

CDC withdrawing the PCR test?

Saeed A. Qureshi, Ph.D. (principal@pharmacomechanics.com)

Recently (July 21, 2021), CDC announced that it intends to withdraw Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the CDC 2019-Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel, or in simple language, withdrawing its recommended PCR test ([link](#)).

This withdrawal appears abrupt and surprising. Unfortunately, the CDC does not provide a reason for this action but suggested using another test known as the multiplex method.

It is unclear if CDC finds the currently recommended PCR test not useful then how the multiplex method, a PCR test but potentially more complex and convoluted than the original version, will be relevant and applicable.

The following describes CDC position in introducing the PCR test in 2020 for pandemic management ([link](#)):

"This test is only authorized for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostic tests for detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 under Section 564(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 USC § 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner."

"Positive results are indicative of active infection with SARS-CoV-2 but do not rule out bacterial infection or co-infection with other viruses. The agent detected may not be the definite cause of disease."

Considering this background, one can only speculate that:

(1) At long last, CDC acknowledges the irrelevancy and invalidity of the PCR test, as has been pointed out numerous times during the past year.

(2) The pandemic has been associated directly with the PCR test. Therefore, its withdrawal indicates that CDC considers that the state of emergency, and by extension pandemic, does not or would not exist beginning of 2022. Hence, the test's need would not be justified.

(3) The development of vaccines was based on the PCR test. Therefore, the credibility of the vaccines' claims of efficacy and usefulness would become null and void.

In short, CDC should clarify its decision of withdrawing the recommended PCR test. Otherwise, the public would be correct in assuming that CDC accepting that the virus and the pandemic were a hoax based on implementing faulty and non-scientific (PCR) testing.