

e-Appendix 1: Primers used for reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) for the detection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV)

Laboratory	Primers pairs	Gene target	Reference
National Microbiology Laboratory	RT-PCR primers 5'-CAGAGCCATGCCTAACATG-3' 5'-AATGTTTACGCAGGTAAGCG-3' Nested PCR primers 5'-TGTTAAACCAGGTGGAAC-3' 5'-CCTGTGTTGTAGATTGCG-3'	Polymerase	Health Canada (Poutanen et al ⁵)
Central Public Health Laboratory	As above	As above	As above
Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto	RT-PCR primers 5'-ATGAATTACCAAGTCAATGGTTAC-3' 5'-CATAACCAGTCGGTACAGCTAC-3' Nested PCR primers 5'-GAAGCTATTCGTCACGTTTCG-3' 5'-CTGTAGAAAATCCTAGCTGGAG-3'	Polymerase	RealArt™ HPA-Coronavirus LC RT PCR Kit (artus GmbH, Hamburg, Germany) (Drosten et al ³)
Hospital for Sick Children (HSC), Toronto	RT primer 5'-GCATAGGCAGTAGTTGCATC-3' PCR primers 5'-TGATGGGATGGGACTATCCTAAGTGTGA-3' 5'-TTGCATCACCAGTGTGCCACCAGGTT-3'	Polymerase	HSC (Poutanen et al ⁵)
HSC, Toronto	5'-TGATGGGTTGGGACTATCCTAAATGTGA-3' 5'-GTAGTTGCATCACCAGGAGTTGTGCCACC-3'	Polymerase	HSC (R. Tellier et al: unpublished data)
Saint Joseph's Hospital (SJH), Hamilton	5'-TGAATACACCCAAAGACCAC-3' 5'-TGATGAGGAGCGAGAAGAG-3'	Nucleocapsid	SJH (J. Mahony et al: unpublished data)