

PRESS RELEASE

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ViroGates announces initial data on the use of suPARnostic® in the triaging of patients with COVID-19 symptoms

BIRKERØD, DENMARK - ViroGates A/S, a medical technology company developing blood tests for better triaging in hospitals to improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs, today announces that clinical researchers from the US, Greece and Denmark have disclosed the first clinical data on suPAR in patients affected by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

The groups looked specifically at patients with a positive diagnostic test for the coronavirus and how the clinical symptoms developed over 14 days. About 20-30% of patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection progress to develop severe respiratory failure (SRF). The researchers looked at whether suPAR levels at admission can predict which patients will develop SRF during a follow-up of 14 days from the first presentation. The data showed that patients with a suPAR level above 6ng/ml had a significant ($p < 0.0001$) 16 times higher risk of developing SRF than those with a suPAR level below 6 ng/ml. The researches also looked at other biomarkers such as CRP and Neutrophils and none of these could predict the development of SRF.

The findings in the letter suggest that suPAR may early trace COVID-19 patients who develop SRF. Early identification of high-risk COVID-19 patients may be useful when deciding to admit or discharge patients to:

1. Decrease unnecessary hospitalizations of low-risk patients that take up limited hospital beds in an already overburdened healthcare system
2. Lower the risk of sending home patients that require hospitalization and intensified management

Jakob Knudsen, Chief Executive Officer of ViroGates, says: *"We are very enthusiastic about these new data. We look forward to seeing data in larger populations and with longer follow up, but these early findings show that suPARnostic® is indeed capable of supporting front line health care personnel in early triaging and identifying patients that need special attention and patients that can be observed in home quarantine or less urgent and resource-demanding environments than an Intensive Care Unit or isolation wards at the hospital."*

The study is published as a Research Letter in the Critical Care Journal and can be found as open access at <https://ccforum.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13054-020-02897-4>

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About ViroGates

ViroGates A/S is an international medical technology company developing and marketing blood test products under the suPARnostic® brand for better triaging in hospitals to improve patient care, reduce healthcare costs and empower clinical staff.

The company was founded in 2000 based on the discovery that suPAR was predictive of outcome in HIV-infections and subsequently in many other disease areas. Headquartered in Denmark, ViroGates' sales force covers the Nordics, Spain, and France, while distributors serve other markets.

ViroGates' shares (VIRO) are listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market Denmark. For more information, please visit www.virogates.com.

About suPAR and suPARnostic®

suPAR is the biomarker detected by ViroGates' suPARnostic® products and is a protein in plasma, measurable in every human being. suPAR is considered a general risk status biomarker indicating disease presence, disease severity and progression, organ damage and mortality risk across disease areas such as cardiovascular diseases, kidney diseases, type 2 diabetes, cancer, etc. Strong scientific evidence from more than 600 clinical trials and studies show that the higher the level of suPAR, the worse the prognosis for the patient.

The suPARnostic® products can be used to support healthcare professionals in making clinical decisions on hospitalization or discharge of acute care patients. The increasing demands on health systems globally and tightening healthcare budgets necessitate efficiency improvements and innovative solutions in hospitals. The use of suPAR in clinical routine in emergency departments can improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs by increasing the number of discharges by 34% and reducing the average hospital length-of-stay by 6% without affecting mortality. suPARnostic® TurbiLatex is currently available on Siemens ADVIA XPT instruments and Roche Diagnostics' cobas instruments. ViroGates works with partners to develop solutions for other platforms.