Detection of SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR in Swabs of Environmental Surfaces

The SARS-CoV-2 is a recently discovered coronavirus, which has caused the pandemic COVID-19 outbreak. This virus may lead to severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and is predominantly transmitted person to person via droplets. Due to the virus' potential for a prolonged tenacity on surfaces, transmission through contaminated surfaces is being investigated as a possible route of exposure.

In the current coronavirus outbreak, companies and health authorities seek for solutions to monitor the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in their environments in order to be able to implement or improve immediate sanitation and other measures to protect the health and safety of employees and their environment.

VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 screen by RT-PCR

The VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Screen kit enables screening for the E-gene, which encodes for the envelope surrounding the viral shell. The kit was developed as an initial screening assay to be used in conjunction with the VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Ident kit as a confirmation. This approach follows the recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO).

This assay effortlessly integrates into the VIRSeek Solution, which offers RNA extraction and an ISO-15216 compliant process control virus to monitor the efficiency of the process. Results are presented as absence/presence.

Contact us for more information and for a service proposal.

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**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Who is this test for?**

Any organization wishing to implement or improve their immediate remediation procedure. It can be: restaurants, hospitals, retirement homes, airports, all companies in the food industry or working in disinfection, and other service providers ...

**Where is sampling performed?**

Environmental surfaces, for example: door handles, work surfaces, taps, ventilation or instrumentation.

The ambient air COVID-19 tests are in the process of validation.

**How is swabbing done?**

Use of a sterile swab with synthetic tip and plastic shaft and swab an area of 25 cm².

To increase the positive predictive value of the environmental sampling process, each sampling area may require multiple swabs. Specimens for virus detection should reach the laboratory as soon as possible after collection and should be stored at a temperature not exceeding 25 °C. The analysis must be performed within 72 hours following the sample collection.

Samples must be sent in designated coolers and kept separate from normal environmental samples.

Analysis must be conducted within 24 to 48 hours, depending on the option chosen.

**Your kit includes:**

- Insulated cooler
- QuickSwab 3M
- Pair of plastic gloves
- Plastic bag
- Alcoholic wipes
- Ice-pack
- Sample submission form
- Return slip

The analysis can only be performed on swabs supplied by the laboratory. Samples are analyzed as received.