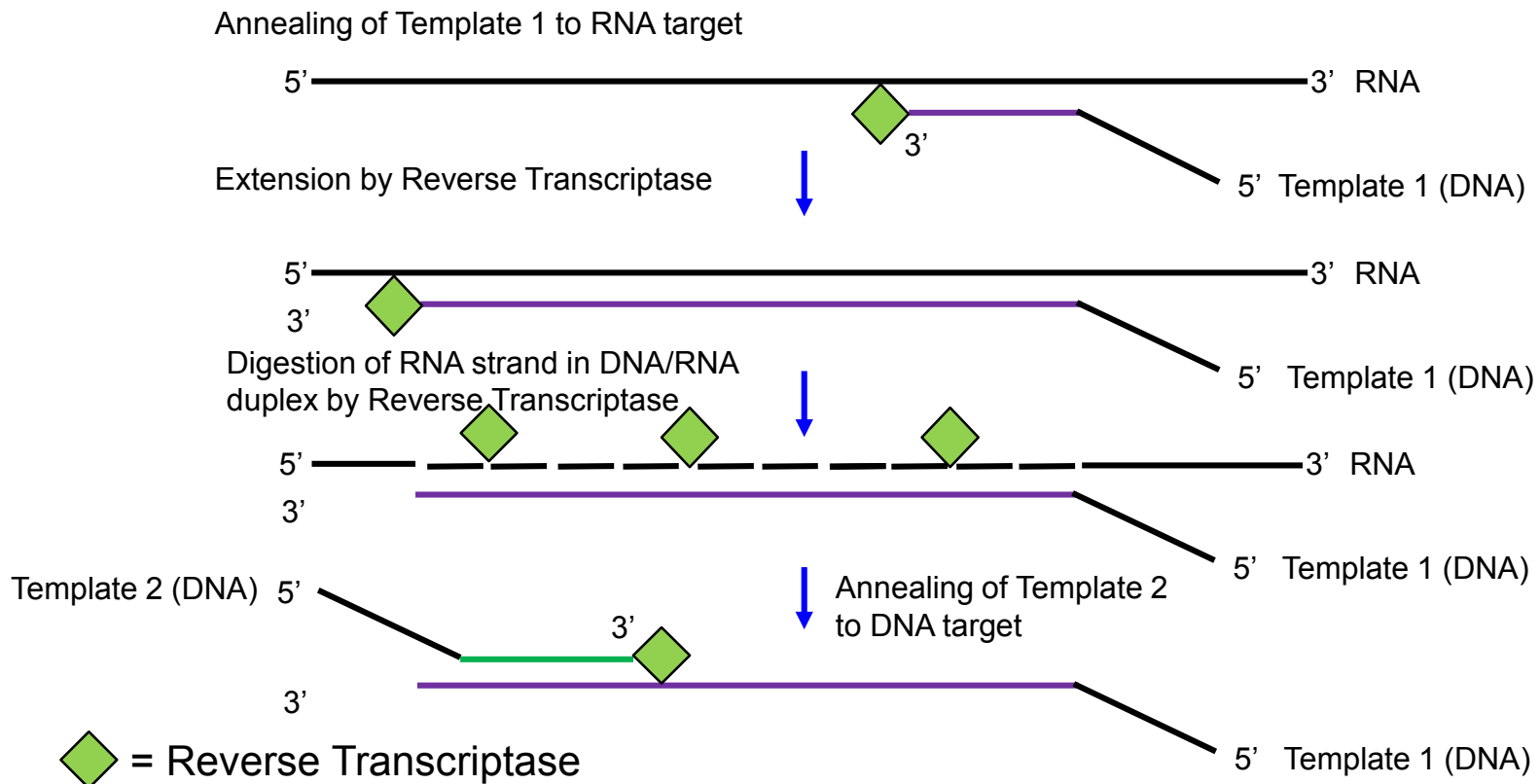
Room temp storage

6 FDA approved tests – C. difficile, GAS, GBS, HSV 1&2, Mycoplasma, Pertusis

- GAS Sensitivity – 98.0%
- GAS Specificity – 97.7%
- GAS LOD – 400-430 CFU/mL

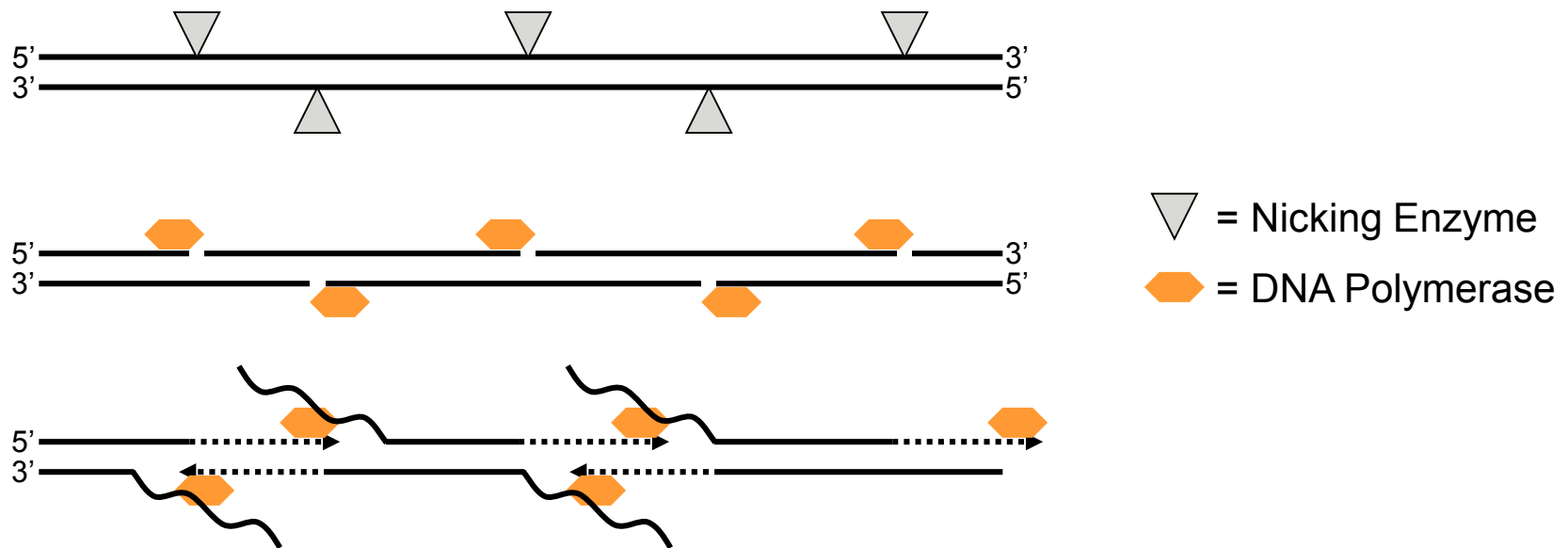
# NEAR Mechanism – Amplification from RNA

- **NEAR amplifies target sequence directly from single stranded RNA**
  - No heat denaturation required
  - Reverse transcriptase, DNA polymerase & Nicking endonuclease
  - Converts single stranded RNA to single stranded DNA

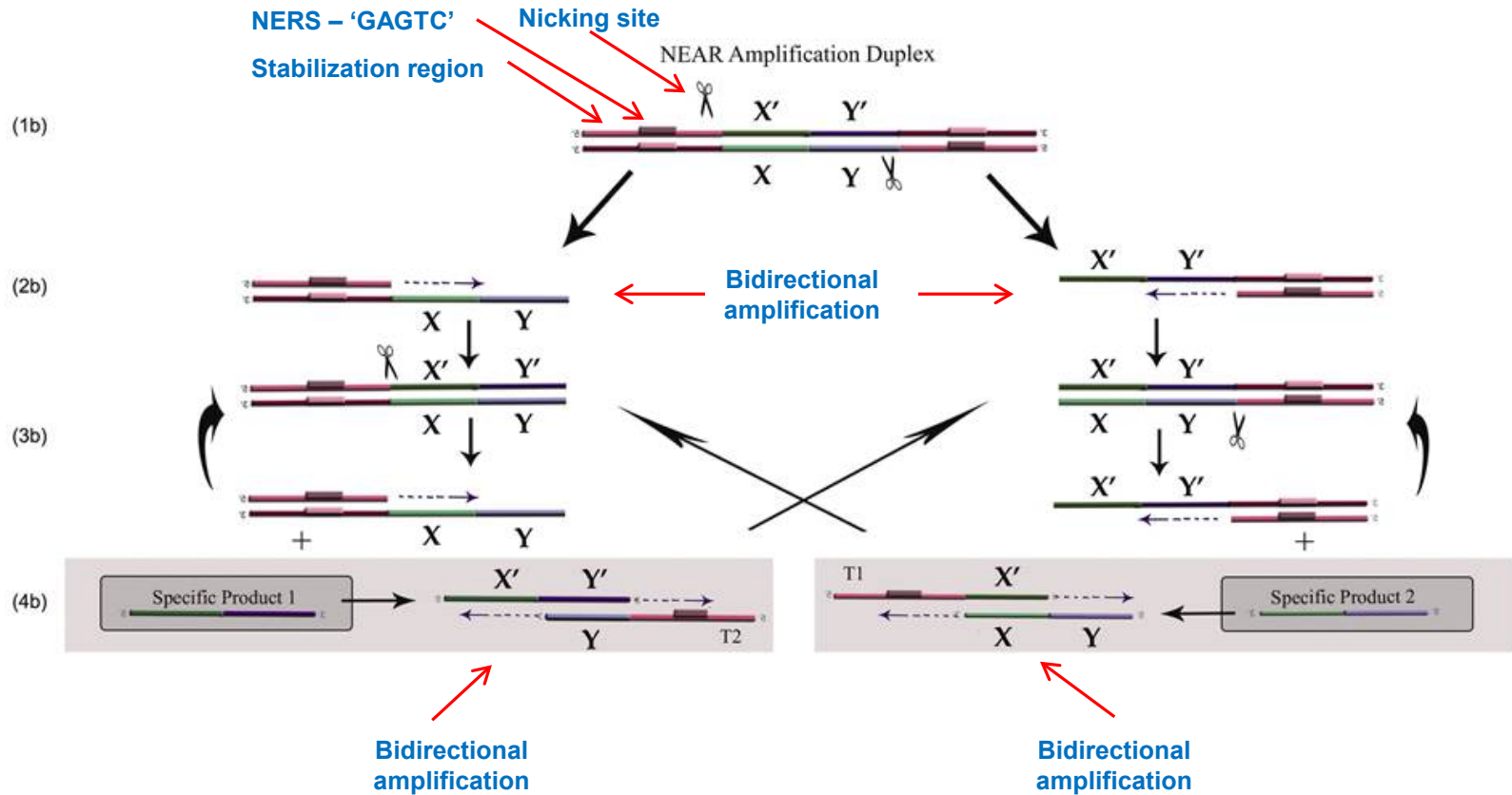


# NEAR Mechanism – Amplification from dsDNA

- **Assay amplifies target sequence directly from double-stranded genomic DNA**
  - No heat denaturation required
  - Nicking Enzyme, DNA Polymerase
  - Creates single-strand copy of genome



# NEAR Amplification Duplex – Bidirectional Amplification



# Alere™ i System



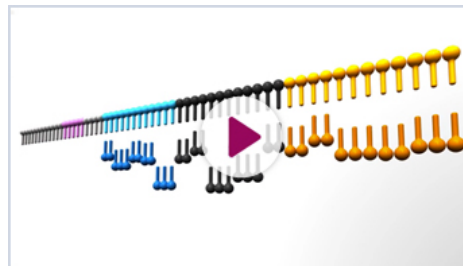
< 15 minutes to results

< 2 minutes hands on time

Small footprint (8.15" W x 5.71" H x 7.64" D)

1.4 lbs / 3 kg

3 approved tests – Flu A/B, GAS, RSV





# Alere™ i System

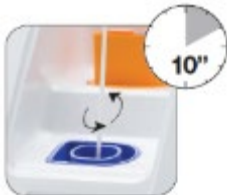
## Extraction

Acidic / Basic conditioning or enzymatic (Ply C)

Place test base & sample receiver in Alere™ i



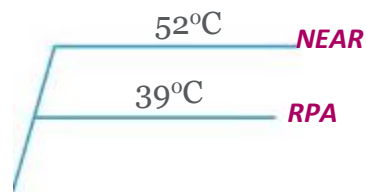
Add swab to sample receiver



Transfer sample extract to Test Base



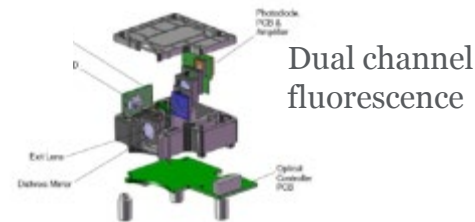
## Amplification



## Detection



Dual reaction tube



# Flu Clinical Trial Results

## Alere™ i Influenza A & B Performance vs. Culture

### Flu A

	Culture +	Culture -
Alere™ i +	92	66
Alere™ i -	2	411

Sensitivity = 97.9% (92.6-99.4)  
Specificity = 86.2% (82.8-89.0)

### Flu B

	Culture +	Culture -
Alere™ i +	74	17
Alere™ i -	6	472

Sensitivity = 92.5% (84.6-96.5)  
Specificity = 96.5% (94.5-97.8)

## Alere™ i Influenza A & B Performance vs. RT-PCR

### Flu A

	RT-PCR +	RT-PCR -
Alere™ i +	147	11
Alere™ i -	8	464

Positive Percent Agreement = 94.8% (90.1-97.4)  
Negative Percent Agreement = 97.7% (95.9-98.7)

### Flu B

	RT-PCR +	RT-PCR -
Alere™ i +	123	7
Alere™ i -	2	500

Positive Percent Agreement = 98.4% (94.4-99.6)  
Negative Percent Agreement = 99.4% (98.3-99.8)

# Summary of POCT nucleic acid amplification methods

	<b>cobas<sup>®</sup> Liat</b>	<b>Alere<sup>™</sup> q</b>	<b>GeneXpert<sup>®</sup></b>	<b>Solana<sup>®</sup></b>	<b>illumigene<sup>®</sup></b>	<b>Alere<sup>™</sup> i</b>
Technology	PCR	PCR	PCR	HDA	LAMP	NEAR
DNA Amplification	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
RNA amplification	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
“Denaturing” agent	Heat	Heat	Heat	Helicase	Betaine	Restriction enzymes
Pretreatment Required	N	N	Y/N	Y	Y	N
# of enzymes	1	1	1	2	1	2
Temp (°C)	95/72/ 57	95/72/57	95/72/57	64	60-65	52
Time to Result (min)	<20	55	75	35	<60	<15
Multiple Amplifications	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N

Thank  
You



Questions?

[ellis.jacobs@alere.com](mailto:ellis.jacobs@alere.com)

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