

Supplementary material

Table S1 Sequences of synthetic plasmids

Plasmid	Synthetic sequence	Length
Barcode plasmid	barcode sequence	259 bp
<i>CT</i> plasmid	barcode sequence and 23S rRNA of <i>CT</i> (NC_000117.1)	259 bp + 2870 bp
<i>NG</i> plasmid	barcode sequence and 16S rRNA of <i>NG</i> (NR_026079.2)	259 bp + 1541 bp
<i>UU</i> plasmid	barcode sequence and 16S rRNA of <i>UU</i> (NC_011374.1)	259 bp + 1513 bp

Abbreviations: *CT*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*; *NG*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*; *UU*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum*. The barcode sequence here was a 259 bp long non-coding RNA of *Arabidopsis thaliana*:

AGGGGTGTGGGAACCTAGGAGATGAGTCTGCTTATTGATTGCTAAACCCTG
AACCCTCTCATGTAACTATGGGAATTAATACTGGGGGTCTTAGGCCGGCG
TTTCCCCGAAAAATAATGAAAAACGTCGATGGCTACATAAGAGGCTCGT
CTCCAAAAAGTAGACCAGGAGGTTGGGTTTGGTTCGTAGGTGGTTCTGTTG
AAACTAGATTAGTGTCTGCGGTTAACGTTTCCTCGCCTTACCCTCCCACCC
CC

Table S2 The primers and probes for DNA and RNA quantification

Plasmid/Pathogen	Target gene	Primer/Probe sequence (5' to 3')
Barcode plasmid	barcode sequence	QF: TTAATACTGGGGGTCTTAGGC QR: CACCTACGAACCAAACCCAA QP: 6-FAM-ACGTCGATGGCTACATAAGAGG-BHQ1
<i>CT</i> plasmid and <i>CT</i>	23S rDNA	QF: TCCCTCGCCGTAAGCCCAAG QR: TTTAACCTGCTGCTCCATCGT QP: 6-FAM-CCAGGGTCAAGCTCGTCTTCC-BHQ1
<i>NG</i> plasmid and <i>NG</i>	16S rDNA	QF: CAGCTAATACCGCATACTGTCT QR: GCTACTGATCGTCGCCTTGGTG QP: 6-FAM-CCTTTACCCCGCCAACCAGCTA-BHQ1

UU plasmid and *UU* 16S rDNA

QF: CCCTAGTAGTCCACACCGTA

QR: CCGTCAATTCCGTTTGAGTT

QP: 6-FAM-ATGTGCCTGGGTAGTACATTCG-BHQ1

Abbreviations: *CT*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*; *NG*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*; *UU*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum*.

Table S3 Amplification efficiency of qPCR

Plasmid	Quantification curve	R ²	Amplification efficiency	Copy number ratio of target/barcode \pm standard deviation
Barcode plasmid	$y = -3.2451x + 44.878$	0.9989	103%	/
<i>CT</i> plasmid	$y = -3.1831x + 45.298$	0.9994	106%	1.067 \pm 0.11
<i>NG</i> plasmid	$y = -3.2231x + 42.924$	0.9983	103%	1.174 \pm 0.163
<i>UU</i> plasmid	$y = -3.3236x + 42.477$	0.9952	99.9%	1.076 \pm 0.085

Abbreviations: *CT*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*; *NG*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*; *UU*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum*; R², coefficient of determination. These ratios were obtained from six replicates of ddPCR arrays.