

Fujifilm launches mutation detection kits for SARS-CoV-2

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Detecting UK, South African and Brazilian variants



Japan based firm FUJIFILM Wako Pure Chemical Corporation has announced the launch of the “N501Y mutation detection kit” and “E484K mutation detection kit”. The research reagents are based on the One Step RT-qPCR method to detect SARS-CoV-2 variants at a high sensitivity.

The N501Y mutation detection kit and the E484K mutation detection kit are genetic testing kits that use the One-Step RT-qPCR method to detect SARS-CoV-2 mutations.

The N501Y mutation detection kit identifies genes that are commonly seen in multiple variants, including the UK variant. The E484K mutation detection kit identifies genes that are commonly seen in South African and Brazilian variants, excluding UK variant.

The N501Y mutation detection kit and the E484K mutation detection kit can be used on the RNA extracted from SARS-CoV-2 positive specimens to determine whether the virus is the original type, UK variant, South African variant, or Brazilian variant.

These kits are designed with Fujifilm's unique approach to easily detect the E484K mutation, which is considered to be difficult to detect in the One-Step RT-qPCR method. This technology can be applied to a variety of other variants, enabling a quick response when new variants emerge in the future.