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(57) Abstract :

The invention is directed to compositions and methods for isolating detecting amplifying and quantitating pathogen specific nucleic acids in a biological sample. The invention also provides diagnostic kits containing specific amplification primers and labeled detection probes that specifically bind to the amplification products obtained therefrom. Also disclosed are compositions and methods for the isolation and characterization of nucleic acids that are specific to one or more pathogens including for example Influenza virus and Mycobacterium tuberculosis from a wide variety of samples including those of biological environmental clinical and/or veterinary origin.

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