PROSPECTRAL[™] DIAGNOSTIC DEVICE FAST, ACCURATE AND HIGH-THROUGHPUT SCREENING OF COVID-19 INFECTIONS

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BACKGROUND

- COVID-19 has precipitated the deaths of >6 million people worldwide^{*} and is the world's most expensive health crisis to date.
- Controlling its spread has been difficult due to the long pre-symptomatic period, the wide range of non-specific symptoms and the fact that it can be spread by symptomatic, as well as asymptomatic individuals.
- Rapid viral screening has become a crucial method to limit its spread.
- o Immediate results, at point of contact are required for effective mass screening (i.e., TSA, public venues, schools...).
- Identifying asymptomatic patients early on can help prevent and control the spread of COVID-19.
- While RT-PCR has successfully been used in testing for respiratory diseases, in very early stages of infection (pre-symptomatic), RT-PCR results are limited by very low viral counts, potentially limiting effectiveness in mass screening of asymptomatic populations.
- Cost and availability of reagents for testing are barriers to mass screening.
- Therefore, there is an urgent need for rapid, reagent-free and on-site screening approaches for early and reliable detection of cases to control outbreaks and limit community spread of the disease.

Detection

Detects infections and differentiates

via spectral differences

(* https://www.statista.com/statistics/1093256/novel-coronavirus-2019ncov-deaths-worldwide-by-country/)





ProSpectral Device reads the patterns compares to known models of infections



- o 470 previously frozen saliva samples provided by Cantor BioConnect
- Negative and Positive include symptomatic and asymptomatic samples
- Symptomatic range from 0 to 25 days from onset of symptoms



Negative/Positive for COVID determined by PCR

- Cantor BioConnect: Nasopharyngeal swab (CDC Method on ABI 7500DX)
- o Los Alamos National Lab: saliva-based PCR test using FDA approved methods



CONCLUSIONS

- We have developed a line of light-based systems which can accurately detect a COVID-19 infected subject in subject's saliva, in three seconds.
- It identifies an active Covid-19 infection with 98.8% balanced accuracy.
- Only 2 drops (~100 µL) of saliva are needed. No reagents.
- The device can be also set to allow no infected individuals pass screening (zero false negatives), with 94% balanced accuracy (8% false positives to be forward to secondary methods.
- \circ The device is designed to meet FDA 21 CFR 820 and internationally ISO 13485.2016 guidelines.

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No reagents or other materials required

Economic

Fast, accurate, & low cost

Few dollars per test

PROOF-OF-CONCEPT: MODEL