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Emerging Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification-Based Microchip and Microdevice Technologies for Nucleic Acid Detection

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Abstract

Rapid, sensitive, and selective pathogen detection is of paramount importance in infectious disease diagnosis and treatment monitoring. Currently available diagnostic assays based on polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) are time-consuming, complex, and relatively expensive, thus limiting their utility in resource-limited settings. Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) technique has been used extensively in the development of rapid and sensitive diagnostic assays for pathogen detection and nucleic acid analysis and hold great promise for revolutionizing point-of-care molecular diagnostics. Here, we review novel LAMP-based lab-on-a-chip (LOC) diagnostic assays developed for pathogen detection over the past several years. We review various LOC platforms based on their design strategies for pathogen detection and discuss LAMP-based platforms still in development and already in the commercial pipeline. This review is intended as a guide to the use of LAMP techniques in LOC platforms for molecular diagnostics and genomic amplifications.

Graphical Abstract

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Author Contributions

All authors have made contributions by writing the manuscript.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The detection and identification of nucleic acids (NA) using point-of-care (POC) micro total analysis systems (μ TAS) is a rapidly growing field with numerous clinical and industrial applications.¹ μ TAS-based platforms enhance nucleic acid amplification by increasing the ratio of surface area to volume, improving the transfer of heat in portable lab-on-a-chip (LOC) devices for diagnostic applications.² Nucleic acid–based POC diagnostic platforms require cell lysis, NA extraction, and purification prior to amplification,³ all of which is of paramount importance in detecting small quantities of NA in fingerprick volumes of biological samples. Though polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is the most common method for DNA amplification, it involves multiple thermo-cycling steps. Isothermal amplification of NA eliminates the thermo-cycling steps, reducing cost and increasing assay quality.⁴

In addition to loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP), other isothermal amplification techniques, including rolling circle amplification (RCA),⁵ strand displacement amplification (SDA),⁶ signal-mediated amplification of RNA technology (SMART),⁷ nucleic acid sequence-based amplification (NASBA),⁸ single primer-triggered isothermal amplification,⁹ helicase-dependent amplification (HDA),¹⁰ and cross-priming amplification (CPA)^{11,12} are used to isothermally amplify NA. However, LAMP¹³ has been shown to be faster and more stable, sensitive, and specific for NA detection. Because of the nature of the reaction, LAMP-based methods produce >50-fold more amplicon than PCR-based techniques.¹⁴ LAMP also has the ability to amplify medium- to long-range template strands of nucleic acids (>130 bp and <300 bp), which makes it suitable for amplification of various DNA of pathogens.^{13a} Moreover, it can amplify the target NA in complex substrates even in the presence of substances that usually inhibit PCR reactions, such as blood components of hemoglobin, IgG, IgM,¹⁵ and some food ingredients.¹⁶ LAMP-based methods have higher specificity because they use four to six different primers that bind to specific sites on the template strand, whereas PCR uses only two primers.^{12b} LAMP amplifies DNA at temperatures between 60 and 66 °C by using the Bst polymerase enzyme and high strand

displacement activity.^{13a,17} However, RNA targets require additional reverse transcriptase enzyme to transcript RNA into cDNA prior to the amplification step.

Over the past decade, significant improvements have been made in monitoring LAMP amplicon detection at the end-point of LAMP reaction and in real-time. In particular, colorimetric, electrophoresis, immunoassay, and electrochemical modalities are leveraged for end-point detection. Optical, electrical, electrochemical, and pH-sensing mechanisms are used for real-time monitoring of LAMP amplicon. LAMP amplicon detection relies on production of magnesium pyrophosphate. Higher concentration of pyrophosphate ions reacts with the magnesium buffer, which yields white precipitate and increases the turbidity. This precipitate can be visualized by a naked eye or can be monitored in a real-time manner using optical instruments.¹⁸ Another detection mechanism is electrophoresis, which has been widely used for amplicon detection. Electrophoresis separates amplicon based on their sizes. LAMP amplicon can also be detected utilizing lateral flow assay by immobilization of a specific antibody to biotin at the test line followed by capturing biotin-labeled amplicon hybridized with fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-labeled DNA probes.¹⁸ Electrochemical detection has been widely used for LAMP amplicon as well. Electrochemical detection mechanism relies on intercalating redox molecule with amplicon, which can detect at the end point or real-time manner.¹⁹ pH sensing modality has also been used for LAMP amplicon detection by leveraging the field effect transistor to monitor pH variation during LAMP reaction.²⁰

Since 2001 there has been exponential growth in the number of publications and citations related to the applications of LAMP in medicine, biology, environmental monitoring, and food industries (Figure 1A–C). In 2014 alone, 131 papers and 1414 citations were recorded. Scientists in China, Japan, and the United States have made the most contributions to the scientific and commercial advancements of LAMP-based LOC devices (Figure 1D). Here, we specifically and thoroughly review LAMP-based microchip technologies developed for NA detection, including colorimetric, electrochemical, optical, electrophoresis, and pH-based sensing modalities. We also discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various LAMP-based LOC design concepts developed for NA and pathogen detection.

2. END-POINT DETECTION

2.1. Colorimetric Detection

The main concept behind colorimetric detection is the production of magnesium pyrophosphate ($Mg_2P_2O_7$) as a side product of the reaction of Deoxynucleotide triphosphate (dNTP) and magnesium sulfate ($MgSO_4$). Magnesium pyrophosphate is an insoluble compound and will precipitate out of the background solution, increasing its turbidity.²¹ Though this technique requires no instruments, it is dependent on human interpretation of color. Various colorimetric dyes can be used to detect the presence of amplicon, but such dyes should not inhibit the amplification reaction, and the color change should be easily distinguished by the naked eye. Dyes used for LAMP amplicon detection, including fluorescent probes and pH-sensitive dyes, are listed in Table 1.²² Calcein and hydroxynaphthol blue (HNB) are the main dyes that can be added to preamplification samples without inhibiting the LAMP reaction.²³ The colorimetric detection mechanism are

described in Figure 2A. Other dyes such as propodium iodine, SYBR GREEN I, and Picogreen are used after amplification, as they inhibit LAMP and terminate amplification. Figure 2 shows various LAMP-based microchip platforms with colorimetric detection mechanisms.

Connelly et al.²⁴ developed a cellulose paper microchip for sample preparation and LAMP amplification. Three layers of magnetic slips provide a robust platform for cell lysis as well as DNA purification and amplification, while cellulose paper is a suitable matrix for DNA adsorption and isolation. SYBR GREEN I was used to detect the amplified product with limit of detection (LOD) of 5 cells in 80 μ L of human plasma blood sample (Figure 2B). In another effort, a hybridized paper/plastic microfluidic chip was developed for the detection of Neisseria meningitidis using calcein that showed a LOD of 3 DNA copies in a 26 µL sample of cerebrospinal fluid (Figure 2C).²⁵ The LAMP amplification was implemented in cerebrospinal fluid, since it did not inhibit the reaction. In another study, a cassette device consisting of two aluminum reels and a plastic ribbon with an array of chambers was developed to detect E. coli (30 CFU/mL) and S. aureus (200 CFU/mL) utilizing HNB and calcein dyes, respectively.²⁶ These pathogenic bacteria species and a LAMP reagent mixture were placed in the chambers, and then the array was covered by simple plastic tape. Cellular lysis was implemented through thermal shock at 65 °C for *E. coli* and 90 °C for *S. aureus* for 2 min. The color of HNB changed from purple to blue, and the color of calcein changed from yellow to green (Figure 2D).²⁶ A similar approach was also used to develop a plastic pouch microchip to detect Herpes simplex virus (HSV-1) and HSV-2, with LOD of 6.08 copies/ μ L and 0.598 copies/ μ L, respectively, in 25 μ L spiked PBS samples.²⁷ The simplicity of the design, ease of fabrication, and use of a polyethylene sheet make these chips highly desirable for POC diagnosis in resource-limited settings. Wu et al.²⁸ developed a glass microfluidic chip for NA detection using SYBR GREEN I dye. The chip featured a flow control system to avoid LAMP inhibition via an interaction with solid-phase extraction (SPE) reagents. Chemical lysis took place off-chip, and DNA extraction was achieved using pillar structures coated with chaotropic salt guanidine hydrochloride. Highly sensitive DNA extraction and amplification were completed within 2 h by passivation of the LAMP chamber and extraction region. In another effort, an easy to operate, octopus-like microfluidic chip was developed for selectively detecting different subtypes of the human influenza A virus.²⁹ The LOD of the system was 10 fg/ μ L using 0.4 μ L of DNA sample within an hour. Though colorimetric detection is less expensive than other methods (it does not require readers or signal processing), its main drawback is that it is mostly qualitative.

2.2. Electrochemical Detection

Electrochemical sensing has shown a strong promise for the development of rapid, sensitive, selective, miniaturized, and inexpensive POC diagnostic platforms.³⁰ Electrochemical sensing has been utilized for detection of single nucleic polymorphisms,³¹ nucleic acids,^{30d,32} and amplification products.³³ LAMP-based electrochemical sensing relies upon the oxidation–reduction of electroanalyte as monitored by linear sweep voltammetry (LSV),³⁴ square wave voltammetry (SWV),^{33b,35} differential pulse voltammetry (DPV),³⁶ or conductivity.³⁷ Electrochemical detection is achieved either by redox labeling of immobilized LAMP amplicon on the surface of the working electrode or by detection of

redox molecules in the presence or absence of amplification product. Sun et al.³⁶ detected LAMP amplicons on a carbon ionic liquid electrode (CILE) using DPV. The electrode surface was modified with V_2O_5 nanobelt, multiwalled carbon nanotubes (MWCNT), and chitosan for electrode surface modification. The electrode was then set as a substrate for immobilization of a single-stranded DNA probe³⁸ for *Yersinia enterocolitica*. The assay had a LOD of 1.76 aM and used methylene blue (MB) as an electrochemical redox for labeling the LAMP amplicon. Various electrochemical redox molecules commonly used for LAMP amplicon detection and their potential peaks with respect to Ag/Agcl (E_p vs Ag/AgCl) are listed in Table 2. Some of them, such as Hoechst 23458, inhibit the amplification reaction and cannot be rendered for real-time LAMP amplicon monitoring.³⁹ MB or ruthenium hexamine, are among redox molecules that can be used for real-time monitoring as it does not interfere with LAMP amplification process.

Generally, LAMP amplicon can be detected either at the termination of the amplification reaction or monitored in real-time. Electrochemical detection mechanism of LAMP amplicon at the end point was shown in Figure 3A. Ahmed et al.³⁴ developed a LAMPbased portable device for maze CBH 351 GMO DNA detection and quantification in a tubelike chamber with separation valve between the detection and quantification chamber. LAMP reagents with target DNA were amplified; then by slight shaking, the separating wall was damaged, mixing redox with amplicon for further electrochemical detection. The LAMP amplicons were detected using screen-printed electrodes (SPE)⁴⁰ in an electrochemical chamber with LOD of 200 fg/µL (Figure 3B).³⁴ Safavieh et al.⁴¹ developed an LSV-based microfluidic device for the detection and quantification of E. coli. As shown in Figure 3C, this microfluidic device contained two parallel chips, including a reaction chamber, an active valve, and an electrochemical detection chamber. Carbon SPEs were fabricated vertically in the detection chamber. The mixture of E. coli and LAMP reagents was loaded onto the chip, and the bacteria were lysed through a 66 °C thermal shock process and detected with a LOD of 24 CFU/ml.⁴¹ Figure 3 demonstrates LOC platforms for the detection of LAMP amplicon using endpoint electrochemical sensing. Others used a combination of LAMP and bacteriophages for viability screening and confirmation through a dual response biosensor.⁴² The bacteriophage was immobilized on a cysteamine-modified gold electrode by cross-linking with 1,4-phenylene diisothiocyanate. The impedance biosensor showed reproducible and sensitive detection within a range of 1×10^3 to 1×10^9 CFU/ml. The impedimetric response of live and dead E. coli was tested after incubation of 1 $\times 10^8$ CFU/ml live and dead cells on electrodes for 15 min. After washing with PBS, faradaic impedance was measured for 1 h to determine bacterial viability. Increasing the LAMP amplification time to 40 min enhanced the chip sensitivity by at least 1 order of magnitude (1×10^2 CFU/mL).

2.3. Electrophoresis

Electrophoresis is one of the most common techniques for separation of NA (DNA or RNA) and proteins based on their molecular size and charge.^{13a,21,43} Gel electrophoresis (GE) has been used for LAMP amplicon detection with 2% agarose gel as a matrix. To visualize amplicon on the gel, ethidium bromide was used as an intercalating fluorescent dye.⁴⁴ The length of amplicon can be measured using a specific molecular size standard, reducing the

risk of nonspecific detection. GE is usually used as a postprocessing method for amplicon detection and has not been used for on-chip detection analysis. Capillary electrophoresis (CE) has the advantage of on-chip multiplex detection and relatively low power consumption.⁴⁵ Although CE requires complex equipment and is time-consuming, it can provide endpoint amplicon detection by using fluorescent dyes such as ethidium bromide.⁴⁶ Several microchip platforms have been developed for LAMP amplicon detection using electrophoresis. Hataoka et al.⁴⁷ developed an electrophoresis-based poly-(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) chip to detect gene fragments of LAMP amplicon with a LOD of 23 fg/ μ L and 15 min amplification time. In another study, a microreactor chip was developed for single molecule detection on polyacrylamide gel (PAA).⁴⁸ Because of its porous structure, various ions diffuse into the PAA gel matrix and initiated amplification. The chip consisted of a microheater and a temperature sensor, both of which were fabricated at the bottom of each chamber. The amplification product was then visualized by fluorescent imaging analysis at the end of the reaction.

Isotachophoresis (ITP) is another electrophoresis technique to separate NA from complex samples based on their ionic mobility. By utilizing ITP, leading electrolyte (LE) and trailing electrolyte (TE) buffers,⁴⁹ a chip with minimal sample pipetting was developed. *E. coli* bacterial DNA were separated and purified from milk samples and a LOD of 10³ CFU/ml was achieved.

2.4. Immunoassays

Immunoassays, including lateral flow test (LFT) and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), have also been used for developing LAMP-based diagnostic technologies by immobilizing biotin-labeled LAMP amplicon and labeled DNA probes.⁵⁰ Lateral flow assays detect biotin-labeled LAMP amplicon hybridized with a FITC-labeled DNA probe conjugated with gold-based anti-FITC antibody. Non-hybridized FITC bind to gold-labeled anti-FITC antibody and move forward to the test line.⁵⁰ The bioanalyte detection time, excluding DNA extraction, in the so far developed LFT-based assays were less than 40 min. The sensitivity of the LFT-based assays for LAMP amplicon detection was 2.4 fg/ μ L for Roundup Ready soybean (RRS),⁵¹ 3 fg/ μ L for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* genomic DNA,⁵² and 0.039 fg/ μ L for extracted *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* DNA.⁵³ LFT provides robust specificity due to the fact that the probe is complementary to a specific amplicon.

A centrifuge-based microchip integrating three separate LFTs and LAMP on a compact disk (CD)-based microfluidic device was developed for detecting H1N1 virus through the detection of H1 and M genes.⁵⁴ Each microfluidic device consisted of an inlet for injecting LAMP reagents, a chamber for amplification, and a zigzag-shaped dispensing microchannel which was set to aliquot LAMP solution equally in three chambers. A 2 μ L sample was injected into the inlet and filled the zigzag channel by capillary action. Using an air pump, the sample was forced into the reaction chamber and a siphon channel was connected to the chamber to prevent overflow of the LAMP sample into the LFT. The flow process is shown in Figure 4. With the use of different centrifugal speeds and various amplification times, LAMP amplicons reached the LFT and different target genes in H1N1 were detected with

LOD of 10 copies per sample (7 μ L). LFT-LAMP has great potential in the development of POC diagnostic platforms by integrating the sensitivity and specificity of LAMP with the simplicity of lateral flow immunoassay which does not require any trained personnel. Integration of this method with self-contained microfluidic platforms could also eliminate the potential of cross-contamination and can provide high-throughput analysis.

Combining LAMP and ELISA also yields a strong technique for developing highthroughput diagnostic assays with immense sensitivity. The developed LAMP-ELISA-based assays for detecting Mycobacterium tuberculosis and Salmonella serogroup D demonstrated LODs of 100 copies in 100 μ L sample (1 copy/ μ L)⁵⁵ and 10 CFU/ml,⁵⁶ respectively. The sensitivity of LAMP-ELISA-based assay for detecting Salmonella was 100 times more sensitive than PCR- and turbidity-based LAMP assays.⁵⁶ The principle behind the LAMP-ELISA method is direct incorporation of labeled nucleotide into the amplicon during the amplification process, hybridization to a specific probe, and detection of captured antigen by an immunoassay.⁵⁶ The main drawbacks are that the assay can take up to several hours, and the fact that it is a multistep process, which makes the creation of a POC diagnostic device unpractical. However, the method does not require an expensive reader. In another work, ELISA-LAMP was integrated with phage to detect organophosphorous pesticides. Phage g3p-displayed short peptide libraries were shown to be efficient tools for selecting the mimotope peptides. The unique feature of phage-born peptide yields binding with a specific target on a phage particle containing amplified NA.⁵⁷ This strategy makes it possible to detect small molecules that do not have any DNA strands within the range 2-128 ng/mL.

3. REAL-TIME DETECTION

3.1. Optical Detection

Optical-based LAMP detection methods utilize the production of magnesium pyrophosphate Mg₂P₂O₇ as the byproduct of the LAMP polymerase reaction. Magnesium pyrophosphate increases the sample's turbidity, which can be detected with a turbidimeter in real time.⁵⁸ optical fiber,⁵⁹ surface plasmon resonance (SPR),⁶⁰ spectrophotometer,⁶¹ or fluorescent imaging by a charged coupled device (CCD) camera in microchips.⁶² DNA copies can be quantified by plotting turbidity against amplification time. Fang et al.⁵⁹ developed an eightchannel microchip made out of poly-dimethylsiloxane (PDMS) and glass for detection and quantification of pseudorabies virus DNA. The chip utilized a digital fiber optic sensor to emit LED light at 640 nm and a phototransistor to measure turbidity. Using only a 0.4 μ L sample, a LOD of a 10 fg DNA sample was achieved after an hour amplification process. In a similar method, but more applicable for POC diagnostics, a valve-less microfluidic device was developed to detect multiple genes, including stx2 and eaeA of E. coli and mecA and vicK genes of S. aureus.⁶³ The polyester film microfluidic device was fabricated using hot embossing. In this method, SYTO-81 dye was mixed with reagents before being applied to the microchambers. All primers and LAMP reagents were dehydrated in each chamber. A LOD of 13 copies per sample (1 μ L) was achieved by employing LED light at the bottom of each chamber (Figure 5A). The amplification time was an hour at a temperature of 63 °C. The main drawbacks are heterogeneity of the particle size, uneven spatial distribution, and redissolution of magnesium pyrophosphate particles.^{18,60}

A LAMP-based microfluidic device was developed to detect methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) bacteria in clinical samples using a spectrophotometer.⁶¹ The chip consists of lysing, washing, and reaction chambers for sample treatment and amplification. Oligonucleotide probe conjugated with magnetic beads was mixed with MRSA bacteria (Figure 5B). The bacteria was lysed at 95 °C, and the probe conjugated with the magnetic beads bound to the released DNA. Target DNA was then purified through magnetic separation in the hybridization chamber. LAMP reagents were applied to the chamber, and amplification product was measured via a spectrophotometer. The entire sample processing and amplification procedure was carried out automatically, and a LOD of 10 fg/µL was achieved (Figure 6A). FLUO SENS DO fluorescence detection module was integrated in a microfluidic device for HIV viral load testing using saliva samples.⁶⁴ The cassette microfluidic device consisted of a chamber for isolation and purification of RNA and removing critical inhibitors using a Flinders Technology Associates (FTA) Whatman membrane. The amplified target amplicons were then detected using SYTO-9 green dye and a portable ESE fluorescence detector. A flexible, polyimide-based heater attached to the bottom of the microfluidic chamber provided temperature regulation for amplification. This assay showed a LOD of 10 copies of HIV in saliva samples (20 µL) with an assay time of 27 min.

CCD-based fluorescent imaging was used for real-time monitoring of LAMP amplification to detect waterborne pathogens. SYTO-81 was used as a florescent dye, and real-time imaging was implemented for Campylobacter jejuni 0414 gene detection. The microfluidic chip had 8 times higher signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and half of threshold time (T_t) in comparison with a commercially available real-time PCR instrument. A single copy of a gene was detected within only 19 min of threshold time.⁶² The chip was later modified to detect multiple food- and water-borne pathogens of S. enterica, C. parvum, C. jejuni, L. pneumophila, E. coli O157:H7, V. cholerae (Figure 6B).⁶² An optical photomultiplier (PMT)-based microchip was developed for multiplexing Streptococcus agalactiae, Koi herpesvirus, Irido virus, and Aeromonas hydrophila.65 DNA from cell lysate was isolated using magnetic beads coated with target-specific probes. The extracted DNA was amplified and optically detected within 65 min. The sensitivity analysis for this microchip technology showed a LOD of 20 copies in 25 µL sample.⁶⁵ Liu et al.⁶⁶ developed a sample-to-answer portable microfluidic chip for determining the genotype of a malaria mosquito. The device was integrated with a CCD camera from a cell phone and a blue LED, which enhanced the image analysis of the detected target malaria genome. The chip consisted of three separate chambers to identify Anopheles gambiae, Anopheles arabiensis, and the negative control sample. A piece of the malaria mosquito's leg was first placed on the FTA Whatman paper and crushed until it formed a small disc-shaped sample. Then the FTA paper was placed into each chamber, and the lysing reagent (AL lysing solution) was added to the sample and washed to remove debris and inhibitors. LAMP reagents along with SYTO-9 fluorescent dye were added to each chamber. LED light excited the intercalating dye which made it easier to visualize by naked eye.⁶⁶ A combination of real-time RT-LAMP and a hand-held USB-based fluorescent microscope on a microfluidic chip was used for HIV viral load testing.⁶⁷ As shown in Figure 6, the chip included a chamber and a diffusion-reaction micro conduit. The sample laden with target DNA was introduced into the chamber and LAMP amplification

was initiated thermally. The microconduit was filled with 4% (w/v) hydroxypropyl-methylcellulose (HPMC) to reduce the diffusion speed and confine the reaction front. As the amplification reaction progresses, the amplicon diffused through the microconduit. The diffusion length of the amplicon is proportional to the amplification progress. The sensitivity of this method was 50 copies in 15 μ L of sample.

SPR chips have also been used for LAMP amplicon detection.^{60,68} A SPR-LAMP-based microchip with a PMMA reactor and polycarbonate prism coated with 50 nm Au was developed for *Hepatitis B virus* (HBV) detection.⁶⁰ HBV DNA was used as a template and mixed with 10 μ L of LAMP reagents, which yielded a LOD of 2 fg/mL.⁶⁰ In another SPR-LAMP-based microchip, single-layer graphene was constructed on the surface of the Au SPR chip for detecting *tuberculosis bacillus* (TB) DNA.⁶⁹ Though label-free optical detection modalities are powerful in developing real-time monitoring of LAMP reactions, such methods usually require bulky and expensive readers and have shown poor sensitivity.

3.2. Real-Time Electrochemical Detection

Electrochemical modality has also been used for real-time monitoring of LAMP reaction (Figure 7A). Hsieh et al.⁷⁰ developed a microfluidic device for real-time monitoring of DNA amplicon using electrochemical sensing modality. Au working electrode and Pt counter and reference electrodes were fabricated at the bottom of the chip (Figure 7B). MB was used as a redox molecule, as it does not inhibit LAMP, and SWV scanning was implemented to monitor intercalating of MB with LAMP amplicon during amplification (Figure 7C). This assay detected the target amplicon in less than 50 min with a LOD of 16 copies/ μ L. Similarly, an octopus-like microfluidic system with an indium tin oxide (ITO) electrode fabricated on a glass substrate was developed for multiplexing bacteria DNA.⁷¹ The sensitivity of this method for detecting Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB), Haemophilus influenzae (HIN), and Klebsiella pneumoniae (KPN) was 28, 17, and 16 copies/µL, respectively. The assay time for these target bacteria was between 30 min and 1 h. Safavieh et al.³⁹ also developed a cassette-type device for real-time electrochemical detection of E. coli as a Gram-negative model and S. aureus as a Gram-positive model. The device featured two aluminum reels and a plastic ribbon that formed an array of reaction chambers. Carbon SPEs were fabricated at the bottom of each chamber. One of the aluminum reels acted as a ribbon collector and was connected to the heater to maintain a constant 65 °C temperature for amplification. The other reel acted as a sample provider. When samples were added to the chamber, the array of chambers was covered with heat tape to prevent sample evaporation. Then the sample rolled around the collector reel to initiate amplification. Simultaneously, each electrode was connected to a potentiostat for signal processing. Since 65 °C was not sufficient to lyse S. aureus, the samples were first covered with tape and heated on-chip at 90 °C for 2 min. Then the tape was removed and LAMP reagents were added to each sample for further electrochemical monitoring, and the temperature was set at 65 °C.³⁹ The sensitivity of 200 CFU/mL of S.aureus was achieved. Overall, electrochemicalbased methods for the detection of LAMP-amplified agents are rapid, low-cost, and sensitive. However, various factors such as electrode material, pH, and ionic strength of the sample can potentially affect the electrochemical signal.⁷²

3.3. pH-Sensing Platforms

The pH of the solution changes during the LAMP polymerization reaction due to ion release, which can be monitored by electrochemical or electrical sensing.^{73,76} A simple pH meter can be used for real-time monitoring of LAMP amplification process.⁷⁴ Tomazou et al.^{20,75} developed an ion-sensitive field-effect transistor (ISFET), which converts a chemical signal into an electrical signal. The ISFET was integrated with a temperature control sensor. As the amplification reaction proceeded, a significant amount of proton ion (H+) was released into the chamber. The increase of the charge at the sensing surface caused an increase in the charge distribution between the source and drain gates of the ISFET, which increased the integrated circuit (IC) output signal voltage yielding a LOD of 10 copies of genome DNA in 2 μ L of sample. In another approach, a FET-based sensor made of tantalum oxide (Ta₂O₅) combined with a AgCl reference electrode was also developed for real-time detection of DNA amplification by detecting generated protons (H+) during the LAMP process through on-chip capacitance measurement.⁷⁶ The measured voltages were calculated at 60% of the maximum obtained capacitance in a *C*-*V* curve. Label-free LAMP amplicons were quantified in the range of 1 × 10⁸ to 1 × 10¹¹ DNA copies/ml as shown in Figure 8.

Most of the ion-sensitive FET-based devices rely on the establishment of fluid gate potential, which requires complex microfabrication of reference electrodes and limits parallel detection. To overcome this problem, a novel method for the fabrication of a solid-state platinum quasi-reference electrode (QRE) coupled with pH-insensitive field-effect transistor (FET) was developed for real-time pH monitoring in LAMP reactions.⁷⁷ Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) was used to cover ISFET, which made it insensitive to pH change. The pH of the solution containing the LAMP reagents was optimized using HCI-Tris buffer, and the reaction was monitored for pH change. A LOD of 1×10^2 to 1×10^3 CFU/mL was achieved with a detection time of less than 30 min.

4. DESIGN CRITERIA

4.1. Capillary Tube

Glass capillary are nonpermeable and chemically neutral and have been used in developing LAMP-based detection assays. Several capillary-LAMP-based assays were developed for detecting *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* with sensitivities down to 1pg/mL and assay time less than 15 min.^{78,79} The sample handling in such capillary-based assays is simple. The capillary-based microchip developed by Liu et al. utilized magnetic beads for sample processing and DNA purification.⁷⁹ Different sample preparation, detection, and amplification zones were categorized in capillary glass. The magnetic area of the capillary glass was sandwiched between two electrical magnets. The detection zone was an LED array with emission and excitation filters. After DNA purification. The amplified targets were then quantified through fluorescence detection of the sample using a blue-light LED. A LOD of 10 bacteria (in 10 μ L sample) was achieved within 50 min, including sample analysis.⁷⁹ Using an FTA membrane, an integrated glass capillary device was fabricated to detect single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in *CYP2C19* from untreated blood in 150 min. A small flake of FTA membrane was picked up by syringe needle and placed inside the

capillary. Several reagents for purification and washing, including purification reagent, Tris-EDTA (TE) buffer, LAMP reagents, and water, were injected from the other side of the capillary at various positions, while 0.2 μ L of blood sample was injected from the opposite side and permeated the FTA paper. The purification solution and TE buffer washed the extracted DNA on the FTA paper, which was then immersed in LAMP solution for further amplification.⁸⁰ Later on, this concept was modified for high-throughput sample purification using micropipette tips.⁸¹ FTA paper was inserted at the top part of the micropipette tip. As the sample contacted the FTA, RNA/DNA was extracted and trapped in the FTA card. Washing buffer was introduced to purify the extracted DNA, following by applying LAMP reagent. The pipet tip was sealed by lighter flame, and the amplified target was detected using fluorescent dye (Calcein).

4.2. High-Throughput and Multiplex Analysis

Despite the complexity of LAMP amplicon structure, several LAMP-based assays have been developed for simultaneous detection of pathogens in biological samples.^{82–86} To allow multiplexing using LAMP technology, Liang et al.⁸³ designed a series of target-specific barcodes and tagged the LAMP amplicon with FIP primer. The barcodes were decoded utilizing pyro-sequencing on nicked amplification product. To enable the nicking reaction near the barcode regions, the recognition sequence of the nicking endonuclease was attached on the FIP primer. After nicking, pyro-sequencing was initiated at the 3' end using dNTP complementary to the non-nicked strand to simultaneously detect four pathogens of HBV, hepatitis C virus (HCV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and Treponema pallidum. In other work, a multiplex endonuclease restriction real-time LAMP assay was developed to detect multiple genome targets in one LAMP sample.⁸⁴ FIP and BIP primers, which contain 5'-end short sequences, were recognized by restriction endonuclease enzyme and new FIP and BIP were modified at the 5' end with fluorophore as well as a dark quencher. Later, restriction endonuclease digested the newly synthesized double-stranded terminal sequences, releasing the quenching and gaining the florescent signal. The positive signal was obtained within 12 min.

Various fluidic components such as reaction chambers, microvalves, micropumps, and microdispensers can be integrated in LOC-based NA detection assays to provide micro/nano droplet-size samples for multiplexing and high-throughput analysis.⁸⁵ Zhou et al.⁸⁶ developed a centrifuge-based microfluidic platform to detect 10 different bacteria, including *Nocardia seriolae Pseudomonas putida, Streptococcus iniae, Vibrio alginolyticus, Vibrio anguillarum, Vibrio fluvialis, Vibrio harveyi, Vibrio parahemolyticus, Vibrio rotiferianus,* and *Vibrio vulnificus* using LAMP technology. Real-time and endpoint fluorescent intensity measurement was implemented to achieve a LOD of 0.4 pg in a 1.414 μ L sample (Figure 9A). In another study, an octopus-like microfluidic device was created for multiplexed real-time electrochemical analysis of three different bacteria: *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB), *Haemophilus influenzae* (HIN), and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (KPN) with LOD of 28, 17, and 16 copies/ μ L, respectively (Figure 9B).⁷¹ The assay time in this method was less than 45 min. Cassette format devices with the ability to simultaneously analyze 36²⁶ and 12³⁹ samples for detecting biotargets, including *E. coli*, were also developed using end-point

colorimetric and real-time electrochemical detection modalities with a sensitivity down to 30 CFU/mL within 29 min.

SlipChip is a novel microfluidic platform with the ability of high-throughput analysis of nanoliter sized biological samples. The chip consists of two plates that are in contact with each other. The bottom plate has an array of chambers that are filled with reagents and ducts. The top plate acts as a lead for the reservoirs and a series of wells. The sample is first introduced into the wells on the top layer through microchannels, which is then mixed with the reagents in the bottom plate wells after slipping the top plate. This platform allows multiplexing and eliminates the need for valves and on-chip pumps for sample handling. It also reduces the amount of sample required to pico/nanoliter volumes.⁸⁷ In a similar approach, a SlipChip-based microchip was developed for quantification of HIV RNA using RT-LAMP and Poisson distribution.⁸⁸ RNA molecules were first compartmentalized, then cDNA was produced through reverse transcription of RNA, which was amplified using LAMP for detection. This method increased the efficiency of the assay more than 10-fold (from 2% to ~23%) compared to one step RT-LAMP.

A LAMP-based digital microfluidic device was also developed for detecting amplified NAs.⁸⁹ The chip structure was completely valve-free and contained four separate panels, which contained 1200 microchambers with 6 nL volume each. The chip consisted of four channels, enabling detection of four separate samples. The device was mainly fabricated from PDMS and was vacuum packaged. The pressure difference of the air dissolved in PDMS provides the driving force for the liquid and oil to be sucked into the channels and microwells. The fluorescent intensities of an array of various concentrations of DNA were detected using the Poisson analytical model. Droplet-based microfluidics is also a promising method in developing high-throughput LAMP-based detection assays for analyzing watersoluble samples in oil droplets. A continuous-flow digital LAMP-based microchip was developed using droplet-based microfluidics and microdispensers. Each droplet contains LAMP reagent as well as NA target. The droplets flow into the serpentine chamber for incubation. The structure of the serpentine chamber allows the droplets to flow side by side, while narrowing the channel enhances the droplets' flow to the detection region in which fluorescent detection takes place via confocal fluorescent spectroscopy (Figure 9C).⁹⁰ Using this system, a throughput of 1 million droplets in 110 min were obtained with LOD of 600 copies/ μ L.

4.3. Electricity-Free Cartridges

Electricity-free cartridges can be used in developing POC LAMP-based microchips for providing the temperature required for target amplification. One of the main methods to maintain consistent temperature for LAMP amplification is to create an exothermal reaction.⁹¹ Calcium oxide (CaO₂) reacts exothermically with water and generates 63.7 kJ/mol.^{91,92} A high-capacity reaction chamber with a consistent temperature at a melting point of 65 °C were developed by employing an engineered fat-based compound or parafin. Liu et al.⁹³ developed an electricity-free detection platform based on water-Mg/Fe metal alloy reaction, in which the flow rate was controlled using a filter paper. The amplicon was detected using a colorimetric fluorescent detection method with LOD of 10 copies in 25 μ L

sample. In a similar approach, an electricity-free cartridge was integrated with LFT for HIV detection with a sensitivity of 6 copies/ μ L.⁹⁴ It was also shown that even a pocket hand warmer could be used for LAMP amplification.⁹⁵ Zhang et al.⁹⁶ used a pocket warmer and capillary glass for LAMP-based multiplexing target NAs. Various target DNAs and negative controls were injected at different positions of the channel, and the two sides of the channel were sealed with epoxy glue. The chip was then sandwiched between two hand-warmers for sample heating. This method had a LOD of 2 copies of standard plasmid per sample volume ranging from 100 nl to 2.5 μ L. Figure 10 shows various electricity-free cartridges.

5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Isothermal amplification techniques are promising alternatives to the traditional gold standard, i.e., PCR. Among isothermal amplification methods, LAMP seems to be a promising and robust amplification method which has been used more than any other isothermal amplification technique for detecting pathogens such as viruses and bacteria in biological samples.⁹⁷ The traditional analytical steps such as sample purification. NA extraction and detection can be integrated on a compact microfluidic-based platform to develop LAMP-based POC diagnostic assays.^{4b} Optical- and electrochemical-based detection modalities are the most frequently used mechanisms in developing LAMP-based microchip platforms. However, novel detection techniques such as those based on giant magneto-resistance (GMR)98 and bioluminescence^{16a} have also been developed for the detection and monitoring of LAMP-amplified biotargets. LAMP-LFT-based POC assays seem to have significant potential for commercialization due to its low cost and ease of use by nonskilled personnel. In addition, electricity-free cartridges based on exothermic chemical reactions can help amplify target genes in geographically remote areas and provide an accurate test without access to laboratories. An important consideration for the current LAMP-based POC platforms is the final cost of the product for applications in resourcelimited settings. Paper-based microfluidics is an attractive tool for developing low-cost, mass-producible molecular diagnostic assays that can be used to design POC LAMP-based tests.²⁴ LAMP-based products in the market or in the development pipeline are listed in Table 3 and categorized based on their detection mechanism, type of readers used in the system, cost per test and reader, and throughput.

LAMP-based microchip strategies have the potential to be utilized in developing functional portable devices if upstream and downstream procedures are carefully optimized based on multidisciplinary approaches. However, as of today, LAMP-based methods still require vigilant optimization of loop primers for reproducible and sensitive target detection. Initial primer optimization could be shortened by rapid in silico or simulation approaches. In silico DNA amplification already exists for PCR-based methods. On the other hand, unlike PCR, LAMP-based in vitro DNA amplification relies on *Bst Polymerase*, which is produced, supplied, and licensed solely by New England Biolabs of the United States. Unless new universal enzymes for LAMP strategy are developed in the near future, this proprietary component may be a limiting factor for widespread use of LAMP-based microchip approaches. In addition, the primary components of this technique require the maintenance of the cold-chain, because the *Bst Polymerase* and dNTP cannot tolerate warm or even room temperatures. For example, Lucigen developed OmniAmp reverse transcriptase enzyme,

which could be lyophilized with a storage life of over 6 months⁹⁹ and can be used for the POC applications in resource-limited settings.¹⁰⁰ Biotechnologists may work on recombinant microorganisms and improved nucleic acid synthesizers to develop more stable LAMP enzymes and other LAMP chemical components. New chemical processes and novel strategies may also be generated with nonenzymatic loop-mediated isothermal nucleic acid amplifications to be more practical and useful for resource-limited settings. An ideal point-of-care LAMP-based assay requires the integration of up- and downstream sample processes such as sample preparation and NA extraction and amplification with a sensitive and rapid sensing modality on a compact microchip for high throughput and multiplex detection of target pathogens in complex biological samples. Smart integration is the key to advances in LAMP-based self-contained devices.

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Figure 1.

Search results for number of publications and citations related to LAMP-based technologies. (A) Number of publications with keywords of "loop-mediated isothermal amplification". (B) Number of publications with keywords of "loop-mediated isothermal amplification" and "lab on a chip". (C) Number of citations with keywords of "loop-mediated isothermal amplification" and "lab on a chip". These statistics indicate the exponential growth in the interest in developing LAMP-based techniques. (D) Major contributing countries that published in science and commercial advancement based on LAMP LOCs. All statistical data were collected from SCOPUS.



Figure 2.

LAMP-based LOC devices with colorimetric detection modalities. (A) Schematic of color change during amplification using (a) Calcein and (b) HNB dye. (B) Paper microchip for LAMP amplification and detection. (a) Exploded and (b) assembled schematic of paper microchip, which consists of three different layers to wash the lysate, purify the DNA sample, amplify the DNA template, and detect the amplification product using SYBR Green I. (c) image of the prototype. (C) Paper-plastic hybrid assay for detecting H1N1 virus. (a) 3D schematic of the chip, which consists of PDMS chip, glass, and paper chromatography paper. (b) The actual image of a fabricated microchip. Chromatography paper is placed at the amplification zones to preload primers. (D) LAMP-based cassette device (a) Cassette device with an array of chambers on a flexible ribbon for high-throughput bacterial detection. (b) *S. aureus* pathogen was detected using Calcein with the LOD of 200 CFU/mL. (c) *E. coli* bacteria were detected using HNB dye with LOD of 30 CFU/mL in 60 min amplification time. Reproduced with the permission from refs 21 and 24–26. Copyright 2008 Nature, 2014 American Chemical Society, 2015 American Chemical Society, and 2014 Royal Society of Chemistry.



Figure 3.

LAMP-based microchip devices with electrochemical sensing modalities (end-point detection). (A) 3D schematic of electrochemical sensing of amplified NAs (a) Schematic of binding redox and LAMP amplicon at the end of LAMP reaction, which results in the LSV peak reduction. (b) LSV of Hoechst redox. (B) Microchip for electrochemical detection of maize CBH 351 GMO DNA. (a) Image of DNA stick, which consists of amplification and detection sections that are separated from each other by a valve. (b) The amplification reaction was first performed on a hot plate. (c) by damaging the interface valve with gentle mixing, redox and amplification products were mixed and further electrochemical detection was possible. (C) Microfluidic electrochemical assay for detecting *E. coli*.. (a) Schematic of microfluidic chip for negative control and sample detection. Each microfluidic chip consists of PDMS chip, glass substrate, and aluminum heater. The detection chamber has a disposable carbon screen-printed electrode. (b) Image of disposable screen-printed electrode. Reproduced with the permission from refs 34 and 41. Copyright 2009 Royal Society of Chemistry and 2013 American Chemical Society. respectively.



Figure 4.

Multiplex RT-LAMP integrated with LFT to control the flow (A) 2D schematic of the CD microfluidic device. (B) (i) An illustration of how the microchannels were connected to the LFT, (ii) cross-sectional schematic for the connection between microchannel, RT-LAMP chamber, and the LFT, and (iii) schematic for the connection between the running buffer reservoir and the LFT. (C) Image of the RT-LAMP-LFT CD microfluidic. (D) Exploded 3D schematic of the RT-LAMP-LFT microchip. Different layers cover the LFT, hold the sample, and control the flow. (E) Actual image of the assay results for detecting (i) H1 gene, (ii) M gene, and (iii) negative control. Reproduced with permission from ref 54. Copyright 2015 Royal Society of Chemistry.



Figure 5.

LAMP-based microfluidics integrated with optical sensing apparatus. (A) Microchip integrated with fiber optics. (a) Image of Gene-Z device integrated with an iPod dock, a rechargeable port, and a disposable microchip. (b) An actual image of the microfluidic device with four parallel arrays of microchannels and close-up of the reaction wells. (c) 3D schematic of the microchannels demonstrating the working principle behind the Gene-Z technology. After sample loading through the sample inlet the reaction wells are filled within several seconds. Air inside the reaction wells is purged from the vents located downstream of each channel to distribute samples in all chambers equally. (B) A LAMP-based microchip for bacteria detection integrated with a spectrophotometer. (a) Actual image of the integrated microfluidic device connected to an air vent, a heat block, and a magnet. (b) Schematic of the principle behind the technology for MRSA detection. MRSA bacteria are injected into the chip with a specific probe conjugated with magnetic beads and lysed in lysis chamber through heating at 95 °C. After releasing MRSA DNA, the molecular probe is hybridized with DNA at 63 °C. The target DNA is separated from background using magnetic separation. LAMP reagents are added to the solution and amplified targets are optically detected with a spectrophotometer. (c) 2D schematic of the microchip and its components. Reproduced with the permission from refs 61 and 63. Copyright 2011 and 2012 Royal Society of Chemistry, respectively.



Figure 6.

LAMP-based microchips integrated with CCD imaging. (A) The nuclemeter. (a) The nuclemeter has a reaction chamber and a microconduit where reaction-diffusion takes place. (b) NA template is amplified and diffused through the channel. (c) Actual image of a fabricated nuclemeter microchip with four separate microchannels for detecting HIV RNA. (d) Actual image of the portable nuclemeter with its components, includinga flexible thin heater and USB-size microscope. (e) Quantification of HIV-1 in samples based on the diffusion length of amplified amplicons in each channels. (B) Microfluidic device platform for detecting various bacterial DNA using a CCD camera, emission filter, LED with excitation filter, and a microchip. Reproduced with permission from refs 62 and 67. Copyright 2011 Springer and 2014 Nature, respectively.



Figure 7.

LAMP-based microfluidic device with real-time electrochemical sensing modalities. (A) Schematic of the principle behind real-time electrochemical detection using MB active redox compound. Prior to amplification, MB is free in the solution and generates high redox current due to rapid diffusion on the surface of gold working electrodes. During LAMP reaction, MB intercalates with newly formed double stranded product, which leads to a decrease in the current peak. (B) Schematic of the microfluidic electrochemical quantification (MEQ)-LAMP chip and its cross-section (C) Microchip is placed on a heat block to provide the required temperature (65 °C) for amplification. The amplified target is detected through SWV using a potentiostat. Adapted with permission from ref 70a. Copyright 2012 Wiley.



Figure 8.

LAMP-based microchip with pH sensing modality. (A) The principle behind the ion sensing platform is illustrated. Schematic of how C–V curve changes throughout the LAMP amplification process due to the production of H⁺. The elongation process yields accumulation of protons. Thus, the pH shift in during the LAMP process is proportional to the number of nucleotides. The hydrogen accumulation can be measured by impedance spectroscopy. (B) Schematic of pH sensing with its ISFET platform. Cross section of array of an ISFET-based system with its gate, source (S), drain (D), temperature sensors (yellow), and controlled heater (blue), all are embedded at the underneath of a silicon nitride-sensing surface. Reproduced with the permission from refs 20 and 76. Copyright 2013 Nature and 2014 Elsevier, respectively.



Figure 9.

Multiplexing and high-throughput LAMP LOC devices. (A) CapitalBio RTisochip. (a) Microfluidic disc platform. Each disk consists of 24 reaction wells, which are attached to the buffer well. The buffer wells are connected with crooked primary channels with a slim capillary channel. The capillary channel is then cut off by thermal shock during the amplification process, which isolates the reaction well to protect the sample from potential contamination. Each reaction well has a volume of 1.414 μ L and all the primers are first added into the wells and dehydrated. (b) Schematic of top and bottom coverslips. (c) Actual image of a fabricated CD-based microchip. (d) Image of the CapitalBio RTisochip platform. (B) A LAMP-based microchip for multiplexing biotargets using real-time electrochemical sensing modality. (a) Actual image of a fabricated microchip. (b) 2D schematic of the device and its three sections for detecting three different DNA pathogens. (C) A droplet-LAMP-based microfluidic for high-throughput biotarget detection. Amplified droplets are detected using Calcein fluorescent signal (CFS) analysis with confocal microscopy. Reproduced with the permission from refs 71, 86, and 90. Copyright 2014 Elsevier, 2014 Elsevier, and 2015 Royal Society of Chemistry, respectively.



Figure 10.

Electricity-free cartridges for on-chip LAMP amplification. (A) (a) Exploded 3D schematic of the cartridge is demonstrated. (b) Actual image of a fabricated cartridge. (B) NINA electricity free cartridge that uses CaO for heat generation. (C) (a) NINA-PATH cartridge. (b) The cartridge was integrated with lateral flow test for detecting HIV amplicons. Reproduced with the permission from refs 91, 93, and 94. Copyright 2012 Public Library of Science, 2011 Royal Society of Chemistry, and 2014 Public Library of Science, respectively.

Table 1

Various Dyes Used for LAMP Detection

dye name	color before amplification	color in presence of amplicon	inhibit LAMP	refs
hydroxynaphtol blue (HNB)	violet	blue	no	23
calcein	yellow	green	no	21
SYBR GREEN I	dark orange	green	yes	101
PicoGreen	light orange	green	yes	102
propodium iodine	orange	white/silver	yes	103
SYTO-81, SYTO-9	orange	green	no	104
YO-PRO-1	green	green	no	105
GeneFinder	orange	green	yes	106
EvaGreen	orange	green	no	107
ethidium bromide	no color (under UV)	yellow/red (under UV)	no	105,107
AuNP	red	purple	no	108,109
gold nano rod (GNR)	red	purple	no	110
fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)	yellow-orange	green	no	111
leuco triphenylmethane	no color	violet	no	112
SYBR Premix Ex TaqTM II	red	green	yes	106

Table 2

Various Redox Used for LAMP Detection

redox name	electrochemical technique	electrode	E _P Vs Ag/Agcl	refs
methylene blue (MB)	DPV	carbon	-0.2	35
Hoechst 33258	LSV	carbon	0.52	113
ruthenium hexamine	SWV	carbon	-0.275	33b
[(Bpy) ₂ Dppz ²⁺ (Os)] Dppz	SWV	carbon	0.4	39
daunomycin	DPV	carbon	0.42	114
2'-deoxyguanosine $5'$ -triphosphated (GTP)	DPV	carbon	0.81	115
Ru(Phen) ₃ ²⁺	NA	gold	Na	116

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Table 3

LAMP-Based Products in the Market or Development Pipeline

company name	product	reader's cost (\$)	cost per test (\$)	detection mechanism	throughput analysis	ref
Eiken Chemicals	LA-320C	discontinued	discontinued	turbidimeter	32	117
Eiken Chemicals	LA-500	25000	3.3	turbidimeter	16	118
CapitalBio	RTisochip-A	15000	1.25	fluorescent	24	86
Gene-Z	Gene-Z	1000	2-10 for 24 tests	LED-optical fiber	15	63
Opti Gene	Genie II	13000	4	fluorescent	16	119
Opti Gene	Genie III	17995	1.85	fluorescent	8	120
QIAGEN	ESEQuant Tube Scanner	16000	10	fluorescent	12	121
Meridian Bioscience, Inc.	Meridian illumipro-10	7500	28–30	fluorescent	10	122
Diagenetix, Inc.	Smart DART v.30	2490	10–15	turbidity	8	123
Lucigen, Inc.	ClairLight	TBD	1.5	TBD	1	66
diagnostic for all		under development	1.83	fluorescent	1	24