



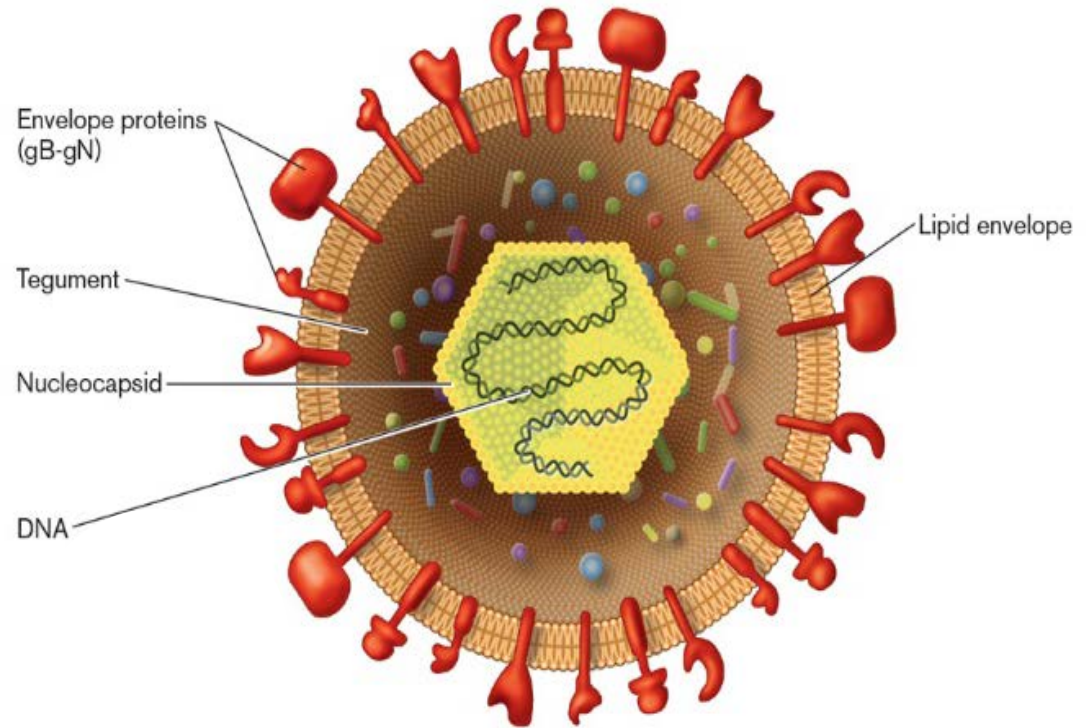
# **HSV LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS IN TRANSPLANT CORNEAS**

**Dott.ssa Elisa Zanotto**

S.C. Microbiologia e Virologia U.  
Città della Salute e della Scienza di Torino

**Bologna, 1 Giugno 2019**

# HERPESVIRUS

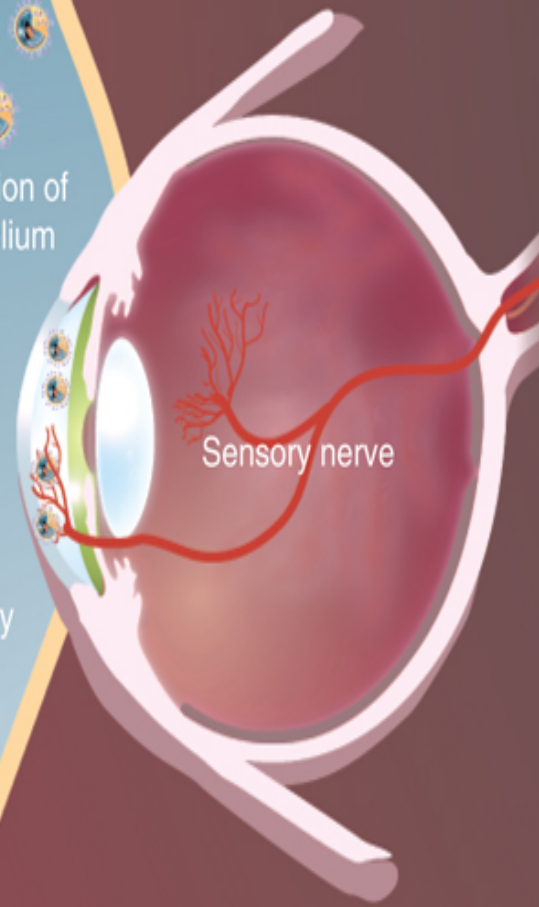


- DNA: Double strand, 120-250 Kbp, 30 nm diameter, cylindrical structure
- Capsid: 162 capsomers, 150 exons, 12 pentons, cable capsomers with 4 nm diameter channel
- Envelope: sensitive to lipid solvents, innermost layer tegument, virion diameter 150-200 nm

HSV-1 virions

Primary infection of corneal epithelium

Possibility of corneal latency with local reactivation

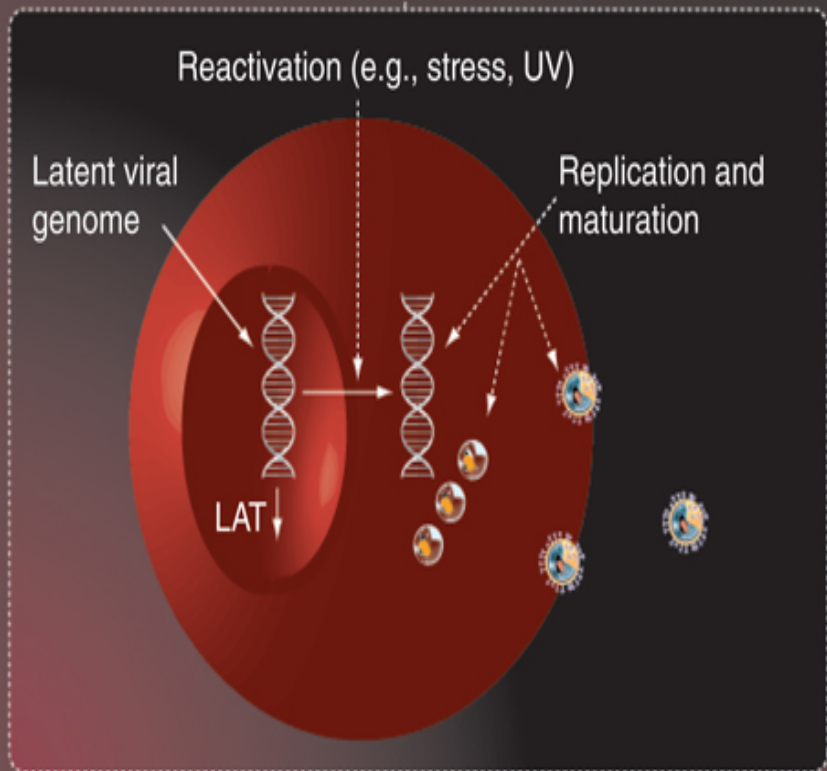


Retrograde transport to sensory ganglion

Risk for recurrent ocular infections via anterograde transport

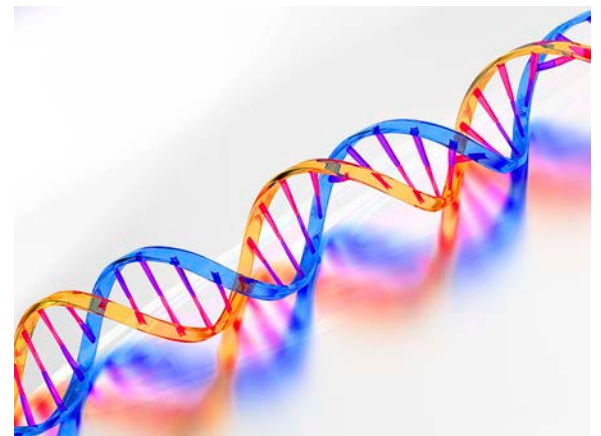
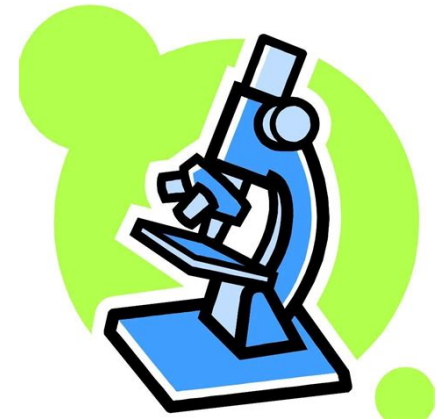
Sensory ganglion

CNS



# HERPES SIMPLEX: LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

- Viral isolation
- Viral DNA Research (PCR)
- Antibody research in serology



# VIRAL CULTURE



Virus = obligate endocellular parasites



growth on living cells



LABORATORY ANIMALS

EMBRYANED EGG

CELL CULTURES

Cell culture: the most used system in laboratories

Samples must be collected early in the acute phase of infection

Transport in a short time to the laboratory (the sample must arrive in ice)

## VIRAL ISOLATION (CLASSICAL METHOD)

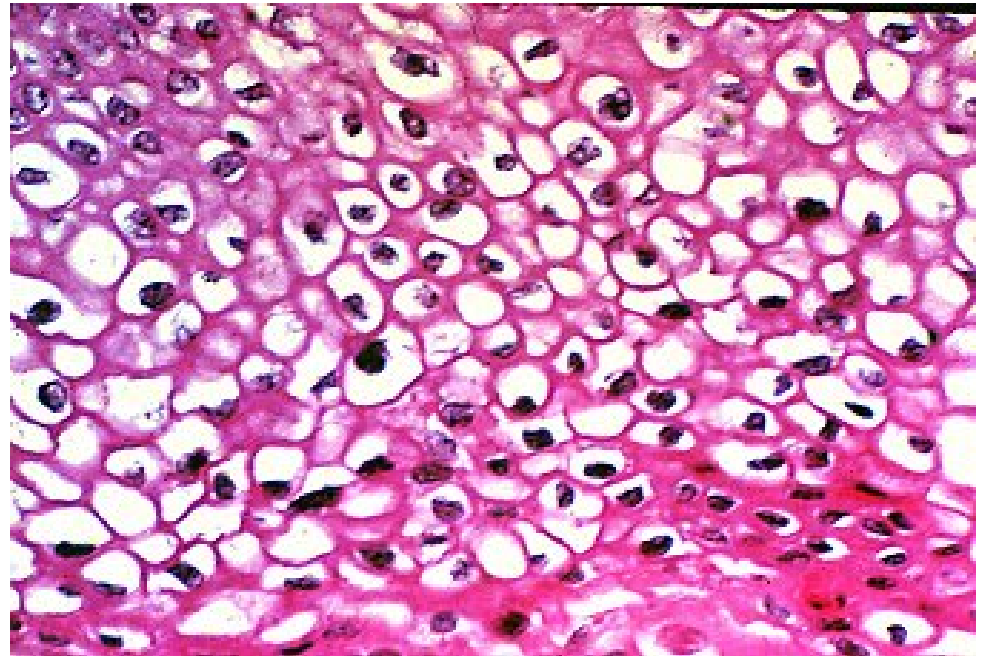
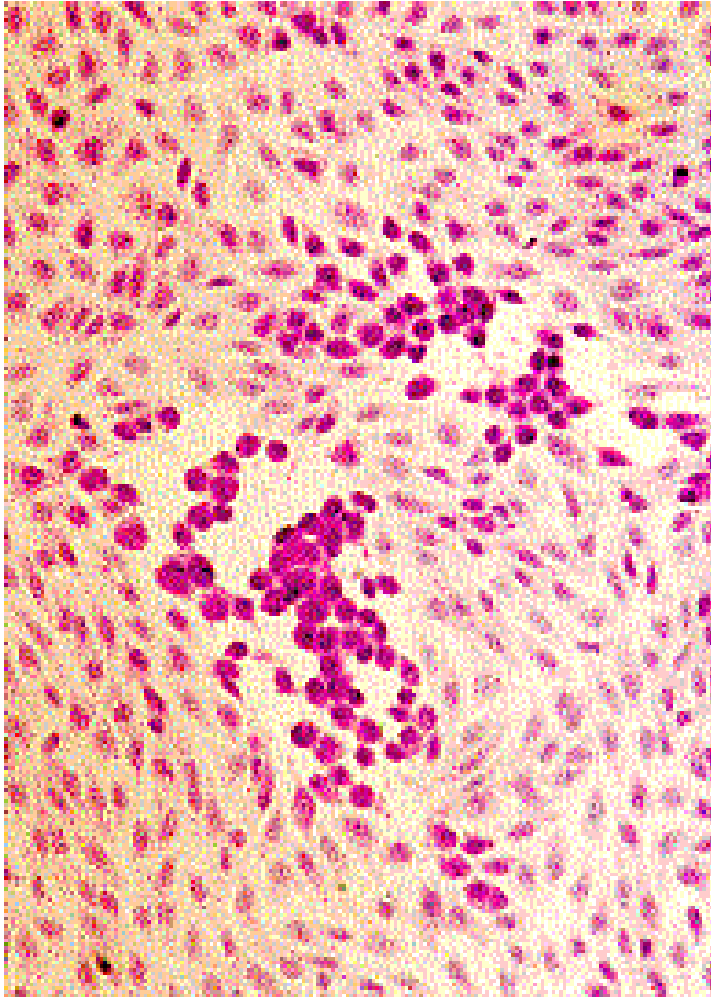
A virus can be revealed by observing the CYTOPATHIC EFFECT in culture.

### Cytopathic effect:

- Cell death (rounding, degeneration, aggregation, detachment)
- Characteristic histological changes (including nuclear or cytoplasmic bodies, chromatin thickening)
- Multinucleated giant cells (by fusion)
- Changes on the cell surface (viral Ag expression)

To appreciate ECP you have to wait 1-2 weeks (> for CMV)

# HSV1: Cytopathic effect and included bodies



# QUICK VIRAL ISOLATION

**Great contribution to rapid diagnosis.**

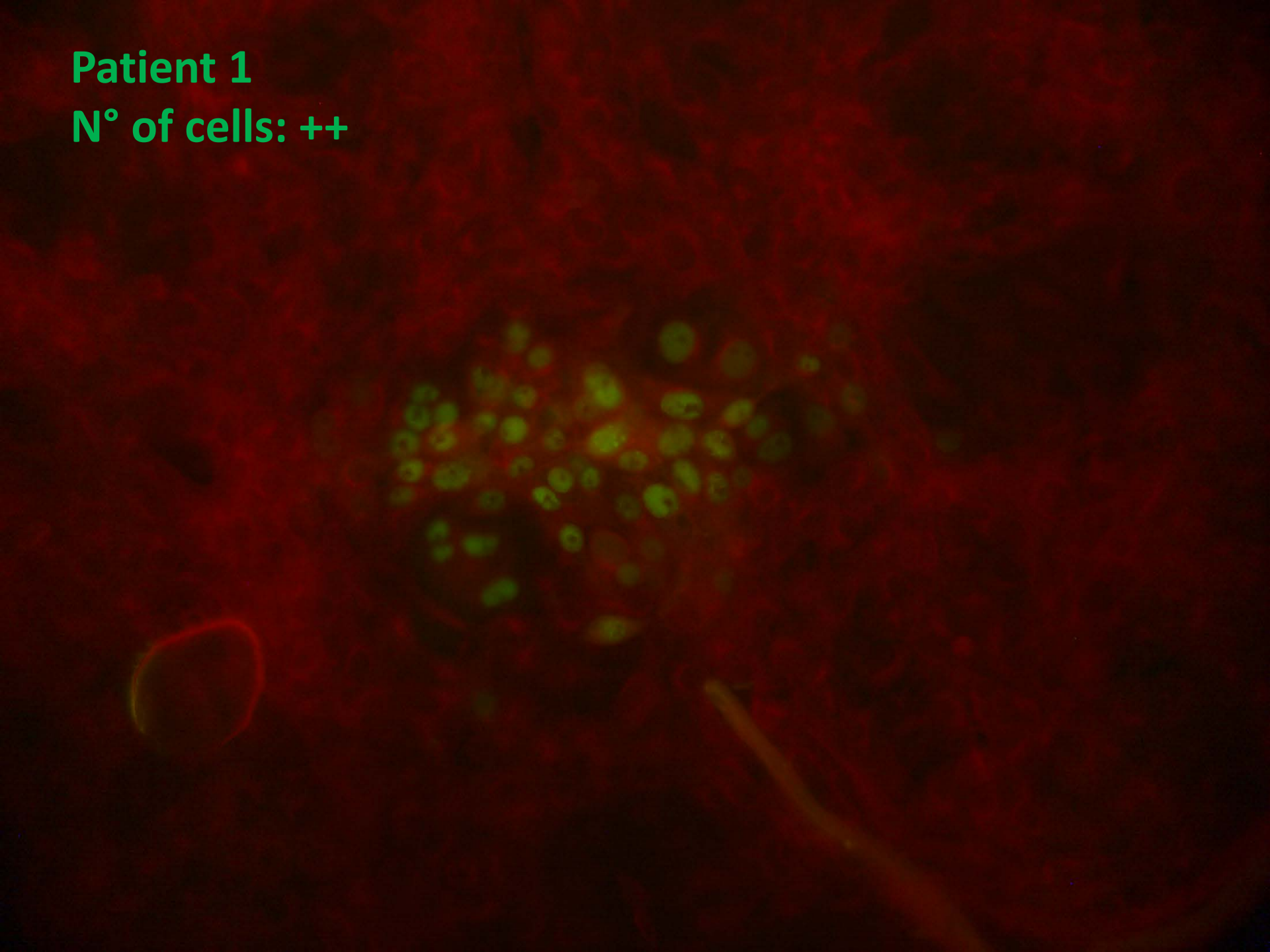
It includes:

- Increased infectivity by low-speed centrifugation of the sample on monolayer (shell vials)
- Sampling of the slide with the infected culture, fixation, and detection of specific viral antigens by IF with monoclonal Ab 24-48 h after infection



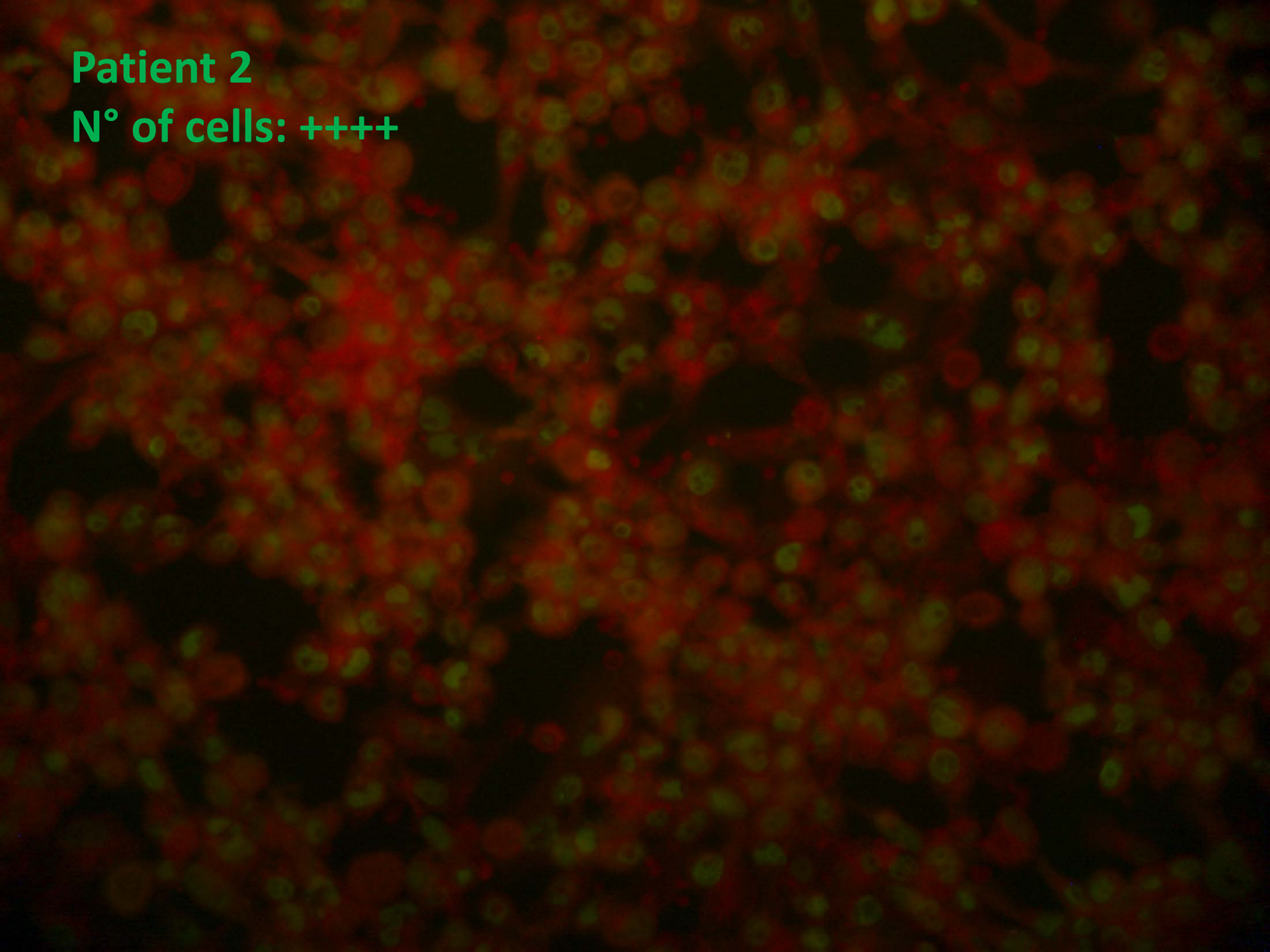
**Patient 1**

**N° of cells: ++**



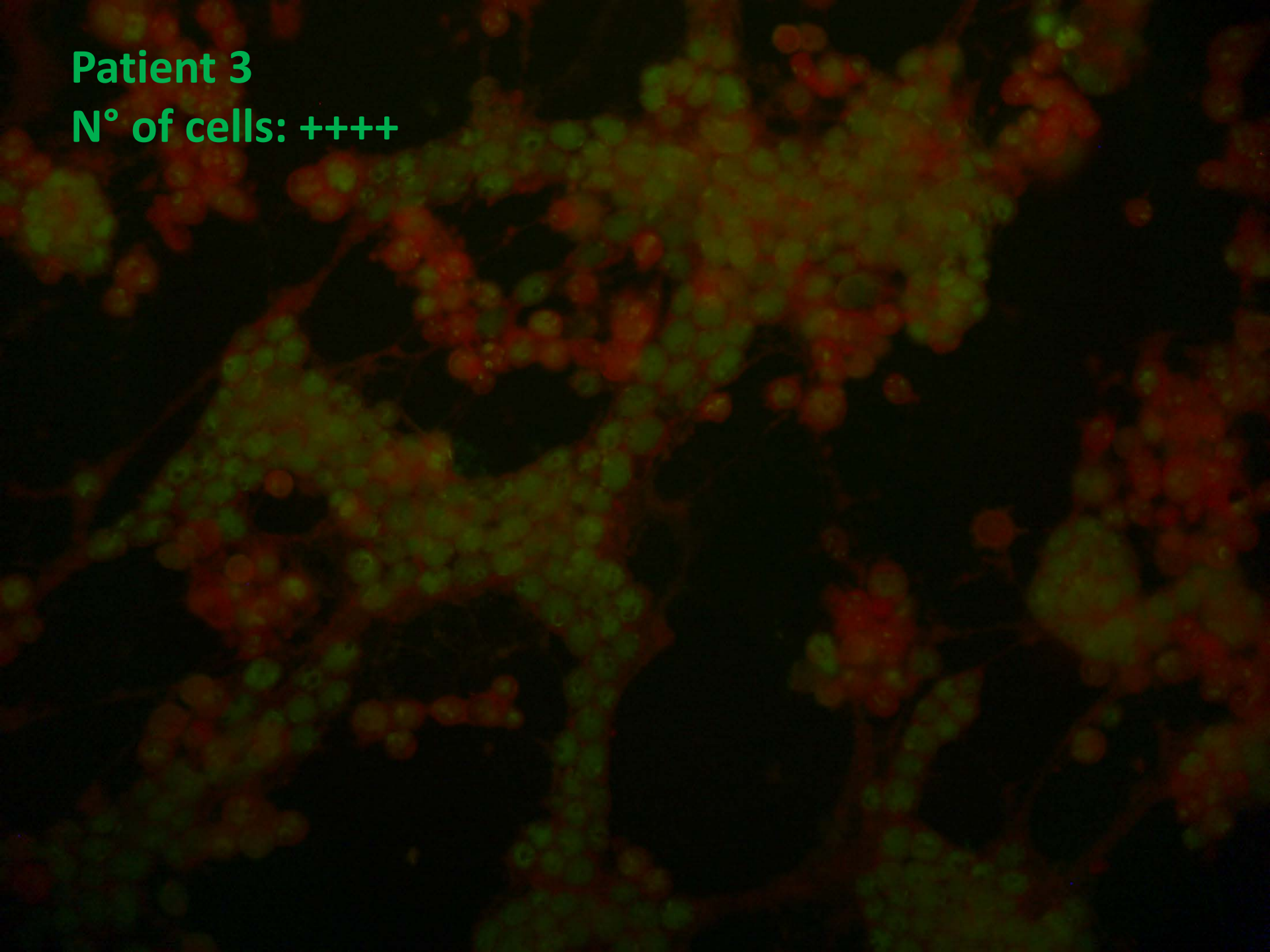
Patient 2

N° of cells: ++++



Patient 3

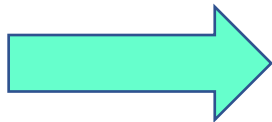
N° of cells: +++++



- Cell cultures are the "gold-standard" for the detection of the presence of infectious viruses but have a very low sensitivity to detect HSV-1 compared to PCR tests.
- One of the reasons for the low sensitivity of cell cultures is the fragility of HSV-1.
- The lipid envelope is easily degraded making the virus non-infectious and unable to replicate in cell cultures.

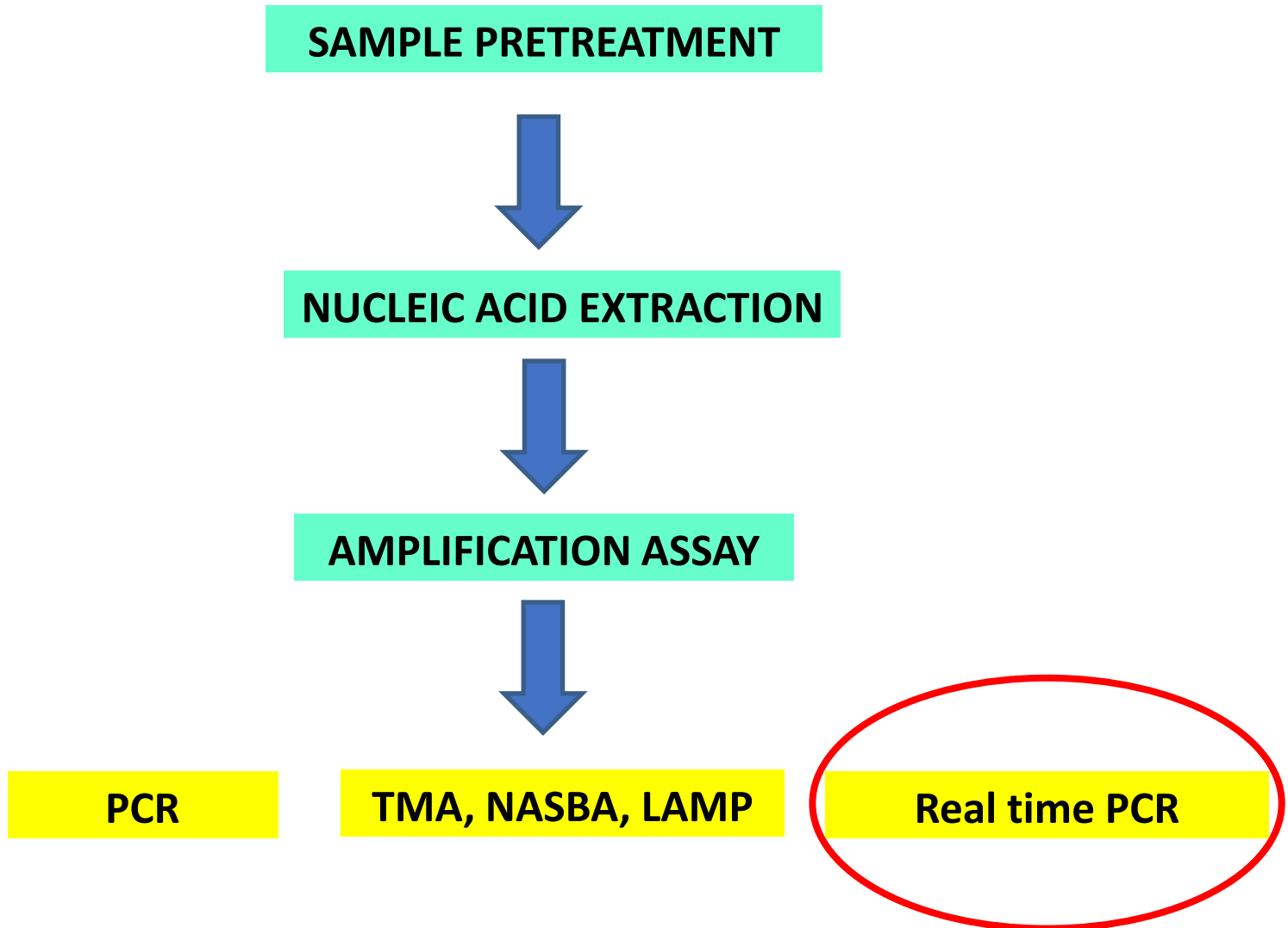


The preanalytic is the most critical and important phase



**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY**

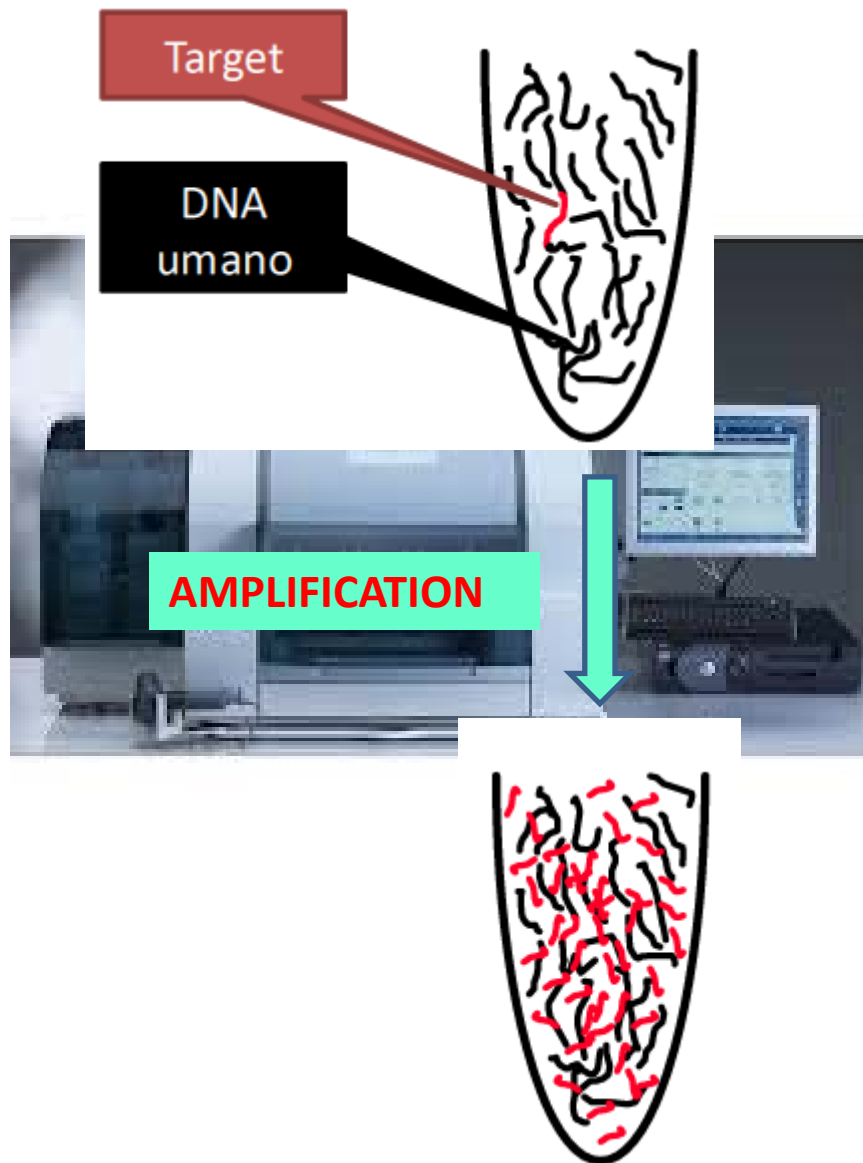
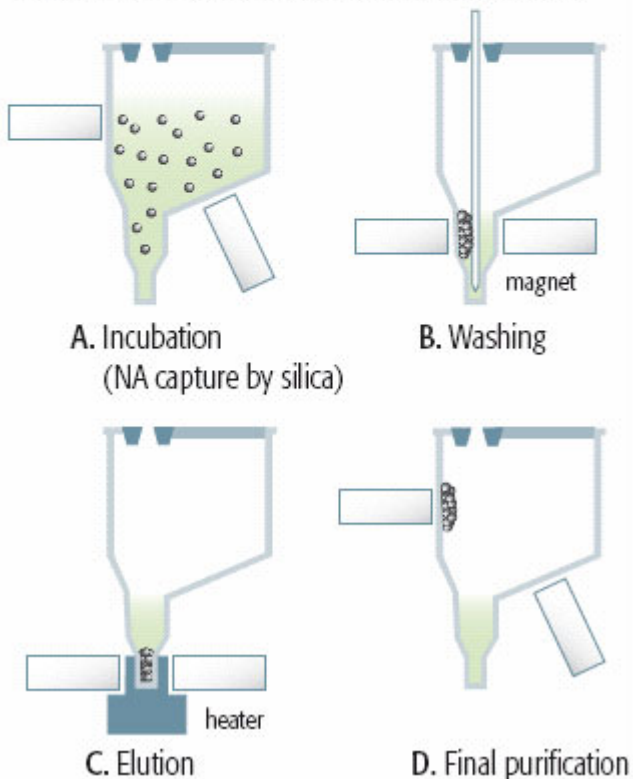
# FLOWCHART IN MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS



# NUCLEIC ACID EXTRACTION

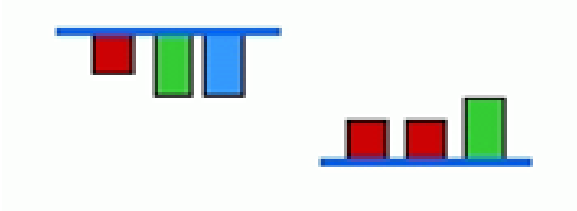
## Extraction Principle

- During incubation of the lysed samples, all the target nucleic acid is captured by magnetic silica particles.
- The NuciSENS easyMAG magnetic device attracts all the magnetic silica, enabling the system to purify the nucleic acids through several washing steps.
- The heating step releases the nucleic acids from the silica.
- At the final step, the magnetic silica particles are separated from the eluate by the magnetic device.

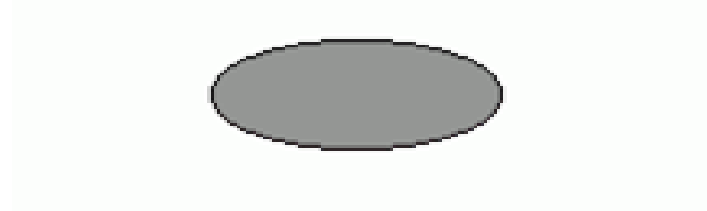


# SEVERAL THINGS ARE NEEDED FOR AMPLIFICATION

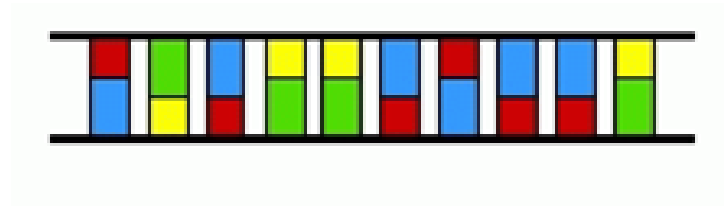
- PRIMERS



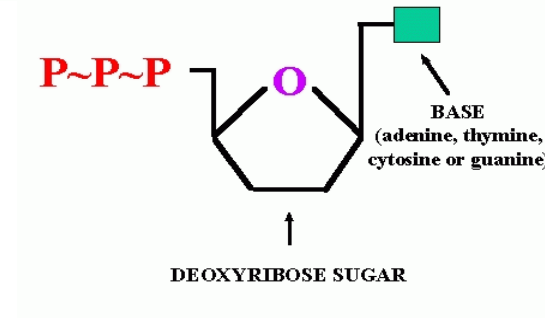
- DNA POLYMERASE



- DNA TO BE AMPLIFIED



- NUCLEOTIDES

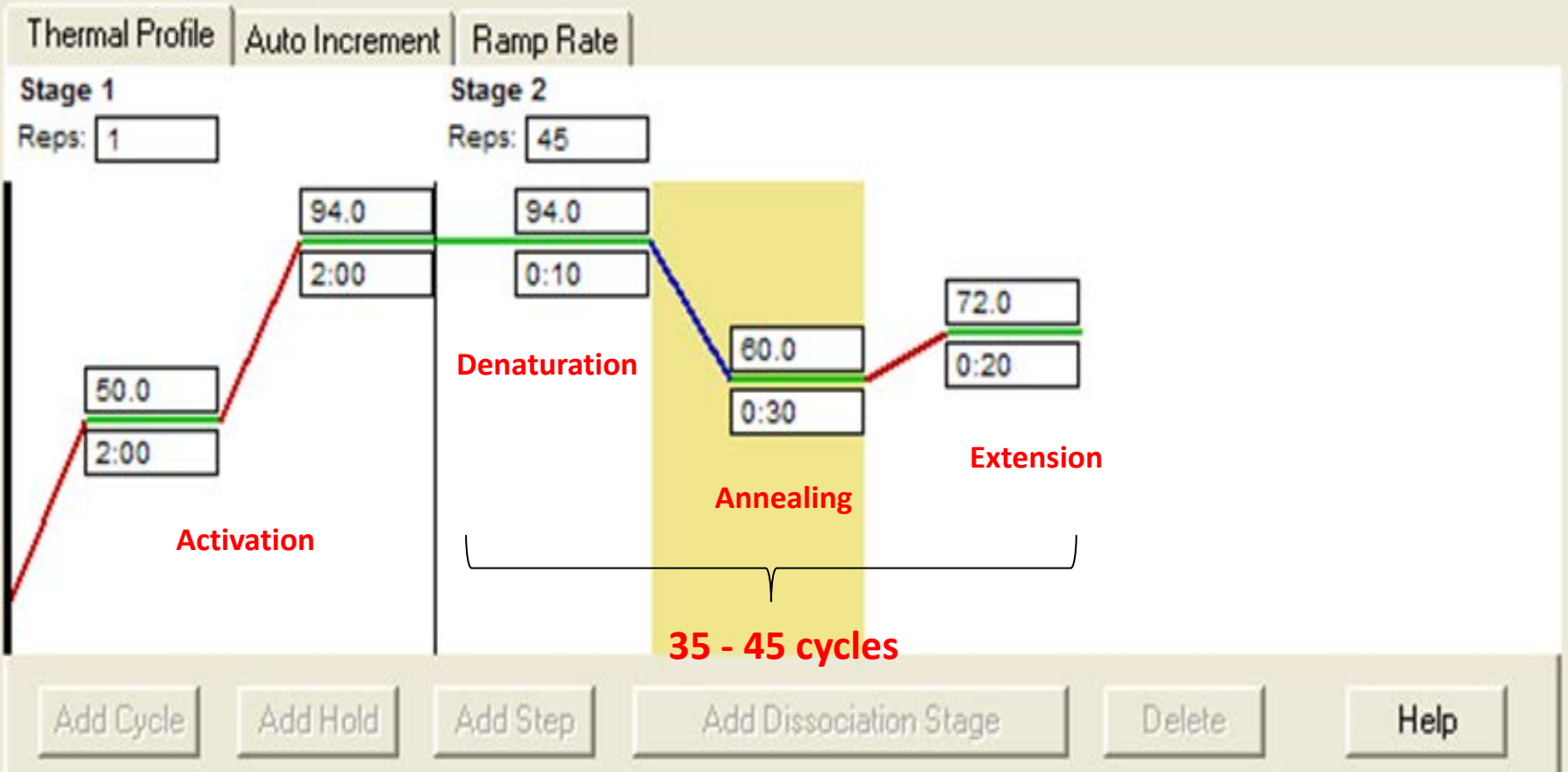


- FLUORESCENT PROBE



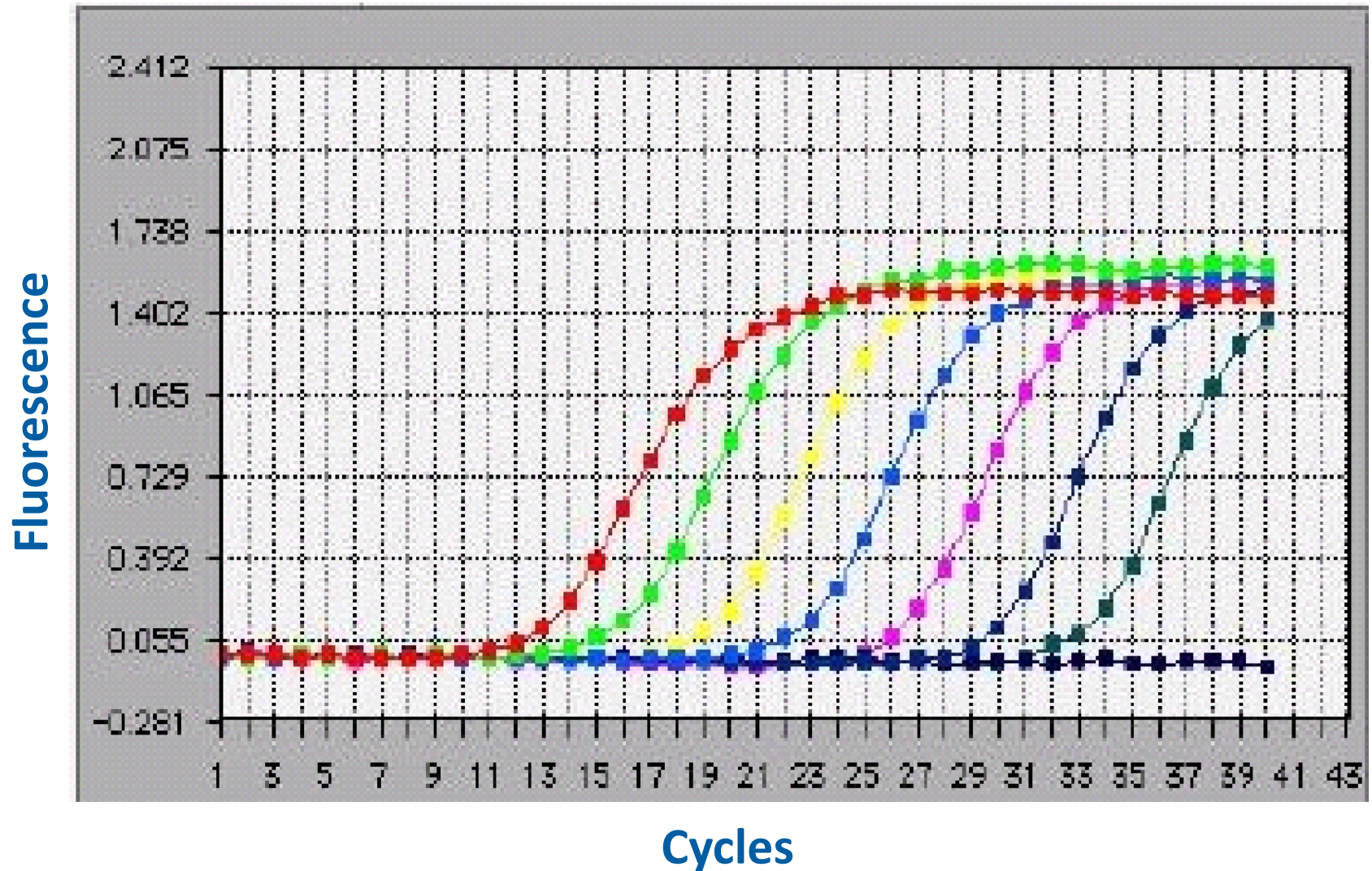
# Run Real-Time thermal cycle

## Thermal Cycler Protocol

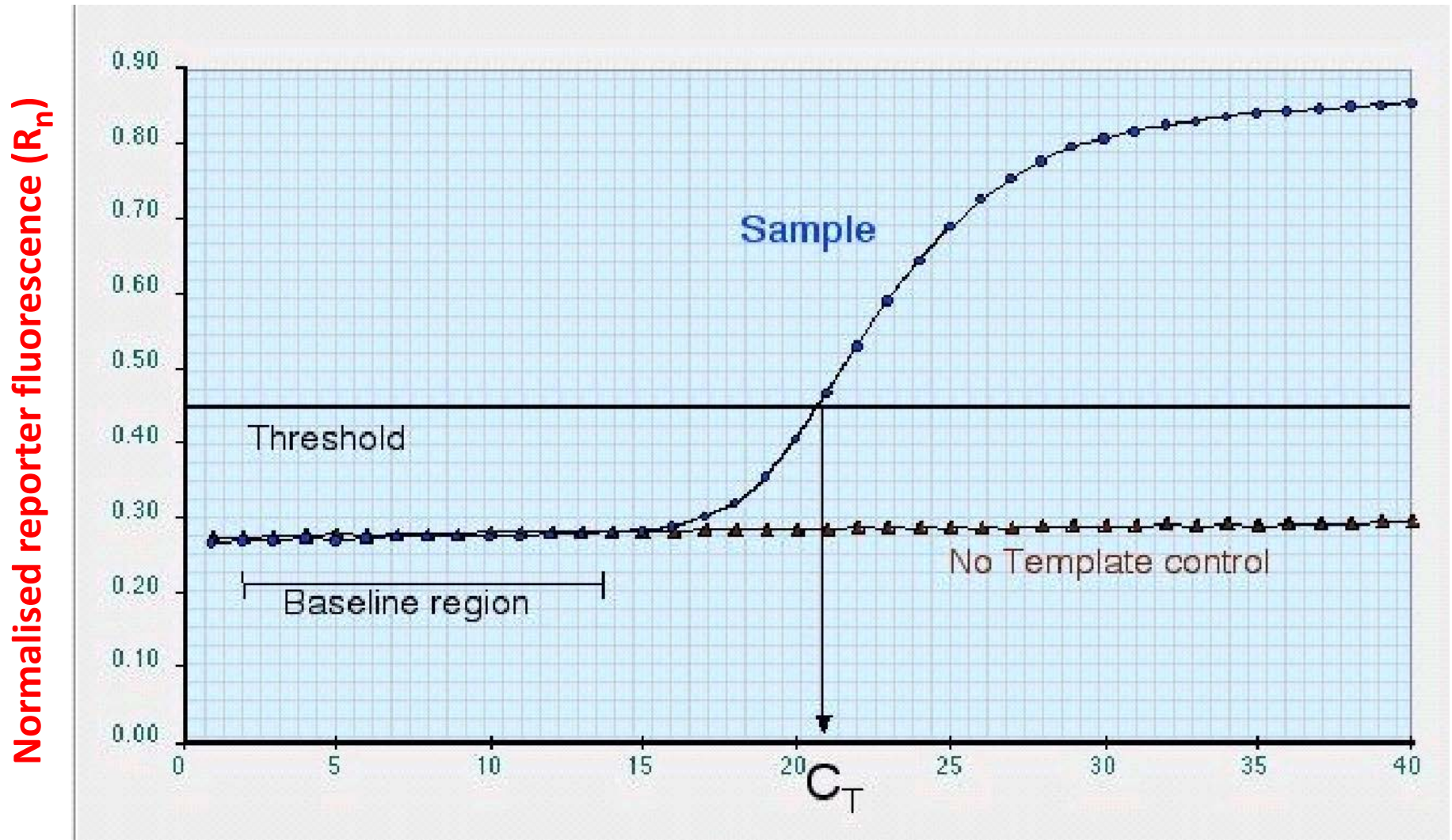




# Amplification curves

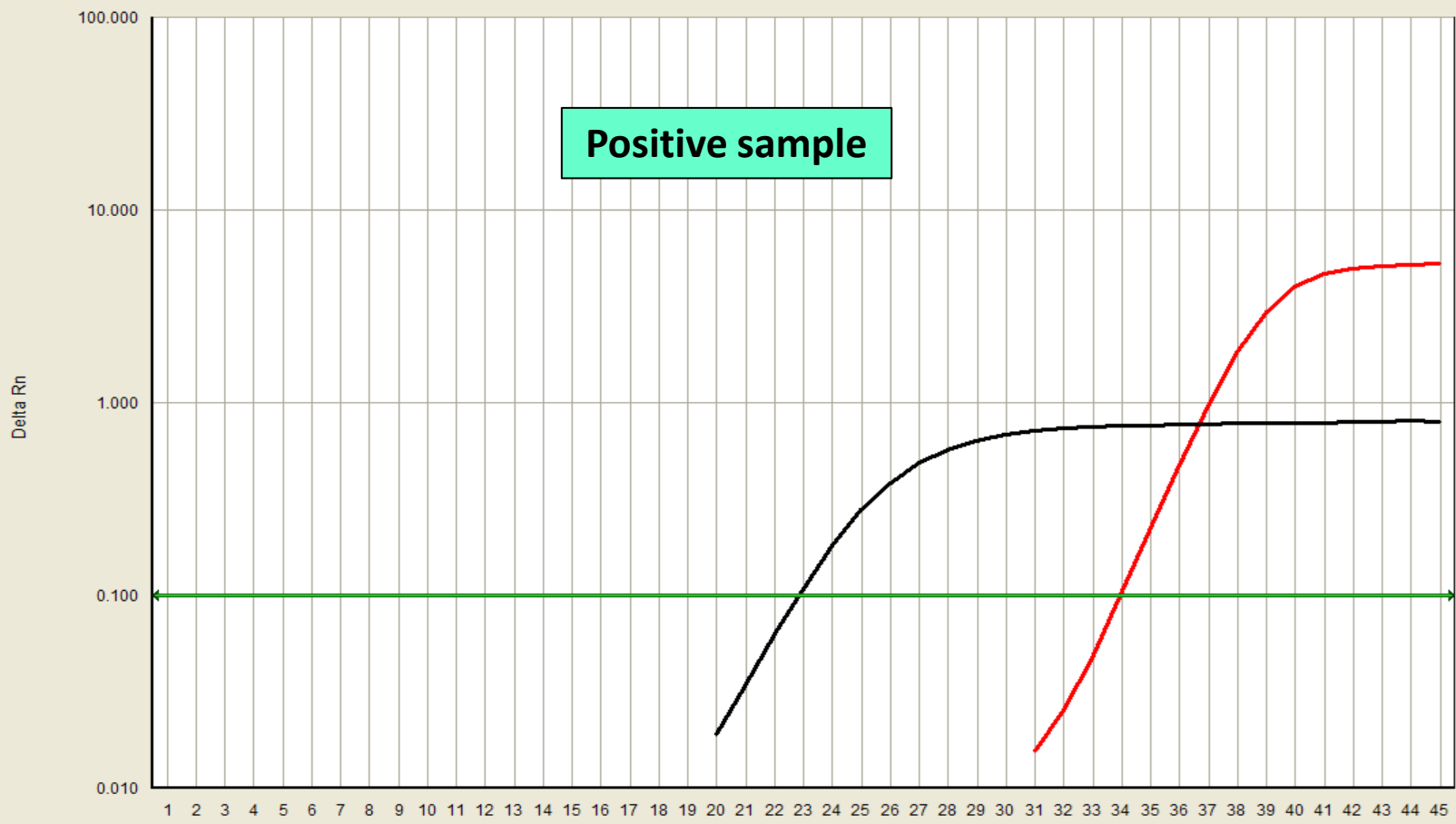


# Amplification plot



PCR cycle number

Delta Rn vs Cycle



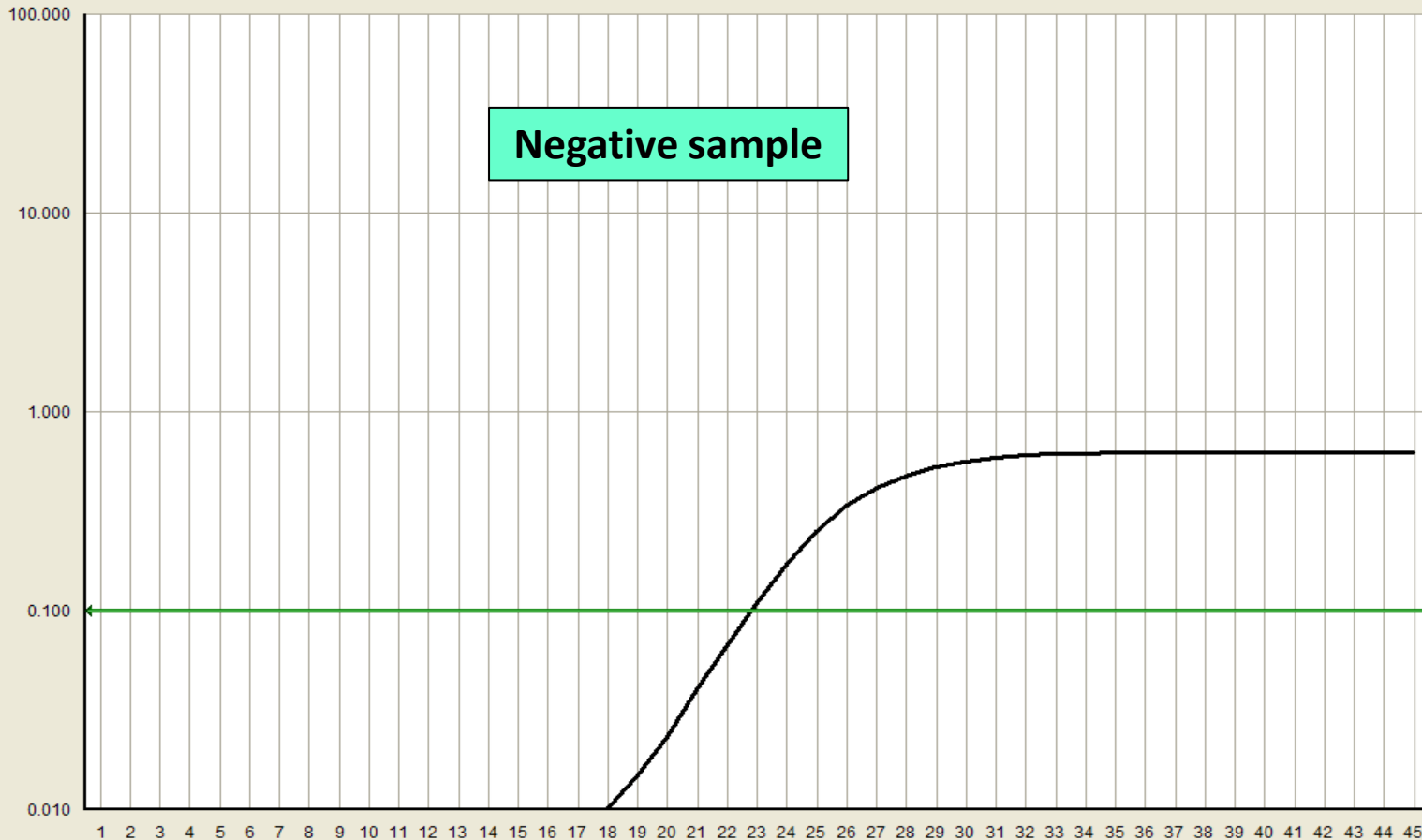
Data: Delta Rn vs Cycle  
 Detector: All  
 Line Color: Detector Color

Analysis Settings  
 Auto Ct  
 Manual Ct  
 Threshold: 0.1  
 Auto Baseline  
 Manual Baseline:  
 Start (cycle): 6  
 End (cycle): 15  
 Analyze  
 Help

Cycle Number

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU			UU
B	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU			UU
C	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	NU			
D	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU			
E	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU				
F	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU				
G	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
H	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				

Delta Rn vs Cycle



Data: Delta Rn vs Cycle  
 Detector: All  
 Line Color: Detector Color

Analysis Settings

Auto Ct  
 Manual Ct

Threshold: 0.1

Auto Baseline  
 Manual Baseline:

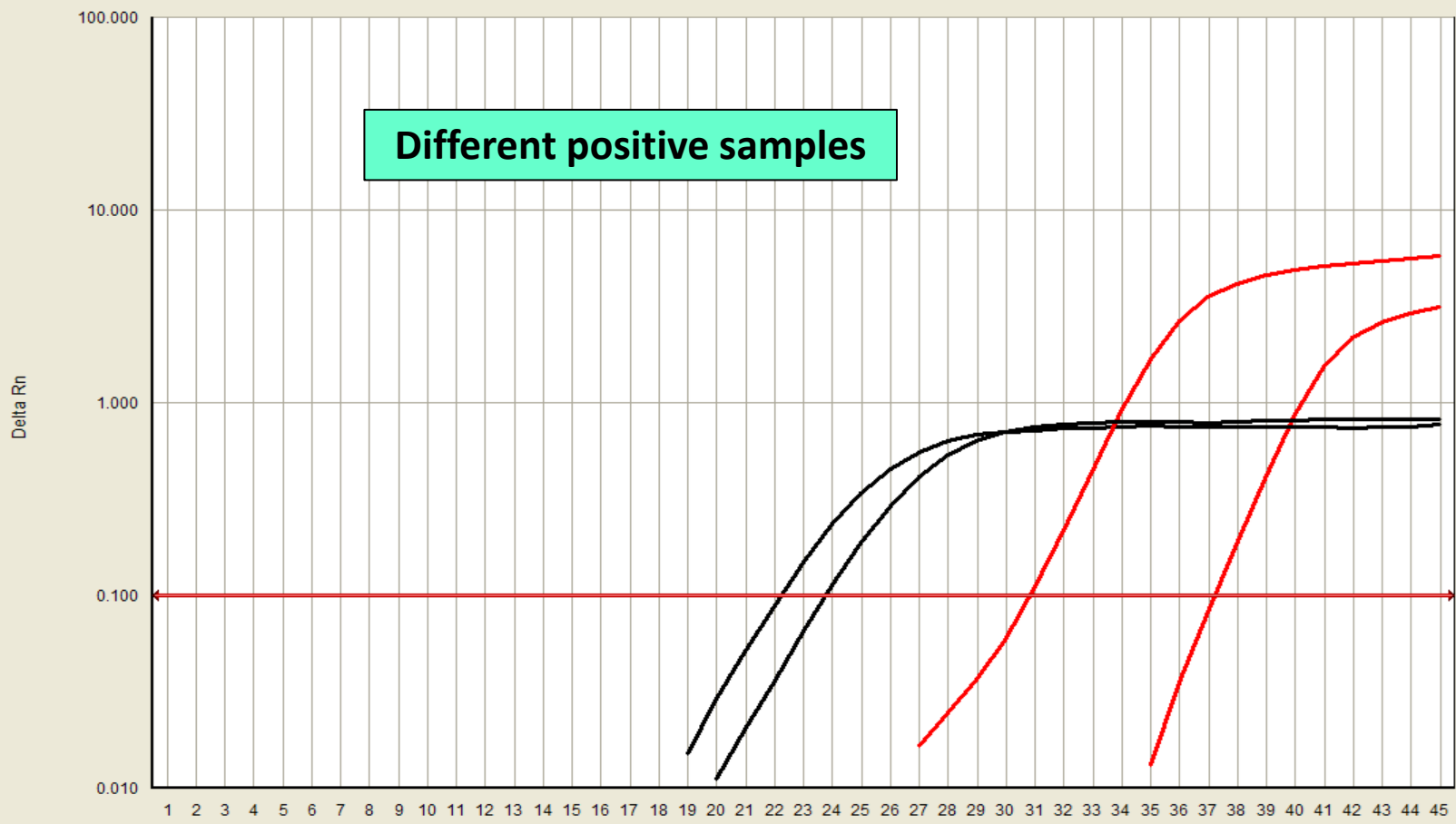
Start (cycle): 6  
 End (cycle): 15

Analyze  
 Help

Cycle Number

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU			UU
B	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU			UU
C	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU			UU
D	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU			
E	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU			
F	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU			
G	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
H	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				

Delta Rn vs Cycle



Data: Delta Rn vs Cycle  
Detector: All  
Line Color: Detector Color

Analysis Settings:  
 Auto Ct  
 Manual Ct  
Threshold: 0.1  
 Auto Baseline  
 Manual Baseline:  
Start (cycle): 6  
End (cycle): 15  
Analyze  
Help

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
B	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
C	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
D	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
E	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	SU				
F	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	NU				
G	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU				
H	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU	UU				

## **Molecular diagnostics in virology: advantages**

- ❖ Very sensitive and specific
- ❖ Fast
- ❖ Applicable to all clinical materials
- ❖ Solves some shortcomings of indirect diagnosis
- ❖ Solves some shortcomings of cultural diagnosis

## **Molecular diagnostics in virology: disadvantages**

- ❖ Costs
- ❖ Viral variants
- ❖ Meaning of viral latency



*Thank you*

