

Presse Release

**First 2nd Generation SARS-Antigen Rapid Test for
Nasopharyngeal Swab Sampling Sets New Benchmark in
Sensitivity**

- *Rapid tests detecting the SARS-CoV-2 antigens from nasopharyngeal swabs are quickly becoming the accepted tests for the detection of current infections. They give results in 15 minutes and are less costly than PCR. These benefits far outweigh the drawback of their lower sensitivity.*
- *“Thanks to its low cost and reliability, this SARS-CoV-2 antigen rapid test method facilitates frequent testing for improved control of the pandemic. What is needed however is a more sensitive method”*
- *Biohit’s new antigen rapid test has provided exactly that. Using new and superior technology, namely immunofluorescence, Biohit’s new assay is up to ten-fold more sensitive when compared to the current rapid antigen assays based on immunogold.*
- *“This new test, now being offered by Biohit, is what we have been waiting for. It is the sharpest tool we can offer our health care professionals today. The sensitivity of 40 TCID₅₀/ml is very impressive and as such represents the next generation of antigen rapid tests. ”*

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By employing a far more sensitive detection technology over the current tests sold, BioHit has managed to introduce an rapid antigen test which pushes the sensitivity more than 10-fold below the currently marketed antigen rapid tests. Biohit has closed the gap between molecular tests, which are highly sensitive, but slow and expensive and rapid tests which are less sensitive.

“The reported sensitivity of the rapid antigen tests-based on the immune-gold method lies between 110 and 500 TCID₅₀/ml, whereas the immunofluorescence-based antigen rapid test of BioHit has a sensitivity of 40 TCID₅₀/ml; this represents the best sensitivity available today. A more sensitive tests means detecting all COVID-19 patients and cutting the spread of the disease. In my opinion it is irresponsible to employ sub-standard tests, when a better test which has the CE-IVD approval is available today.”

says Dr. C. Mauracher, virologist and CEO of Dialane AG.

According to Dr. Mauracher, virologist, CEO of [DIALANE AG](#), a Swiss company that has collaborated with [BIOHIT](#) in the development of the SARS-CoV-2 rapid antigen test, the new system has the advantage of being the best in class test for swabs and the only rapid assay which can also be used for a blood test.

About [BIOHIT](#): Founded in November 2013, BIOHIT Healthcare (Hefei) Co. is a Finnish-Chinese company that has always been committed to the development and application of in vitro diagnostic technology. Since its inception, the Chinese company carried out a long-term strategic cooperation with BIOHIT Oyj, a leading biomedical company in Finland founded in the 1970s, which ended up acquiring it permanently in 2018, thus further improving the industrial chain and laying the foundation for its opening to the global market.

About [DIALANE AG](#): Dialane AG was founded in 2008 by Dr. Chris Mauracher to offer diagnostic companies consultancy services for importing products into Europe; as well as for the sale and marketing of specialized diagnostic products in Europe.

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