

Dr. Rajas V. Warke : Role & significance of RNA extraction in Detection of COVID-19 from patients samples

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Leading one of the most technologically advanced branches of HiMedia Laboratories today is the youngest director, Dr. Rajas Warke.



As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise all across the globe, BioSpectrum brings together a panel of healthcare industry experts to identify gaps and work together towards making India COVID-19 free.

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The Molecular Biology Division currently headed by Dr. Rajas is the torch bearer for manufacturing the maximum number of Viral RNA kits that is used for the Molecular testing of the COVID-19 virus in India today. The department currently has an enormous manufacturing capacity of over 1 Lakh tests per day. After earning his Doctorate Degree in Virology & Immunology from the esteemed University of Massachusetts and Masters in Biotechnology from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in USA he decided on coming back to India to spearhead the Company's Molecular Biology and Virology Division.

Dr. Rajas Warke has led the Molecular Biology Division at HiMedia to one of the prominent contributors for bringing in state-of-the-art Instruments and Innovative technology. He further went on to earn the MBA degree from the well acclaimed S. P. Jain School of Management, Mumbai. The rich blend of Molecular Research and Product Management and 10 years of hands on experience in the field now, makes him handle both responsibilities as a Technical Director and Marketing Decision Maker.

He strongly believes in investing and developing a capable team of dedicated researchers. He was also an Adjunct Research Scientist at the Haffkine Institute for 8 years. 27 Research Publications in Internationally peer reviewed journals, 2 book

chapters and 2 patents to his credit to this date are testimony of his hard work being recognized and accepted world over. A visionary guide and ever compassionate mentor, his students and team has presented their work at International Symposiums at Amsterdam (Netherlands), Salt Lake City & Florida (USA), Barcelona (Spain), London (UK), Istanbul (Turkey), Bangkok (Thailand) and others.

Dr. Rajas has been successful in heading his young team of about 30 researchers at HiMedia towards Automated and Complete Solution for not only Clinical Diagnostics but also for the Food, Water, Plant, Soil, Veterinary and Research Industry. Presently, HiMedia provides One-Stop Complete Solution for Molecular Diagnostics which includes CE, IVD certified Nucleic Acid Extraction Kits, Real time PCR kits, Innovative Automated Instruments like the InstaQ Series of Real Time PCR Machines and InstaNX which is an Automated DNA & RNA Extraction System.

Development of PCR kits which provide Rapid, Accurate, Reliable, highly Sensitive and Specific diagnosis of diseases in tropical countries has been his vision. The Molecular PCR based Detection Kits for Anti-Microbial Resistance Panel, Acute Febrile Illness Panel and Bacterial & Fungal Sepsis are few other examples of kits amongst the others developed.

Dr. Rajas has taken charge of the Molecular Biology Division with a vision to develop path breaking and cost effective solutions in this field. His infectious enthusiasm and determination continues to inspire his team to work harder each day.