Yale SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases

EMD Seminar Series

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"Bringing SARS-CoV-2 saliva testing to the masses: cost-effective and scalable approaches"

Quickly detecting and isolating individuals who can transmit SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is essential for limiting further spread of the virus. It is estimated that in the US, 4-5 million tests must be administered daily to identify these so-called "active cases" and control the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the scalability and availability of diagnostic assays for SARS-CoV-2 are limited, and the large-scale implementation of authorized tests is hampered by worldwide supply chain issues. To overcome these challenges and control the US epidemic, mass testing efforts must be: (1) safe, both at the point of specimen collection and specimen processing, (2) affordable, (3) flexible, without the need for reagents or instrumentation from specific vendors, (4) adaptable to high-throughput workflows, and (5) amenable to quick turnaround times. To this end, we have identified saliva as an alternative sample type for SARS-CoV-2 detection.

12:00 PM Wednesday, September 2, 2020 Host: N. Grubaugh

Zoom

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