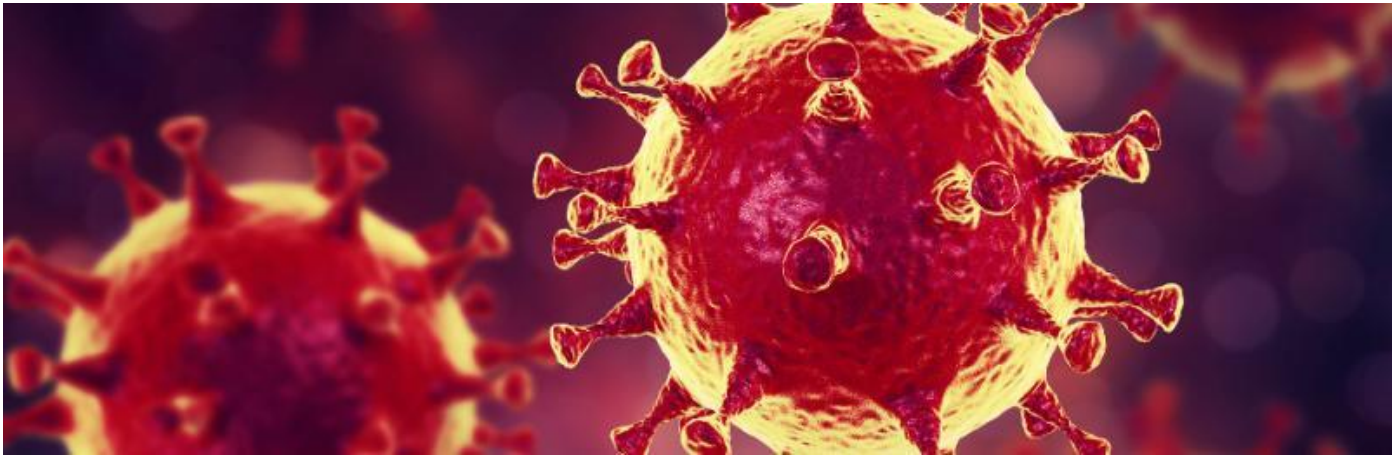


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Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in Swabs of Environmental Surfaces

The SARS-CoV-2 is a recently discovered coronavirus, which has caused the pandemic COVID-19 outbreak. This virus may lead to severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and is predominantly transmitted person to person via droplets. Due to the virus' potential for a prolonged tenacity on surfaces, transmission through contaminated surfaces is being investigated as a possible route of exposure.

In the current coronavirus outbreak, companies and health authorities seek for solutions to monitor the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in their environments in order to be able to implement immediate sanitation and other measures to protect the health and safety of employees and their environment.



Technologies

Coronavirus Testing Solution from Eurofins Technologies

SARS-CoV-2 kits from Eurofins Technologies will enable organisations in diverse industries, as well as in healthcare, to help test, determine, monitor and eventually strengthen the effectiveness of sanitation measures put in place.

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VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Screen

The VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Screen kit enables screening for the E-gene, which encodes for the envelope surrounding the viral shell. The kit was developed as an initial screening assay to be used in conjunction with the VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Ident kit as a confirmation. This approach follows the recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the German Health Authority.



World Health Organization

This assay effortlessly integrates into the VIRSeek Solution, which offers RNA extraction and an ISO 15216-compliant process control virus to monitor the efficiency of the process. Results are presented as absence/presence.

VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Ident

The assay is a one-step real-time RT-PCR to specifically detect the RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRP-gene) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and is conducted after a positive VIRSeek SARS-CoV-2 Screen test.

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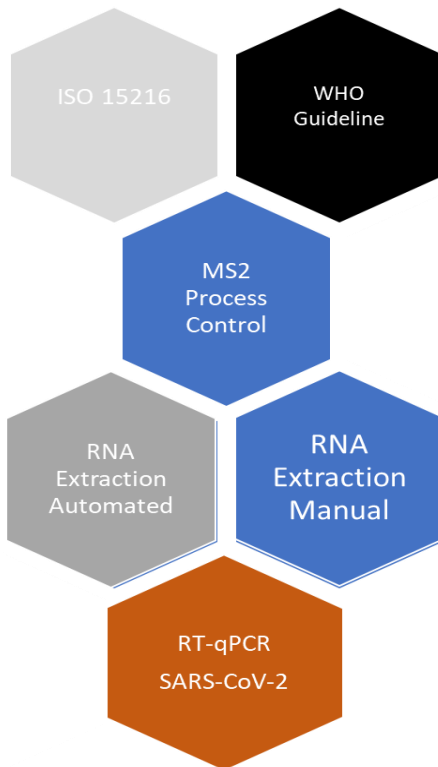
ABN: 50 005 085 521

<https://www.eurofins.com.au/environmental-testing/>

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Frequently Asked Questions

Workflow Outline



Where is sampling performed?

Environmental surfaces e.g., door handles, work surfaces, taps, ventilation exits or air purifiers, hard touch-points etc.

How is swabbing done?

WHO protocol for surface sampling

Use of a sterile swab with synthetic tip and plastic shaft and swab an area of 25 cm². Further details can be found by considering *Surface sampling of coronavirus disease (COVID-19): A practical "how to" protocol for health care and public health professionals* that is used to assess the extent and persistence of surface contamination with COVID-19 as well as to identify environmental surfaces which may play a role in onwards transmission of COVID-19 – details can be obtained [here](#).

When applying pressure with the wet swab onto the surface, move in at least two different directions while rotating the swab stick. Avoid letting the swab dry completely.

Our recommendation: Use of a sterile swab with synthetic tip and plastic shaft pre-moistened with sterile Phosphate Buffer Saline (PBS) viral transport medium, and swab an area of 25 cm².

- To increase the positive predictive value of the environmental sampling process, each sampling area may require multiple swabs
- Specimens for virus detection should reach the laboratory as soon as possible after collection and should be stored at 2 - 8°C
- Shipping must be sent in designated coolers and kept separate from normal environmental samples.
- Analysis must be conducted within 72 hours but 48 hours is highly recommended
- Control samples to be taken according to [WHO guidelines](#)

Kits available

- Plastic Bag containing
 - Sterile Swab
 - PBS (Phosphate-buffered Saline) diluent
 - Sampling Instructions
- Analysis can only be conducted on supplied swabs that are received in the laboratory intact
- Samples are analysed as received
- Dedicated coolers and ice bricks



If you would like to discuss logistical details for your upcoming projects then please contact your local Analytical Service Manager or one of our Business Development Team listed below.

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