

To: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
From: [redacted]
Sent: Wed 11/18/2020 5:50:23 PM
Subject: RE: Scientific advisorship - Update validation and implementation saliva for SARS-Cov2 detection in SJD Hospital
Received: Wed 11/18/2020 5:50:23 PM

Dear [redacted]

Many thanks and very nice that this turned out so well. Warm wishes, [redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
Sent: dinsdag 17 november 2020 10:05
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@umcutrecht.nl>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@fsjd.org>; [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
Subject: RE: Scientific advisorship - Update validation and implementation saliva for SARS-Cov2 detection in SJD Hospital

Dear [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted]

I hope this email finds you well. I get in contact with you because we have recently submitted a manuscript for publication about the validation and implementation of a saliva-based direct RT-qPCR for screening of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Your advice about saliva collection procedures has been important for us to refine the method described in this study. We have acknowledged your valuable and generous contribution in the manuscript, which I am endorsing to this email (confidential)

Thank you again for your kind advice.

Best regards,

[redacted]

[redacted] MD, PhD
 Full Professor in Medicine, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Barcelona
 CIBER de Epidemiología y Salud Pública CIBERESP, Madrid
 Molecular Microbiology Department, University Hospital Sant Joan de Déu,
 Pº Sant Joan de Déu nº2
 08950 Esplugues, Barcelona, Spain

De: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>
Enviado el: lunes, 20 de julio de 2020 16:38
Para: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>; [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>; [redacted] <[redacted]@umcutrecht.nl>
CC: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] (CDB) <[redacted]@clinic.cat>
Asunto: RE: Scientific advisorship - KidsCorona SummerCamp studies

Dear [redacted] and [redacted]

I was curious to know whether you have had more luck with being able to successfully detect SARS-CoV2 in saliva to be able to use this detection method in your planned surveillance of kids attending summercamps in the area of Barcelona.

Best regards

[redacted]

[redacted]
 Wetenschappelijk medewerker Emerging & Endemic Viruses (EEV)
 Centre for Infectious Disease Research, Diagnostics and Screening (IDS),
 National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM),
 Antonie van Leeuwenhoeklaan 9,
 3721 MA, Bilthoven, The Netherlands
 [redacted] @rivm.nl

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
Sent: vrijdag 26 juni 2020 10:53
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>; [redacted] <[redacted]@umcutrecht.nl>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] (CDB) <[redacted]@clinic.cat>
Subject: RE: Scientific advisorship - KidsCorona SummerCamp studies

Dear [redacted] and [redacted],
 Thanks for the very clear description of the project and sharing these exciting and important research questions with us.
 As mentioned by [redacted] [redacted] shared some useful insights obtained in our institute.
 Please let us know if using the oracle device aids in detecting RNA in either kids or adults.
 Do not hesitate to contact us in case of any questions or issues you would like to discuss.

Best regards
 [redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
Sent: vrijdag 26 juni 2020 07:46
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>; [redacted] <[redacted]@umcutrecht.nl>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] (CDB) <[redacted]@clinic.cat>
Subject: RE: Scientific advisorship - KidsCorona SummerCamp studies

Dear all,
 Thanks [redacted] for your email.
 Prof. [redacted] answered me yesterday providing very useful advice. Thanks again!
 We have collected the saliva sample with Pasteur pipette or swab, with and without inactivator, immediately processed or after frozen at -80°C. All our effort have been unsatisfactory. We will try with Oracol device following your experience. Saliva is a really interesting sample especially for children but we need a good sensitivity...
 As [redacted] told you before, we would be very interested in you joining this research project and to explore any potential collaboration that could be established.

Best regards,
 [redacted]

*Prof. [redacted], MD, PhD
 Molecular Microbiology Department, University Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Esplugues, Barcelona
 Medicine Department, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Barcelona
 Team Leader of CIBER de Epidemiología y Salud Pública CIBERESP, Madrid
 President of Catalan Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology, Catalunya*

De: [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>
Enviado el: jueves, 25 de junio de 2020 23:12
Para: [redacted] <[redacted]@umcutrecht.nl>
CC: [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@sjdhospitalbarcelona.org>; [redacted] (CDB) <[redacted]@clinic.cat>
Asunto: Re: Scientific advisorship - KidsCorona SummerCamp studies

Dear [redacted]

thank you very much for your response and your positive news.

As previously discussed, and as part of several other projects on Covid-19 and children/pregnancy (KidsCorona research

program), we are about to start a large project in which we intend to screen a large number of children (3-15 year-old) attending summercamps in the area of Barcelona. This project has received important support from various funding bodies, there is a considerable amount of efforts dedicated to make this project possible, and as well great interest (and some pressure) by institutions and stakeholders for its development.

The study was initially designed as a weekly screening in 2,500 children attending summercamps, but considering the low expected incidence in addition we will be launching a large dissemination campaign covering dozens of thousands of children from summercamps, aiming at early identification and study of contacts of any incident cases with suspicion symptoms.

In both studies, considering the difficulty/impossibility of performing serial NP swabs in children, saliva came up as an appealing alternative to perform both serial PCR and antibodies.

Dr [5.1.2e] (cc, and see below) has validated here in Barcelona PCR testing for SARS-CoV-2 in saliva in adults, but considering the scarce reported experience about saliva as a sample for PCR in children, some concerns came up as to whether the mode of sample collection and processing used in adults would be adequate for children.

When in a previous conversation you mentioned your experts had expertise with PCR in saliva from children we thought this could be a great opportunity for collaboration.

Since I am acting here in the role of scientific coordinator of the KidsCorona initiative as a whole, but not as specialist, I would suggest that there could be a direct interaction between experts. Therefore I take the liberty of in turn liaising Dr Fegging with Dr [5.1.2e] (Hospital Sant Joan de Deu Barcelona) and Dr [5.1.2e] (Hospital Clinic Barcelona), both professors in microbiology and involved in this project, and I hope a communication could be established.

On my part, I can just say we would be extremely interested in you joining this research project, and I hope we could produce one or more interesting papers taking profit of this joining of expertise and the data generated.

I am very grateful [Dubbel] for your efforts and to Dr [Dubbel] and team for their willingness to explore a collaboration and hope we can continue this conversation at your earliest convenience.

With best wishes,

[Dubbel]

[5.1.2e]
 Barcelona Center for Maternal-Fetal and Neonatal Medicine - Hospital Sant Joan de Deu i Hospital Clinic, Universitat de Barcelona
 Passeig Hospital Sant Joan de Deu 2 - Esplugues de Llobregat, 08950 Barcelona, Spain | Tel: +34 93 253 8428 (+34 93 253 3326 Secr. Ms. Alba Escarré)

On 25 Jun 2020, at 22:38, [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@umcutrecht.nl> wrote:

Dear [Dubbel]

I discussed your study today with the virologists at our national institute of public health who have done quite some research on saliva testing for SARS-CoV2 and they were definitely interested in exploring opportunities for collaboration and providing expertise. I hereby link you to [5.1.2e] (in Cc) he can further discuss this with you.

Let me know if I can do anything else at this point.

Best wishes

[Dubbel]

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