

and water. In a limited study, we found transfer of ESBL *Klebsiella ozaenae* from moose to domesticated animals in a shared urban residence. Human contact with infected domesticated animals, along with aerosol soil exposure during gardening or landscaping activities, presents opportunity for zoonosis from urban wildlife and a risk for colonization of multi-drug resistant bacteria.

### Navigating the Diagnostics of COVID-19

A. Sanyaolu<sup>1</sup>, C. Okorie<sup>2</sup>, A. Marinkovic<sup>3</sup>, O. Ayodele<sup>3</sup>, A. Abbasi<sup>3</sup>, S. Prakash<sup>3</sup>, M. Ahmed<sup>3</sup>, D. Kayode<sup>4</sup>;

<sup>1</sup>Communicable Diseases, AMOOF Healthcare Consulting, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA<sup>2</sup>Essex County College, Newark, New Jersey, UNITED STATES<sup>3</sup>Saint James School of Medicine, The Valley, ANGUILLA<sup>4</sup>College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Lagos, Lagos, NIGERIA|U. Jaferi, N. Haider, School of Medicine, All Saints University, Roseau, DOMINICA|

**Introduction/Objective:** The recent outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) began in Hubei province, China in December 2019 and has spread worldwide at an alarming rate. With millions of individuals infected and over two hundred thousand deaths, the necessity to develop fast and efficient diagnostic methods is of high importance. Diagnostic modalities rely on a combination of epidemiology, clinical presentation, laboratory examination, and appropriate imaging to diagnose and distinguish SARS-CoV-2 from other pulmonary infections. The purpose of this paper is to report on currently available diagnostic screening methods for patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 to guide frontline healthcare workers involved with COVID-19 patient care.

**Methods:** An electronic literature search was performed for peer-reviewed articles published from January 1, 2020, until April 26, 2020. Articles were then reviewed and included based on the applicability to the topic.

**Results:** The preferred diagnostic approach is reverse transcription of the virus' RNA followed by PCR amplification (RT-PCR). This method recognizes the gene-specific primers to target various viral protein genes, such as the envelope protein gene or the nucleocapsid protein gene, which enables this test to be both sensitive and specific toward SARS-CoV-2. However, this method has been proven to be time-consuming taking hours-to-days for the results. In order to improve the speed and efficiency of diagnostics, newer rapid diagnostic serological tests are being developed for testing SARS-CoV-2, each with its own unique advantages and disadvantages. They could potentially be used as triage tests to rapidly identify patients who are very likely to have COVID-19 in combination with other accurate diagnostic methods.

**Conclusion:** Therefore, a combination of diagnostic testing used in a timely manner may be beneficial for the rapid and accurate detection of SARS-CoV-2. This was evident in cases where despite initial negative RT-PCR tests for various patients, who later demonstrate chest CT scans with various degrees of consolidation and ground-glass opacity. Thus establishing the need for radiology diagnosis to be complementary to RT-PCR for COVID-19 patients. Hopefully, the continuous development and use of rapid diagnostic tests and the implementation of public health measures will help control the spread of the disease.

### Isolation Of Anticancer Drug Taxol Producing Endophytic Fungus *Alternaria Alternata* By Using HPLC And LC- MS

M. Ghaly<sup>1</sup>, E. Talat I.<sup>2</sup>, A. Abeer<sup>2</sup>, M. Mohamed H<sup>3</sup>, A. W. Elmetwalli<sup>4</sup>, T. M.F.<sup>5</sup>; <sup>1</sup>Microbiology Department, Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Zagazig, EGYPT<sup>2</sup>Botany and Microbiology Department, Faculty of Science, Benha University, Benha, EGYPT<sup>3</sup>Virology and Immunology, Cancer Biology Department, South Egypt Cancer Institute, Assiut University, Assiut, EGYPT<sup>4</sup>Department of Clinical Trial Research and Drug Discovery, Egyptian Liver Research Institute and Hospital, Mansoura, EGYPT<sup>5</sup>Molecular Immunogenic Researcher, Cell Biology and Genetics Department, Faculty of Science, Benha University, Benha, EGYPT|

**Introduction/Objective:** In the exploration of an alternative source, optimum and numerous solvents with different percentage were exploited to extract Taxol from plant palm branche. The fungal endophytes producing secondary metabolites that are effective against the human infections have fascinated many researchers across the world.

Among these, the exploration for novel cancer therapeutic agents is of countless reputation due to upsurge in the number of cancer deaths, high worth of the drugs and the side effects concomitant with cancer treatments.

Accordingly, in the current study, an endophytic fungal strain was isolated from its host plant palm branche and identified as *Alternaria Alternata* based on its morphological features and internal transcribed spacer sequence analysis.

**Methods:** Firstly, palm branche were collected for the isolation of endophytic fungi. The samples were placed on PDA plates and after 72 h, the mycelium produced were isolated and sub-cultured. Secondly, further analysis for the presence of Taxol by using chromatographic and spectrometric techniques. Illustratively, ethanol or acetone and 50% and 20% of ethanol. Then, the residues were dissolved in 5 ml of methanol and filtered. By using the internal standard, the resulting solution was subjected to the HPLC to determine the extraction efficiencies of