



มหาวิทยาลัยมหิดล
คณะแพทยศาสตร์
ศิริราชพยาบาล

BIOMEDICAL INNOVATIONS IN THE PANDEMIC

นวัตกรรมเพื่อคนไทย

Prasert Auewarakul



Pandemic innovations are those responding to the emerging needs during pandemic.

In medicine, they are responding to:

- the needs of other patients in seeking medical attention when the service capacity is compromised;
- the needs specific to the pandemic disease:
 - Demand surge for hospital / ICU beds and infection control;
 - Diagnostic, drugs and vaccines.



รพ.ศิริราช ให้บริการ “텔레메ดิซีน” พบแพทย์ออนไลน์ - ส่งยาถึงบ้าน

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Clinical validation of a Cas13-based assay for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA

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Nucleic acid detection by isothermal amplification and the collateral cleavage of reporter molecules by CRISPR-associated enzymes is a promising alternative to quantitative PCR. Here, we report the clinical validation of the specific high-sensitivity enzymatic reporter unlocking (SHERLOCK) assay using the enzyme Cas13a from *Leptotrichia wadei* for the detection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)—the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)—in 154 nasopharyngeal and throat swab samples collected at Siriraj Hospital, Thailand. Within a detection limit of 42 RNA copies per reaction, SHERLOCK was 100% specific and 100% sensitive with a fluorescence readout, and 100% specific and 97% sensitive with a lateral-flow readout. For the full range of viral load in the clinical samples, the fluorescence readout was 100% specific and 96% sensitive. For 380 SARS-CoV-2-negative pre-operative samples from patients undergoing surgery, SHERLOCK was in 100% agreement with quantitative PCR with reverse transcription. The assay, which we show is amenable to multiplexed detection in a single lateral-flow strip incorporating an internal control for ribonuclease contamination, should facilitate SARS-CoV-2 detection in settings with limited resources.

ARTICLES

NATURE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

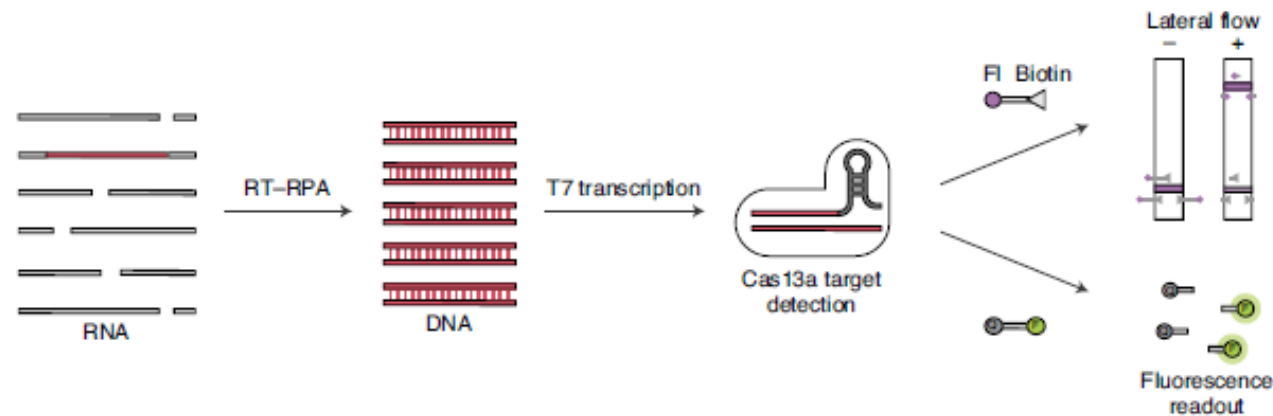


Fig. 1 | SHERLOCK detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. A SARS-CoV-2 RNA region of interest is isothermally amplified to DNA by RT-RPA, then converted to RNA by T7 transcription. Cognate binding of Cas13a-crRNA complex to amplified RNA targets triggers collateral activity of Cas13a, which cleaves RNA reporters. Cleaved RNA reporters can be captured on a colorimetric lateral-flow strip (biotin-fluorescein RNA reporter, top path) or visualized by fluorescence signal (molecular beacon fluorescent reporter, bottom path). FI, fluorescein.



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