Gdansk, 27th January 2022

To whom it may concern,

The GeneMe considering the latest information on the mutation of the SARS-CoV-2 genome and its influence on the results of RT-PCR assays. We hereby present our Research and Development report the objective of which was to determine if the recently observed mutations in the SARS-CoV-2 affect the loss of specificity of the SAVD RT-PCR test. This research and development report summarizes our findings regarding the influence of ORF1ab-gene mutations in SARS-CoV-2 on SAVD primers hybridization. For this purpose, bioinformatic analysis of the mutated sequences of the coronavirus ORF1ab-gene was performed to assess if the point mutation or deletions lay in the hybridization region of SAVD RT-PCR primers.

The SAVD by GeneMe SARS-CoV-2 Direct Rapid Detection Kit is designed for the *in vitro* identification of the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, in a single reaction. The presence of an innovative and patented *Pwo* polymerase and specific primers in the kit has enabled the creation of a highly specific and sensitive SARS-CoV-2 rapid detection kit. The specifically designed primers are 100% compatible with the SARS-CoV-2 genomic RNA sequence of gene ORF1ab recommended by WHO and deposited in the NCBI database. Amplification of the targeted nucleic acids is observed by an increase of fluorescence signal during the reaction.

We, signed below, can definitively state that SAVD RT-PCR assay's ability to detect SARS-CoV-2 remains at the highest level regardless of these new mutations.

The GeneMe constantly cooperates with diagnostic laboratories in Poland and abroad (UK, Norway, Uganda, Mexico), regularly validating the test on clinical trials - swabs and saliva samples to make sure that the SAVD test maintains its sensitivity and specificity to the current SARS-Co-2 virus strains.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sabina Żołędowska,
CQO

Dr Eng. Marta Skwarecka,
Head of Research and Development Department

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GENEME	**Research and Development**

NAME: *Marta Skwarecka, Head of RD GeneMe*

DATE: *27.01.2022*

PROPOSED PRODUCT: *SAVD*

REVISION: 2.0

1.Title

Detection of different variants of SARS-CoV-2 virus by SAVD test.

2. Purpose and scope

The aim of the study is to check the universality of the SAVD test for the identification of known variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The most popular variants of the mutant SARS-CoV-2 virus from Alfa to Omicron were analyzed in sillico. The most popular of them are: B.1.1.7 United Kingdom, B.1.351 South Africa (also known as S.501Y.V2), B.1.1.28 Brazil P1, P2, B .1.617 India, B.1.429/ B.1.427 California variant (also known as epsilon variant), Vietnamese variant (Delta variant B.1.617.2 with additional mutations) and Omicron variant B.1.1.529.

3. Method

Date of the test:	*27.01.2022*		
Place of the test:	***GeneMe, ul. Kampinoska 25, 80-180 Gdansk, Poland***		
Test conditions (temperature, humidity):	***Temp: --*** ***Humidity: --***		
The person performing the tests:	*Marta Skwarecka*		
LOT of reagents analyzed:	**LOT number**	**Trade name**	**Expiry date**
	-		
	-		
	-		
LOT of reference reagents and trade name:	**LOT number**	**Trade name**	**Expiry date**
	-		
	-		
	-		
	-		

Description of the tested method:

The study consisted of:

1. *Finding in the analyzed variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus the resulting mutations in the ORF1ab gene relative to the native strain and locating them in the genomic RNA of the virus.*
2. *Assigning individual mutations to appropriate nucleotides.*

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3. *Comparison of the location of the mutated nucleotides with the location of the ORF1ab gene fragment, which is the target of the SAVD test.*
4. *Confirmation or exclusion of the effect of the mutation on the SAVD test identification capabilities.*

4. Tested samples

Sample number	Name	Supplier	Producer (as commercial material)	Concentration (as commercial material)
1.	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*
2.	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*	*n/a*

5. Results

Table 1 shows the popular variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus along with the changed nucleotides and compared with the target sequence of the SAVD test.

Table 1. Mutations in the ORF1ab gene of popular variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and their impact on the possibility of identification with the SAVD test.

Vitus variant	Country of origin (emergence)	Amino-acid mutation	Nucleotide mutation	Location of mismatch (5'-3') in the SAVD Plus test	Detection with the SAVD test
Reference Strain: Wuhan-Hu-1, nCoV	*China*	-	-	*absence*	*Yes*
Alpha (B.1.1.7)	*UK*	*T1001I*	*C3267T*	*absence*	*Yes*
		A1708D	*C5388A*	*absence*	
		I2230T	*T6954C*	*absence*	
		SGF 3675-3677 deletion	*11288-11296 deletion*	*absence*	
Beta (B.1.351,S.501Y.V2)	*South Africa*	*Thr265I*	*C1059T*	*absence*	*Yes*
		L1655Asn	*G5230T*	*absence*	
		L3353R	*A10323AG*	*absence*	
Gamma	*Brazil*	*synonymous mutation*	*T733C*	*absence*	*Yes*

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(B.1.1.28.1, P1)		*synonymous mutation*	*C2749T*	*absence*	
		S1188L	*C3828T*	*absence*	
		L1795Q	*A5648C*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*A6319G*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*A6613G*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C12778T*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C13860T*	*absence*	
		E1264N	*G17259T*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C100T*	*absence*	
		L3468V	*T10667G*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C11824T*	*absence*	
		L3930F	*C12053T*	*absence*	
Delta (B.1.617.2)	*India*	*P4715L*	*14408-14410*	*absence*	*Yes*
		P5401L	*16466-16468*	*absence*	
		G5063S	*20515-20517*	*absence*	
Delta+ (B.1.617.2+)	*Vietnamese*	*synonymous mutation*	*C3037T*	*absence*	*Yes*
		synonymous mutation	*C3457T*	*absence*	
		T1567I	*C4965T*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*G8491A*	*absence*	
		T3646A	*A11201G*	*absence*	

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		P4715L	*C14408T*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*G14772A*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C16134T*	*absence*	
		G5530C	*G16852T*	*absence*	
		M5753I	*G17523T*	*absence*	
		L6711R	*A20396G*	*absence*	
		S6713A	*T20401G*	*absence*	
		T1001I	*C3267T*	*absence*	
		A1708D	*C5388A*	*absence*	
		I2230T	*T6954C*	*absence*	
		SGF 3675-3677 deletion	*11287-11295 deletion*	*absence*	
		P4715L	*14407-14409*	*absence*	
		P5401L	*16465-16467*	*absence*	
		G5063S	*15451-15453*	*absence*	
Omicron BA.1 (B.1.1.529)	*South Africa*	*K856R*	*2830-2832*	*absence*	*Yes*
		SL2083-2084I	*6511-6516*	*absence*	
		A2710T	*8392-8394*	*absence*	
		T3255I	*10027-10029*	*absence*	
		P3395H	*10447-10449*	*absence*	
		3674-3676 deletion	*33056-11292*	*absence*	
		I3758V	*11536-11538*	*absence*	

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		P4715L	14407-14409	absence	
		I5967V	18163-18165	absence	
Omicron BA.2 (BA.2)	South Africa	-	-	absence	Yes
Epsilon (B.1.429, B.1.427)	California (USA)	T265I	1057-1059	absence	Yes
		S3158T	9736-9738	absence	
		I4205V	12877-1279	absence	
		P314L	1204-1206	absence	
		P976L	3190-3192	absence	
		D1183T	3811-3813	absence	
Zeta (B.1.1.28.2, P2)	Brazil	-	-	absence	Yes
Eta (B.1.525)	Worldwide	L4715F	14407-14409	absence	Yes
Theta (B.1.1.28.3, P3)	Philippines	L3201P	9865-9867	absence	Yes
		D3681E	11305-11307	absence	
		L3930F	12052-12054	absence	
		P4715L	14407-14409	absence	
Iota (B.1.526)	USA	del3675-3677	11287-11295	absence	Yes
Kappa (B.1.617.1)	India	synonymous mutation	C3037T	absence	Yes
		synonymous mutation	C3457T	absence	
		T1567I	C4965T	absence	

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		synonymous mutation	*G8491A*	*absence*	
		T3646A	*A11201G*	*absence*	
		P4715L	*C14408T*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*G14772A*	*absence*	
		synonymous mutation	*C16134T*	*absence*	
		G5530C	*G16852T*	*absence*	
		M5753I	*G17523T*	*absence*	
		K6711R	*A20396G*	*absence*	
		S6713A	*T20401G*	*absence*	
Lambda (B.1.1.1.C37)	*Peru*	*-*	*-*	*absence*	*Yes*

Link to the data repository kept in the cloud: --

6. Conclusions

The presented analysis shows that none of the mutations occurring in the variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, i.e., Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, Omicron, Epsilon, Zeta, Theta, Iota, Kappa and Lambda did affect the effectiveness of the virus detection with the SAVD test. All analyzed variants are fully identifiable with the SAVD test.

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Approved for external release by Sabina Żołędowska, CQO

Date of approval: 27.01.2022

Signature: Sabina Żołędowska

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