Development of an Ebola Rapid Diagnostic Test

Robert F. Garry, PhD

Professor of Microbiology and Immunology Tulane University School of Medicine For the VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC FEVER CONSORTIUM (vhfc.org)



Lassa fever program at Kenema Government Hospital

Important site for Lassa fever research by CDC and others



May Chu, Dan Bausch, others refurbish Lassa Laboratory



Introduction of ReLASV lateral flow immunoassays

1970s and 1980s 1993

2005

2008

2010



Blood Diamonds civil conflict forces suspension of Lassa program



Establishment of recombinant Lassa ELISA diagnostics



Ebola came to us



Leading Insights and Response









- Established Ebola Diagnostics at Kenema
 - Performing Surveillance in March and April
 - Immediately identifying first case in hospital
- Sequenced Ebola Genomes
 - Rapidly making data public for 99 Ebola genomes
 - Publication in Science 2014
- Provided Clinical Data
 - Rapidly making data public from 100 patients
 - Publication in NEJM 2014
- Developed Rapid Diagnostic Test
 - 15-minute Ebola diagnostic test
 - First RDT to obtain WHO and FDA approval

Sources: france 24, reuters, abcnews

Quantitative reverse transcriptase polymerase Chain reaction versus lateral flow immunoassay

Assay	qPCR	LFI-RDT
Sample collection	Venipuncture, Skilled	Fingerstick, Minimal training
Time to result	1-5 days	15 minutes
Assay performance	Skilled	Minimal training
Laboratory requirements	Electrical power qPCR machine, centrifuge, etc., Skilled technicians	No power required, No laboratory equipment required, Minimal training

ReEBOV [™] Rapid Test

Matt Boisen Corgenix Tulane Biomedical Sciences Program

Lateral now minulhoassay







ReEBOV Antigen Rapid Test Kit (Corgenix)



WHO Emergency Use Authorization and Listing EUAL) February 20, 2015



FDA Emergency use authorization (EUA) February 24, 2015

ReEBOV Rapid Test Timeline



May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

2015

2014

Where does the money come from?



How do you get the product on the market?

The market for the product is:

- the Federal Government (stockpile)
- "Rich" African Nations (ex. Nigeria)
- Foundations (ex. Gates Foundation)



What do we need to do?

- Convince the USG of the need for stockpiling
- Convince relatively wealthy countries or foundations to buy or subsidize the product.

Can we implement "orphan drug"

incentives for biothreat/emerging

pathogen MCMs?