



October 7, 2020

Alan Maderazo, Ph.D., RAC  
VP, Quality, Regulatory and Clinical Affairs  
GenMark Diagnostics, Inc.  
5964 La Place Court  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Device: ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 (ePlex RP2 Panel)

Company: GenMark Diagnostics, Inc.

Indication: Simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from multiple respiratory viral and bacterial organisms<sup>1</sup>, including nucleic acid from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), in nasopharyngeal swabs (NPS) eluted in viral transport media obtained from individuals suspected of respiratory viral infection consistent with COVID-19 by their healthcare provider. Emergency use of this test is limited to authorized laboratories.

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

Dear Dr. Maderazo:

This letter is in response to your<sup>2</sup> request that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issue an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for emergency use of your product,<sup>3</sup> pursuant to Section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) (21 U.S.C. §360bbb-3).

On February 4, 2020, pursuant to Section 564(b)(1)(C) of the Act, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) determined that there is a public health emergency that has a significant potential to affect national security or the health and security of United States citizens living abroad, and that involves the virus that causes COVID-19. Pursuant to Section 564 of the Act, and on the basis of such determination, the Secretary of

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<sup>1</sup> The ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 (Eplex RP2 Panel) is intended for the detection and differentiation of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 and the following virus types, subtypes, and bacteria: adenovirus, coronavirus (229E, HKU1, NL63, OC43), SARS-CoV-2, human metapneumovirus, human rhinovirus/enterovirus, influenza A, influenza A H1, influenza A H1-2009, influenza A H3, influenza B, parainfluenza virus 1, parainfluenza virus 2, parainfluenza virus 3, parainfluenza virus 4, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) A, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) B, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*.

<sup>2</sup> For ease of reference, this letter will use the term “you” and related terms to refer to GenMark Diagnostics, Inc.

<sup>3</sup> For ease of reference, this letter will use the term “your product” to refer to the ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 (ePlex RP2 Panel) used for the indication identified above.

HHS then declared that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection and/or diagnosis of the virus that causes COVID-19 subject to the terms of any authorization issued under Section 564(a) of the Act.<sup>4</sup>

There are FDA-approved/cleared tests for the other respiratory pathogens detected by your product, but there are no FDA-approved/cleared multiplexed tests for simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory pathogens. Respiratory infections caused by SARS-CoV-2 and the other targeted respiratory pathogens can have similar clinical presentation and diagnostic considerations. Thus, to differentially detect SARS-CoV-2, information from a test that detects and differentiates the virus that causes COVID-19 and other respiratory pathogens is needed. For example, the common influenza viruses that cause seasonal epidemics of flu, influenza A and B is needed during the flu season that coincides with the COVID-19 pandemic. FDA considered the totality of scientific information available in authorizing the emergency use of your product for the indication above. A summary of the performance information FDA relied upon is contained in the Instructions for Use (identified below).

Having concluded that the criteria for issuance of this authorization under Section 564(c) of the Act are met, I am authorizing the emergency use of your product, described in the Scope of Authorization of this letter (Section II), subject to the terms of this authorization.

## **I. Criteria for Issuance of Authorization**

I have concluded that the emergency use of your product meets the criteria for issuance of an authorization under Section 564(c) of the Act, because I have concluded that:

1. The SARS-CoV-2 can cause a serious or life-threatening disease or condition, including severe respiratory illness, to humans infected by this virus;
2. Based on the totality of scientific evidence available to FDA, it is reasonable to believe that your product may be effective in diagnosing COVID-19 through the simultaneous detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory viral and bacterial organisms<sup>5</sup>, and that the known and potential benefits of your product when used for such a use, outweigh the known and potential risks of your product; and
3. There is no adequate, approved, and available alternative to the emergency use of your product.<sup>6</sup>

## **II. Scope of Authorization**

I have concluded, pursuant to Section 564(d)(1) of the Act, that the scope of this authorization is limited to the indication above.

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<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Determination of a Public Health Emergency and Declaration that Circumstances Exist Justifying Authorizations Pursuant to Section 564(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act*, 21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3. 85 FR 7316 (February 7, 2020).

<sup>5</sup> Refer to footnote 1.

<sup>6</sup> No other criteria of issuance have been prescribed by regulation under Section 564(c)(4) of the Act.

## Authorized Product Details

Your product is an automated multiplexed nucleic acid test intended for use on the ePlex Instrument for the simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from multiple respiratory viral and bacterial organisms, including nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2, in nasopharyngeal swabs (NPS) eluted in viral transport media obtained from individuals suspected of respiratory viral infection consistent with COVID-19 by their healthcare provider. Clinical signs and symptoms of respiratory viral infection due to SARS-CoV-2 and the targeted respiratory viral and bacterial organisms can be similar.

Your product is intended for use with the ePlex Instrument for the simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from multiple respiratory viral and bacterial organisms, including nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in patient specimens. Nucleic acids from these pathogens are generally detectable in respiratory specimens during infection. Positive results are indicative of active infection with the identified respiratory pathogen but do not rule out infection or co-infection with non-panel organisms. Negative results do not preclude infection with SARS-CoV-2 or other organisms on the ePlex RP2 Panel and should not be used as the sole basis for patient management decisions. Negative results must be combined with clinical observations, patient history, and epidemiological information.

Your product, when used with the ePlex instrument, or other authorized instruments, automates all aspects of nucleic acid testing including extraction, amplification, and detection, combining electrowetting and GenMark's eSensor technology in a single-use cartridge, for simultaneous detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory pathogens targeted by the panel from NPS eluted in VTM. The ePlex RP2 Panel includes the following materials or authorized materials: ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 Cartridge.

Your product requires the following control materials, or other authorized control materials (as may be requested under Condition M below), that are processed in the same way as the patient samples and are required to be included with each batch of specimens tested with your product. All controls listed below must generate expected results in order for a test to be considered valid, as outlined in the Instructions for Use:

- DNA Internal Control – lyophilized pellet of *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* that is rehydrated upon addition of the NPS sample at the beginning of the run. It is used to verify extraction, amplification and detection of DNA targets.
- RNA Internal Control – *in vitro* transcript that contains unique sequences that do not resemble any known human or pathogen sequences. It is used to verify RT-PCR amplification and detection of RNA targets

For quality control, you recommend use of external positive and negative controls, or other authorized controls, to be run as outlined in the Instructions for Use, described below. Your product also requires the use of additional authorized materials and authorized ancillary reagents that are not included with your product and are described in the Instructions for Use.

The above described product is authorized to be accompanied with labeling entitled “ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 Package Insert” Instructions for Use (available at <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use->

[authorizations-medical-devices/vitro-diagnostics-euas](#)), and the following product-specific information pertaining to the emergency use, which is required to be made available to healthcare providers and patients:

- Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers: GenMark Diagnostics, Inc. - ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2
- Fact Sheet for Patients: GenMark Diagnostics, Inc. - ePlex Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2

The above described product, when accompanied by the Instructions for Use (identified above) and the two Fact Sheets (collectively referenced as “authorized labeling”) is authorized to be distributed to and used by authorized laboratories under this EUA, despite the fact that it does not meet certain requirements otherwise required by applicable federal law.

I have concluded, pursuant to Section 564(d)(2) of the Act, that it is reasonable to believe that the known and potential benefits of your product, when used consistent with the Scope of Authorization of this letter (Section II), outweigh the known and potential risks of your product.

I have concluded, pursuant to Section 564(d)(3) of the Act, based on the totality of scientific evidence available to FDA, that it is reasonable to believe that your product may be effective in diagnosing COVID-19, when used consistent with the Scope of Authorization of this letter (Section II), pursuant to Section 564(c)(2)(A) of the Act.

FDA has reviewed the scientific information available to FDA, including the information supporting the conclusions described in Section I above, and concludes that your product (as described in the Scope of Authorization of this letter (Section II)) meets the criteria set forth in Section 564(c) of the Act concerning safety and potential effectiveness.

The emergency use of your product under this EUA must be consistent with, and may not exceed, the terms of this letter, including the Scope of Authorization (Section II) and the Conditions of Authorization (Section IV). Subject to the terms of this EUA and under the circumstances set forth in the Secretary of HHS's determination under Section 564(b)(1)(C) of the Act described above and the Secretary of HHS's corresponding declaration under Section 564(b)(1) of the Act, your product is authorized for the indication above.

### **III. Waiver of Certain Requirements**

I am waiving the following requirements for your product during the duration of this EUA:

- Current good manufacturing practice requirements, including the quality system requirements under 21 CFR Part 820 with respect to the design, manufacture, packaging, labeling, storage, and distribution of your product, but excluding Subpart H (Acceptance Activities, 21 CFR 820.80 and 21 CFR 820.86), Subpart I (Nonconforming Product, 21 CFR 820.90), and Subpart O (Statistical Techniques, 21 CFR 820.250).

#### **IV. Conditions of Authorization**

Pursuant to Section 564(e) of the Act, I am establishing the following conditions on this authorization:

##### **GenMark Diagnostics, Inc. (You) and Authorized Distributor(s)<sup>7</sup>**

- A. Your product must comply with the following labeling requirements under FDA regulations: the intended use statement (21 CFR 809.10(a)(2), (b)(2)); adequate directions for use (21 U.S.C. 352(f)), (21 CFR 809.10(b)(5), (7), and (8)); appropriate limitations on the use of the device including information required under 21 CFR 809.10(a)(4); and any available information regarding performance of the device, including requirements under 21 CFR 809.10(b)(12).
- B. You and authorized distributor(s) will make your product available with the authorized labeling to authorized laboratories.
- C. You and authorized distributor(s) will make available on your website(s) the Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers and the Fact Sheet for Patients.
- D. You and authorized distributor(s) will inform authorized laboratories and relevant public health authorities of this EUA, including the terms and conditions herein, and any updates made to your product, authorized labeling and authorized Fact Sheets.
- E. Through a process of inventory control, you and authorized distributor(s) will maintain records of the authorized laboratories to which they distribute the test and number of tests they distribute.
- F. You and authorized distributor(s) will collect information on the performance of your product. You will report to FDA any suspected occurrence of false positive or false negative results and significant deviations from the established performance characteristics of the product of which you become aware.
- G. You and authorized distributor(s) are authorized to make available additional information relating to the emergency use of your product that is consistent with, and does not exceed, the terms of this letter of authorization.

##### **GenMark Diagnostics, Inc. (You)**

- H. You will notify FDA of any authorized distributor(s) of your product, including the name, address, and phone number of any authorized distributor(s).

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<sup>7</sup> “Authorized Distributor(s)” are identified by you, GenMark Diagnostics, Inc., in your EUA submission as an entity allowed to distribute your product.

- I. You will provide authorized distributor(s) with a copy of this EUA and communicate to authorized distributor(s) any subsequent amendments that might be made to this EUA and its authorized accompanying materials (e.g., Fact Sheets).
- J. You will comply with the following requirements pursuant to FDA regulations: Subpart H (Acceptance Activities, 21 CFR 820.80 and 21 CFR 820.86), Subpart I (Nonconforming Product, 21 CFR 820.90), and Subpart O (Statistical Techniques, 21 CFR 820.250).
- K. You must have lot release procedures and the lot release procedures, including the study design and statistical power, must ensure that the tests released for distribution have the clinical and analytical performance claimed in the authorized labeling.
- L. If requested by FDA, you must submit lot release procedures to FDA, including sampling protocols, testing protocols, and acceptance criteria, that you use to release lots of your product for distribution in the U.S. If such lot release procedures are requested by FDA, you must provide it within 48 hours of the request.
- M. You may request changes to this EUA for your product, including to the Scope of Authorization (Section II in this letter) or to the authorized labeling, including requests to make available additional authorized labeling specific to an authorized distributor. Such additional labeling may use another name for the product but otherwise must be consistent with the authorized labeling, and not exceed the terms of authorization of this letter. Any request for changes to this EUA should be submitted to the Division of Microbiology (DMD)/Office of Health Technology 7 (OHT7)-Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health (OIR)/Office of Product Evaluation and Quality (OPEQ)/Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) and require appropriate authorization from FDA prior to implementation.
- N. You will evaluate the analytical limit of detection and assess traceability<sup>8</sup> of your product with any FDA-recommended reference material(s). After submission to and concurrence with the data by FDA, you will update labeling to reflect the additional testing. Such labeling updates will be made in consultation with, and require concurrence of, DMD/OHT7-OIR/OPEQ/CDRH.
- O. You will have a process in place to track adverse events, including any occurrence of false results, and report to FDA pursuant to 21 CFR Part 803.

### **Authorized Laboratories**

- P. Authorized laboratories using your product will include with test result reports, all authorized Fact Sheets. Under exigent circumstances, other appropriate methods for disseminating these Fact Sheets may be used, which may include mass media.
- Q. Authorized laboratories using your product will use your product as outlined in the

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<sup>8</sup> Traceability refers to tracing analytical sensitivity/reactivity back to an FDA-recommended reference material.

authorized labeling. Deviations from the authorized procedures, including the authorized instruments, authorized extraction methods, authorized clinical specimen types, authorized control materials, authorized other ancillary reagents and authorized materials required to use your product are not permitted.

- R. Authorized laboratories that receive your product will notify the relevant public health authorities of their intent to run your product prior to initiating testing.
- S. Authorized laboratories using your product will have a process in place for reporting test results to healthcare providers and relevant public health authorities, as appropriate.
- T. Authorized laboratories will collect information on the performance of your product and report to DMD/OHT7-OIR/OPEQ/CDRH (via email: [CDRH-EUA-Reporting@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CDRH-EUA-Reporting@fda.hhs.gov)) and you (via email: [technicalsupport@genmarkdx.com](mailto:technicalsupport@genmarkdx.com)) any suspected occurrence of false positive or false negative results and significant deviations from the established performance characteristics of your product of which they become aware.
- U. All laboratory personnel using your product must be appropriately trained in RT-PCR techniques and use appropriate laboratory and personal protective equipment when handling this kit, and use your product in accordance with the authorized labeling.

**GenMark Diagnostics, Inc. (You), Authorized Distributors and Authorized Laboratories**

- V. You, authorized distributors, and authorized laboratories using your product will ensure that any records associated with this EUA are maintained until otherwise notified by FDA. Such records will be made available to FDA for inspection upon request.

**Conditions Related to Printed Materials, Advertising and Promotion**

- W. All descriptive printed matter, including advertising and promotional materials, relating to the use of your product shall be consistent with the authorized labeling, as well as the terms set forth in this EUA and the applicable requirements set forth in the Act and FDA regulations.
- X. No descriptive printed matter, including advertising or promotional materials, relating to the use of your product may represent or suggest that this test is safe or effective for the detection of SARS-CoV-2.
- Y. All descriptive printed matter, including advertising and promotional materials, relating to the use of your product shall clearly and conspicuously state that:
  - This test has not been FDA cleared or approved;
  - This test has been authorized by FDA under an EUA for use by authorized laboratories;

- This test has been authorized only for the simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 and multiple respiratory viral and bacterial organisms; and
- This test is only authorized for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 under Section 564(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner.

The emergency use of your product as described in this letter of authorization must comply with the conditions and all other terms of this authorization.

#### **V. Duration of Authorization**

This EUA will be effective until the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of the emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 is terminated under Section 564(b)(2) of the Act or the EUA is revoked under Section 564(g) of the Act.

Sincerely,

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RADM Denise M. Hinton  
Chief Scientist  
Food and Drug Administration

Enclosure