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VIRvOLT

VIRology Operational Laboratories for drug Testing



Newsletter

December 2025#6

VIRvOLT continues its development !

Italy, Ireland and Norway ready to join us



With its eleven, soon fourteen, European virology laboratories operational for real-time monitoring of viral excretion by measuring nasopharyngeal viral loads, VIRvOLT complements the clinical network with on-site laboratories.

"VIRvOLT is an innovative network of highly specialized diagnostic teams. It supports the exchange of knowledge, the development of diagnostic methods and training, as well as closer collaboration among research teams. Particular emphasis is placed on improving RT-PCR tests, increasing their reproducibility, and reliability for emerging viruses. This cooperation accelerates virus identification and strengthens healthcare systems across Europe. As one of the partners in this network, we are proud to contribute to initiatives that have a far-reaching impact on the future of medical diagnostics and pandemic preparedness".

Pr Maciej Borowiec
Head of Genetics & epidemiology Unit
Medical University of Łódź
Respiratory Virus Laboratory

From EU-RESPONSE to PROACT EU-RESPONSE

VIRvOLT, a tool for clinical trials

Built in 2021, as part of the EU-RESPONSE project and the Discovery trial, with the aim of **harmonizing results**, VIRvOLT is growing and strengthening its expertise.

Each laboratory relies on its own molecular platform to **quantify normalized viral loads**, using the same protocol to ensure **comparable results**. Thanks to the annual External Quality Assessment (EQA), performance is **continuously improved**, supported by innovative techniques developed by **bioMérieux** and a protocol co-designed and adapted, whenever necessary, with the **National reference center for respiratory viruses in Lyon**. The SARS-CoV-2 procedure is now **operational** for all laboratories, allowing a rapid evaluation of the **antiviral efficacy** of a molecule within a **short timeframe** regardless of the platform used.

PROACT EU-RESPONSE, building on the achievements of EU-RESPONSE and its **pandemic-readiness efforts** will assess treatments for respiratory infections in hospitalized patients, initially targeting on **SARS-CoV-2, RSV, and influenza**.

To meet these new challenges, bioMérieux's Research & Development department is **developing quantitative standards** to be used in combination with the **commercial ARGENE® multiplex kit**. This is scheduled for evaluation during the 2026 EQA, prior to final use in the first clinical trials of PROACT EU-RESPONSE in winter 2026-2027.

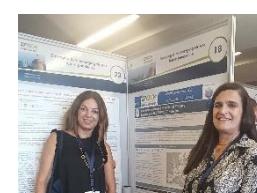


The EU-RESPONSE and PROACT EU-RESPONSE projects have received funding from the European Union. However, the contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Union.

POSTER

ESCV (European Society for Clinical Virology) September 2025, Greece. VIRvOLT part of it !

*Real-Time monitoring of antiviral efficacy
Insights from the VIRvOLT network*



A [VIRvOLT poster](#) presented by Elena Kraniatoki, Evangelismos Hospital Athens and Raquel Guiomar from the National Health Institute Dr Ricardo Jorge, Lisbon

LAST EU-RESPONSE PUBLICATIONS

[Efficacy, safety, pharmacokinetics, immunogenicity, and serum neutralizing activity of AZD7442 \(tixagevimab/cilgavimab\) in hospitalized COVID-19 patients: long-term results from the DisCoVeRy trial – Dec. 2025](#)

[Hydroxychloroquine does not affect endotheliopathy or coagulopathy biomarkers in COVID-19: longitudinal results from the DisCoVeRy randomized trial – Nov. 2025](#)

[Cardiac adverse events associated with remdesivir in COVID-19 patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials – June 2025](#)

[Effects of Janus kinase inhibitors in adults admitted to hospital due to COVID-19: a systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis of randomised clinical trials – June 2025](#)

Seasons Greetings



<https://proact-response.eu/virology-network/>