

Rapid diagnostic tests to fight against COVID-19 pandemics: challenges and opportunities.

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The strategy for screening patients with coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) infection is based on the use of tests to detect the viral genome in respiratory specimens using molecular biology techniques (namely RT-PCR), and also on the use of serological tests. These two types of tests are available on high-throughput platforms offered by the diagnostics industry to equip medical laboratories. At the same time, rapid diagnostic tests are developing steadily in response to societal demands and the need to test a large number of individuals. In this context, the aim of this communication will be to take stock of the main technological approaches proposed and their current use in clinical practice. We will also address the evaluation of the performance of these rapid tests, which is a key element for their development and their acceptability by the different actors of the health systems