

Urine-based molecular diagnosis of Zika virus

Viroj Wiwanitkit^{1,2,3,4,5}

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Editor,

The recent report on “urine-based molecular diagnosis of Zika virus” is very interesting [1]. Lamb et al. [1] recommended that “urine and serum collection for molecular testing be a standard part of evaluating patients for ZIKV infection, and that urine is a good alternative testing sample when blood collection is problematic.” It is no doubt that the urine diagnostic tool is useful for diagnosis of infectious disease. However, the reliability and accuracy of the test is usually the concern in laboratory medicine. For Zika virus infection, detection of virus in urine is possible but the secretion of virus in urine does not occur in all phases of infection. In addition, using molecular diagnosis might be an expensive test for many settings where the outbreaks of disease occur (which is usually the developing countries). In fact, there are also other alternative techniques

for diagnosis using urine sample. The good example is the recent report on new immunodiagnostic tool by Acharya et al. [2].

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The author declares no conflict of interest.

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✉ Viroj Wiwanitkit
wviroj@yahoo.com

¹ Hainan Medical University, Haikou, China

² Dr DY Patil University, Pune, India

³ Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Nis, Serbia

⁴ Joseph Ayobabalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Nigeria

⁵ Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhae, Bangkok 10160, Thailand