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To whom this may concern!

On March 19, 2020 I was informed by colleagues of the University Hospital Jena that there is a chemical deficiency in the purification of smear test samples for the PCR test for SARS-CoV-2. In particular, many suppliers faced with supply bottlenecks for certain components due to high demand. However, in order to contain and control the pandemic, it is essential that a continuous large-scale and broad-based diagnostic (see WHO) is guaranteed.

In consultation with the Institute of Medical Microbiology, University Hospital Jena, we have prepared various published lysis buffers for isolation of intact viral RNA since March 20, 2020; these buffers have been used in diagnostics and validated in parallel with other diagnostic system. Using the currently still easily accessible purification columns from the RNeasy Mini Kit from Qiagen (which is often used for research purposes), the samples could be analyzed correctly. We would like to share the results with everyone to avoid bottlenecks as much as possible (see instructions / results and Excel tool for calculating the approaches). I would be pleased about a distribution of the results / mediation of partners.

It is also essential to start the production of Guanidinium thiocyanate. There are tons per day necessary for the extraction!

For further questions please contact us.

Sincerely

Ulrich Schubert

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