

Beckman launches quantitative COVID-19 IgG test

written by CAP TODAY
July 19, 2021

July 2021—Beckman Coulter launched its Access SARS-CoV-2 IgG (1st IS), a fully quantitative lab-based immunoglobulin G serology test that measures the quantity of antibodies against the virus that causes COVID-19. The assay is traceable to the First WHO International Standard for anti-SARS-CoV-2, 20/136, and reports results aligned with BAU/mL established by the World Health Organization.



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Thermo Fisher launches TaqPath COVID-19 2.0 test

written by CAP TODAY
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July 2021—Thermo Fisher Scientific launched its CE-IVD-marked TaqPath COVID-19 Fast PCR Combo Kit 2.0. The kit uses an advanced assay design that compensates for current and emerging variants, the company says, by using eight targets across three genomic regions of the virus to help ensure the test provides accurate results even as the virus mutates.



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[DiaSorin releases Simplexa SARS-CoV-2 Variants Direct assay](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 19, 2021

July 2021—DiaSorin Molecular has released the Simplexa SARS-CoV-2 Variants Direct assay, for research use only, to enable detection and discrimination of four SARS-CoV-2 mutations associated with circulating virus variants without requiring upfront RNA extraction. The assay allows for the in vitro qualitative differential detection of the mutations N501Y, E484K, E484Q, and L452R from nasopharyngeal and nasal swab specimens from individuals previously diagnosed with COVID-19. These mutations are present in potential variants of clinical interest including those that were isolated in the U.K. (B.1.1.7), South Africa (B.1.351), Brazil and Japan (P.1 and P.2), New York (B.1.526/B.1.526.1), California (B.1.427/B.1.429), Nigeria (B.1.525), and India (B.1.617/B.1.617.1/ B.1.617.2/B.1.617.3).



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[Labcorp, OmniSeq launch NGS genomic profiling device](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 19, 2021

July 2021—Labcorp and OmniSeq announced the launch of OmniSeq Insight, a pan-cancer, solid tumor test that combines genomic and immune profiling, including tumor mutational burden, microsatellite instability, and immune gene expression, and integrates next-generation sequencing technology.



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Sysmex adds XN-10 blood bank mode to portfolio

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July 2021—Sysmex America has added the FDA-cleared XN-10 Automated Hematology Analyzer with Blood Bank mode to its portfolio of hematology solutions. The analyzer supports red blood cell and platelet component testing and provides an automated complete blood count with differential for whole blood samples. The XN blood bank mode is intended for use in blood processing centers for QC release testing of post-processed components.



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Qiagen, DiaSorin launch Liaison LymeDetect

written by CAP TODAY
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July 2021—Qiagen and DiaSorin launched the Liaison LymeDetect assay for markets accepting the CE mark, as an aid to detect early Lyme borreliosis infection on the DiaSorin Liaison XL and Liaison XS platforms.



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Coag issues occupy COVID's central stage

written by CAP TODAY

July 19, 2021

July 2021—The pandemic's reach has often been portrayed in shades of red, signaling surging COVID-19 cases across states and countries. Vaccination maps, on the other hand, tend to render progress in more soothing tones, typically in the green family. But in coagulation laboratories, one small portent is colored blue—specifically, blue-top sodium citrate tubes. In recent months, laboratories began voicing concerns about tightening supplies. They've spoken with their vendors; some have reached out to new ones. And though no one wants to think about limiting testing if supplies truly become scarce, it wouldn't be the first time labs have had to steer through these waters. The tubes are a functional symbol of the continued complexities of COVID-19-related coagulopathy, as physicians try to understand and respond to the pathophysiology of infection that leads to a thrombotic event. As the pandemic has churned on, much has started coming into sharper focus. Prepublication persists, but physicians have begun to sort through the past 18 months and, as many have put it, to “do the science.”



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Analytics reframes decisions from bench to C-suite

written by CAP TODAY

July 19, 2021

July 2021—From takeout margaritas to the embrace of remote work, the pandemic upended convention, leaving behind permanent changes that were nowhere on the radar in 2019. In the world of pathology informatics, the new online COVID-19 data dashboards at the Cleveland Clinic illustrate how much the pandemic has raised the profile of data analytics in managing the laboratory.



[Accuracy-Based Programs for ‘bigger dividends,’ better care](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 19, 2021

July 2021—Proficiency testing is the bedrock of good laboratory performance, but Accuracy-Based Programs are equally important, which is why members of a CAP committee are hoping for 10 labs from each peer group to participate.



[A few years in, a new picture for liquid biopsy](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 19, 2021

July 2021—Liquid biopsy has entered a more confident era, with two FDA-approved next-generation sequencing assays for comprehensive tumor mutation profiling, evidence of its clinical utility, and broadened patient access.

