

S089

2-hour Symposium

State-of-the-art in rapid diagnostics

Rapid testing for viral infections

J. Papenburg<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Montreal Children's Hospital, Montreal QC, Canada*

Traditionally, the microbiologic diagnosis of viruses has been based on moderate to complex techniques performed in a laboratory. However, the speed, simplicity and ease of use of rapid tests for viruses have made them an integral part of many clinical laboratories' diagnostic processes. Furthermore, many such tests have also been approved for use at the point of care, creating promising opportunities for improving patient management by further reducing result turn-around time for clinicians and by increasing patient access to testing. In this session, we will review the performance characteristics and clinical utility of rapid tests for acute (e.g., influenza) and chronic (e.g., HIV) viral infections.