

Qiagen expands coronavirus NGS, software solutions

Aug. 25, 2020—[Qiagen](#) has launched the QIAseq SARS-CoV-2 Primer Panel for next-generation sequencing of the novel coronavirus genome as well as integrated analysis and interpretation workflows for insights into the evolution and spread of the virus.

The two-step process uses QIAseq technologies to conduct reverse transcription and cDNA synthesis from a viral RNA sample and then generate libraries compatible with Illumina sequencing platforms. The panel is supported with software pipelines tailored to SARS-CoV-2 genome analysis using the company's CLC Genomics Workbench. The pipelines allow researchers to identify viral genome sequence variation across samples and to visualize strain divergence across populations and geographies using phylogenetic approaches.

"Our new QIAseq SARS-CoV-2 Primer Panel and software pipeline will guide researchers into insights on the epidemiology, metatranscriptomics, immune response, and pathways of the coronavirus—contributing to drug and vaccine development and public health strategies," Thierry Bernard, chief executive officer of Qiagen, said in a press statement.