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## USA Covid-19 IVD

### Status of “Emergency Use Authorizations” Pathway toward a regular FDA approval

03.06.2020 Philippe Etter



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## Emergency Use Approval system


<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations#COVID19ivd>

During a public health emergency, the FDA can use its **Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)** authority to allow:

- Use of unapproved medical products when no adequate, approved and available alternatives

**Objective :** to **rapidly increase** the number of COVID-19 tests on the market. By granting an EUA to a manufacturer, the FDA specifically **authorizes the marketing** of the particular test

**Other preceding EUA :** Zika, Enterovirus, Ebola, MERS,




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## Recent sequence

- **March 16<sup>th</sup>**: initial Covid-19 EUA, also covering respirators, adjacent therapies : **“Full throttle”**
- **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**: updated policy for diagnostics : manufacturer must submit a formal request : **“First tightening”**
- **April 28<sup>th</sup>**: second pathway for serology test “Umbrella EUA” – only usable for test used in accredited (CLIA) labs – limited number of test “approved” through this pathway.
- **May 4<sup>th</sup>**: updated policy for diagnostic : must submit a request with **evidences** : **“additional tightening, also including labelling requirement”**
- **May 28<sup>th</sup>**, June 1<sup>st</sup> : published list of (31) serology test **removed** <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/faqs-testing-sars-cov-2>



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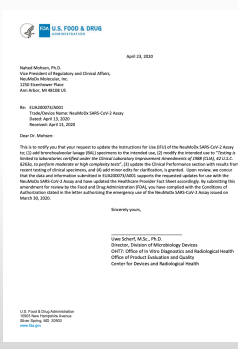

## Throughput

**Currently available commercial kits**

- 85 entries in the database of EUA
  - 68 molecular tests
  - 13 serology tests (IgM & IgG or IgG only)
  - 1 antigen (rapid test) (probably others in development currently)

**Laboratory developed (molecular)**

- 32 entries

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## EUA process

Templates for these EUA submissions are available to help facilitate the preparation, submission, and authorization of an EUA:

- [Molecular Diagnostic Template for Manufacturers](#) (Updated May 13, 2020)
- [Molecular Diagnostic Template for Laboratories](#) (Updated May 13, 2020)
- [Serology Template for Manufacturers](#) (unchanged from May 4, 2020)
- [Serology Template for Laboratories](#) (unchanged from May 4, 2020)
- [Antigen Template for Manufacturers](#) (May 11, 2020)
- [Home Specimen Collection Molecular Diagnostic Template](#) (May 29, 2020)

Duration until response : 2 to 3 weeks.

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## Use environment requirements

**H** - Laboratories certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA), 42 U.S.C. §263a, that meet requirements to perform **high complexity tests**.

**M** - Laboratories certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA), 42 U.S.C. §263a, that meet requirements to perform **moderate complexity tests**.

**W** - **Patient care** settings operating under a CLIA Certificate of Waiver.

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## Standard approval of Covid-19 IVD

**Class II device**

Qualifies for a 510k procedure based on a predicate device.

May 27th, Timothy Stenzel, director of the FDA Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiology said that:

"The agency had received an inquiry into when the EUA program will end and when the associated tests will have to move into the 510(k) premarket pathway, although he said the state of emergency declaration is "unlikely to be terminated anytime soon."

"We always do encourage developers to work toward a routine application," which might entail a petition for **de novo classification** of the test. "We encourage these applications as soon as the developers are ready, and we're willing to work with them right now" on converting EUA test dossiers into conventional premarket filings, he said. **The FDA has some discretion to keep EUA tests on the market despite the filing of a 510(k) for one test of a particular type, and thus the agency does not anticipate that the need for EUA tests will disappear anytime soon.**

This means probably another 6 months or so.

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.27.201111v1>

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## Learnings

**For manufacturers:**

- Get ready for a 510k from now on:
  - First de-novo will trigger and avalanche of submission
  - More and more performance requirement will develop

**For the whole IVD community:**

- Very fast and adaptive regulatory process by FDA
- Quite clear guidances
- Quite different from EU approach:
  - In the process of setting up a "centralized overview"
  - Trying to synchronize NCA
  - [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/testing\\_kits\\_communication.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/testing_kits_communication.pdf)

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