

# Danish Company is at Final Development Stage for a Covid-19 Test

**The Danish biotech company Eir Diagnostics is entering the final stage in developing a portable, fast, and accurate test for infectious diseases such as Covid-19. Testing takes only 5 minutes and will be able to solve some of the capacity issues which e.g. the Danish healthcare system is facing right now.**

Eir Diagnostics is entering the final stage in developing a portable, fast and accurate test for infectious diseases. The test is suitable for diseases such as Covid-19, SARS, MERS, and Norovirus, which all require isolation. Specially, the need to be able to test the entire population during epidemics and only isolate the infected ones, is one of the biggest challenges which the Danish healthcare system and society is facing right now.

The initial goal was to finalize the basic platform before the end of 2020 and after that apply for approval and scale up specific products for testing of selected virus or bacteria. In the light of the current Covid-19 crisis, the company has chosen to change course and will instead work intensely on finalizing the test specifically for Covid-19 as fast as possible. If everything goes as planned, Eir Diagnostics hope to have a test ready this autumn.

“We are very close to succeeding and hope to find a good solution very fast, so that we can focus on finalizing the test which can help to make an end to the Corona crisis in Denmark and in the rest of the world. Hopefully we can also prevent a similar situation in case of a future epidemic.”, says Mr. Michael Doessing, CEO at Eir Diagnostics.

Whereas existing tests on the market take approx. 4 hours and involve expensive laboratory analysis, the test from Eir Diagnostics takes only 5 minutes and is mobile and much more user-friendly. At the same time, product design ensures extremely high efficacy and tests can be done at a very low market price.

“From the beginning, we have had the ambition to create a test which is very user-friendly and does not require a laboratory setting. The test equipment is small, easily portable which makes it possible to bring that where it can make a difference e.g. in airports, schools, companies, hospitals, even in developing countries. You get the result of the test immediately while you are waiting”, says Mr. Michael Doessing.

If this extraordinary fast development should succeed, the company need their extra costs funded in connection with this and to ensure help for faster validation, product approval, and distribution. This is ongoing work right now.

The patented solution, which Eir Diagnostics works on, was developed at the Technical University of Denmark by scientists who also are co-owners of Eir Diagnostics. A kind of synthetic DNA or RNA is used in order to detect virus or bacterium. The company has initiated a cooperation with scientists from Copenhagen University Hospital and Aarhus University regarding the remaining part of the development.

**For further information and requests for interview, please contact**

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