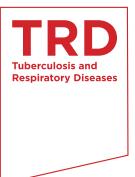
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## **Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction Assay for the Diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis**



## Viroj Wiwanitkit, M.D., FRFM

Department of Public Health Curriculum, Master of Science Unit, Surin Rajabhat University, Surin, Thailand

**To the editor:** The recent report on "Real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay for the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis" is very interesting<sup>1</sup>. Kim et al.<sup>1</sup> noted that "Real-time PCR from selective bronchoscopic aspirates enhances the diagnostic yield much more when added to sputum examination." In fact, polymerase chain reaction assay for tuberculosis (TB) is considered new and useful diagnostic test. However, there are some concerns on this assay. First, false-positive of the test can be seen in cases with "treated or old lesion from pulmonary TB<sup>2</sup>." Second, the low sensitivity of the test can be seen<sup>1-3</sup>. In fact, there are many possible causes of low sensitivity including to type of specimen transfer and duration time, the DNA extraction procedure, DNA amplified process, DNA extraction, and reproducible technique<sup>2</sup>. Finally, the cost effectiveness of the test is the topic for further studied.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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Address for correspondence: Viroj Wiwanitkit, M.D., FRFM Department of Public Health Curriculum, Master of Science Unit, Surin Rajabhat University, Surin 33000, Thailand Phone: 66-24132436, Fax: 66-24132436 E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com Received: Feb. 20, 2015 Revised: Mar. 2, 2015 Accepted: Mar. 2, 2015

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