

■ **Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) diagnostics arrays are being tested and refined,** according to the WHO, reports the *Gray Sheet*. Two new tests have been developed by Hong Kong University, Chinese University and Public Virus Labs. One is based on polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology, and the other employs an immunofluorescence assay (IFA) technique. On 27 March, the WHO stated that the PCR diagnostic was reliably detecting SARS in the early days of infection, and that the IFA test was being used to detect infection in convalescent sera at approximately 3 weeks after onset of infection. WHO has announced that laboratories worldwide will be given access to these tests, which will be upgraded to enable greater daily screening capacity.

SARS testing underway after development of two diagnostics. FDC Reports -
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