Establishment of a novel real time PCR method to detect live SARS-CoV-2 in clinical samples

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Live SARS-CoV-2 transcribed mRNA which contain a leader sequence. We designed primer and probe targeting the leader RNA region of E gene. We used this probes to test throat swabs, fecal sample, and plasma from COVID-19 patients.
Results and conclusions

• Both E gene and Leader RNA load declined as the disease developing.

• Leader RNA and genome RNA load show similar load dynamics

• Throat swab, fecal samples, and plasma all have leader RNA detected. Plasma has no Leader RNA detected at the last two time points.

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