

Solidarity II – COVID-19 Seroepidemiology Study

Notes from Meeting on 10 March 2020

Introductions

2. Progress on developing an External Positive Control panel (10)(2e)
3. Update on sourcing antigen (10)(2e)
4. Feedback from questionnaire survey (10)(2e)
5. Follow-up actions

Progress on developing an External Positive Control panel (10)(2e)

- While an international standard will take many months to develop, we can start in a progressive manner, first by producing an External Positive Control (end of April) and subsequently developing a Research Reagent (June/July) in a panel of high, medium and low samples.
- NISBC has received over 1 litre of plasma. Testing will be done by PHE Porton Down by (10)(2e) and his team as the commercial assays available to NISBC do not perform well.
- Collaborators who wish to use the External Positive Control should also consider sharing their data with NISBC to help them develop their validation panel.

Update on sourcing antigen (10)(2e)

- The stabilized spike protein as described by Wrapp et al is apparently the most suitable antigen for ELISAs.
- Only small quantities of the stabilized spike are available from NIAID/BEI.
- Two other potential sources of larger quantities are BMGF/Nexalus (extra production would be needed) and CDC.

Presentation by (10)(2e), St Petersburg Research Institute for Vaccines and Sera

- They are developing a panel of small volumes of sera from convalescent patients.
- The assay developed by the Institute showed good detection of IgG and IgM.

Feedback on Questionnaire to Solidarity II Collaborators

14 questionnaires have been submitted to date and highlights were briefly reviewed.

Follow-up Actions

- Next Meeting, Friday 17 April, 2020