



COVIDIS? PHASE B: IMPACTS WP7, DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

Diagnostic testing in the Valais in the context of socio-economic implications of the COVID-19 pandemic

Problématique

Diagnostic testing for COVID-19 disease has received a broad attention in society, especially during the 1st infection wave in spring 2020. The limited testing capacities, transmissibility of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the absence of a facile sample collection method and adequate POC diagnostic devices has raised both concerns and the need for innovation.

We have conducted a workshop with stakeholders from different institutions such as nursing home, border control, asylum center, security agency, government public protection office, penitentiary, and hospital, in order to investigate organizational, logistical, data management, psychological and ergonomic requirements and constraints particularly during the early lockdown relaxation phase. After a first analysis of the workshop data, a questionnaire was designed and sent to the participants and their organizations to refine and validate the replies.

Principaux résultats

Among the main findings of our research following items stand out:

- 1) Diagnostic testing is seen as an important tool to help ensure the safety of employees and to manage human resources.
- 2) Notably, self-testing and testing by staff are favored over services by an external provider.
- 3) Ease-of-use, assay performance (e.g., sensitivity), reliability, measurement speed and especially portability are viewed as important.
- 4) The majority of the participants expressed the opinion that test costs exceeding CHF 10.- should be covered by the public domain.

Difficulté(s) rencontrée(s) / Enseignement(s) à tirer du projet

The findings from our pilot survey with a restricted investigatory time-window and a limited number of regional stakeholders warrant further expansion (across the Romandie or Switzerland) and a more refined research on requirements to support the necessary technological developments towards truly customer-centered products and services for future infectious disease outbreaks.

Collaboratrices et collaborateurs impliqués

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Pour tout renseignement et suite

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