

# Countries response to COVID-19: Sharing experiences, good practices and lessons learnt

## Laboratory mass testing strategy and decentralization of the response

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# Outline

## Background

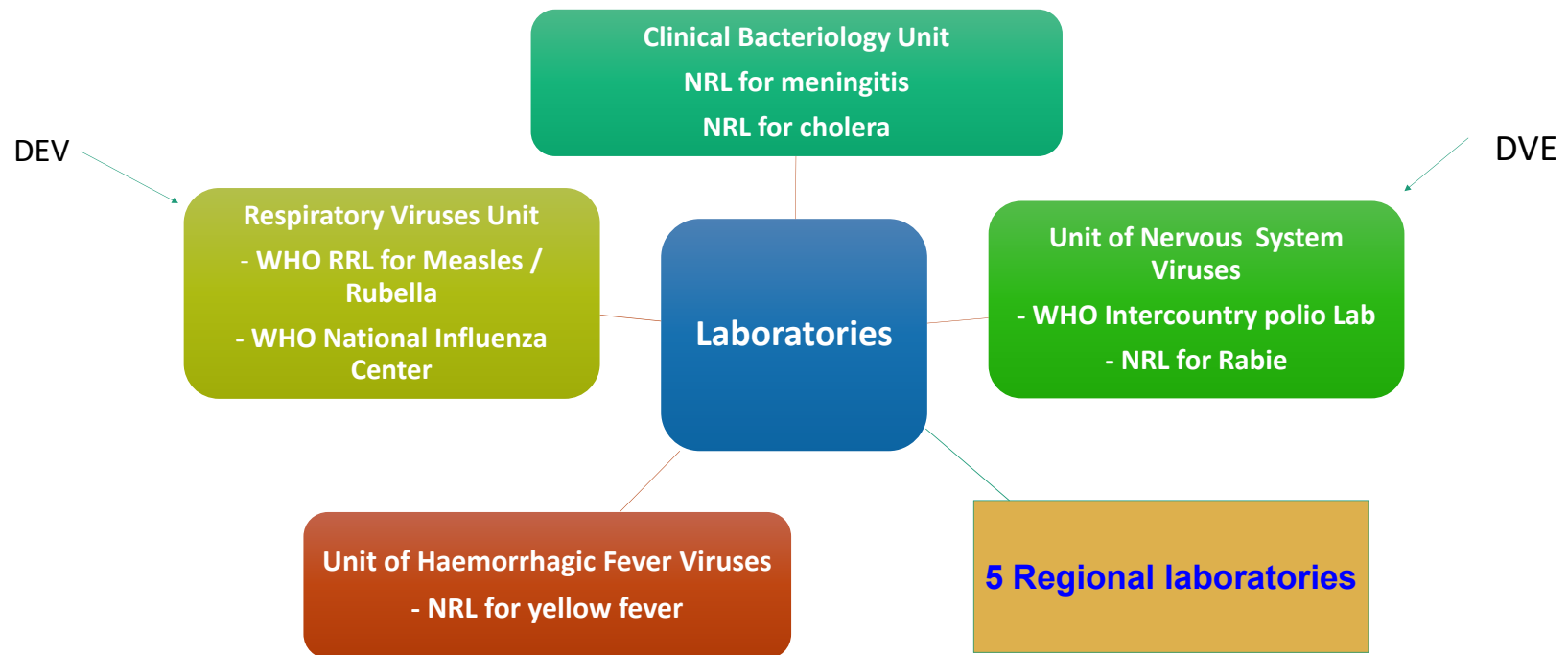
- I. Brief presentation of the Pasteur Institute of Côte d'Ivoire**
- II. Actions undertaken by the laboratory for the diagnosis of COVID-19**
- III. National strategy for the diagnosis of COVID-19**
- IV. Challenges**

## Conclusion

# Background

- **The world is facing a pandemic caused by a respiratory pathogen**
- **The laboratory plays a key role in diagnostic confirmation process**
  - **How to respond to the diagnostic request in an epidemic or pandemic context?**
  - **What strategy needs to be implemented to carry out 3500 tests / day?**
  - **Which tests to choose?**
  - **Who to test, where to test?**

# I. Institut Pasteur of Côte d'Ivoire (2)



# Human resources

## Laboratory team

Biologists (12)	LAB Technicians (28)	Logisticians (1)
Data Base Managers(3)	Equipment Maintainer(1)	Secretaries (2)
	Hygiene and Waste managers(3)	

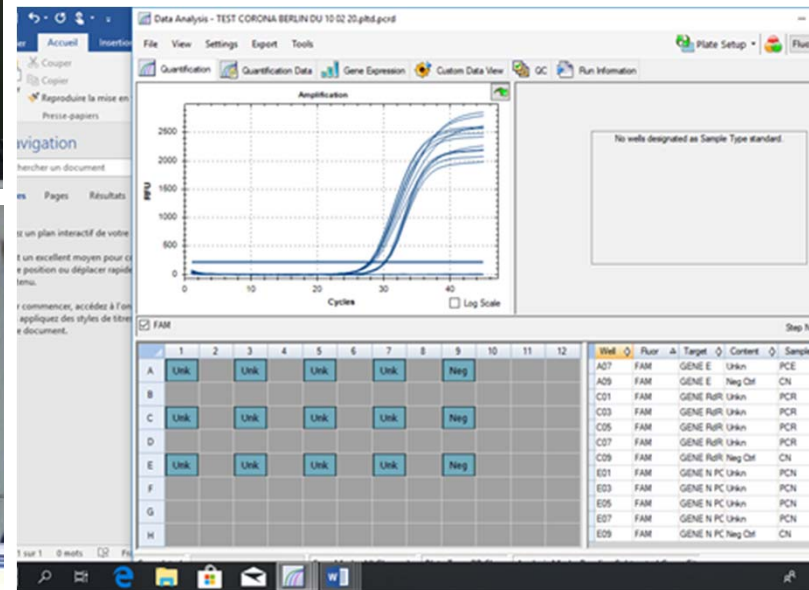
## Training

- **Biosecurity (How to properly wear / dispose PPE, how to manage samples safely)**
- **Performing molecular tests according to the protocols of the various PCR kits and devices available**
- **Data management training**

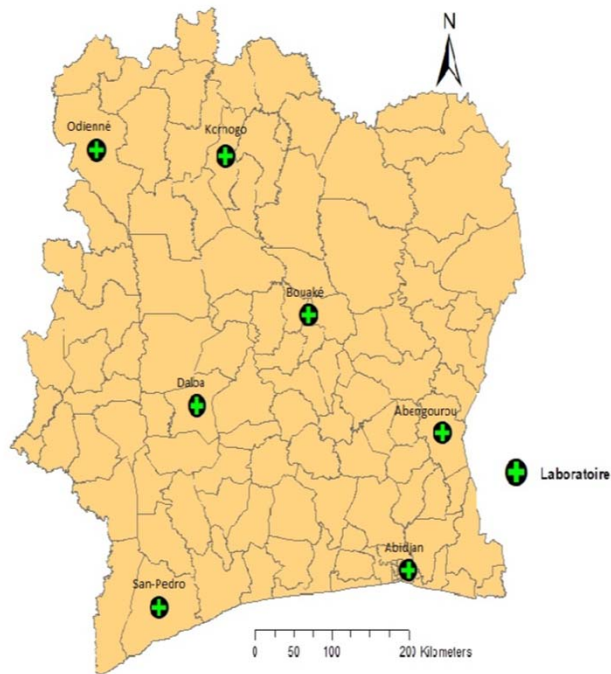
## Validation of PCR Protocols



- Test patients according to dynamic case definitions
- All samples sent by EPI team are tested



## National Testing Strategy



Expected laboratory network for COVID-19



GeneXpert



Cobas 6800

- Decentralization of the diagnosis
  - Involve laboratories with molecular biology platforms
  - Involve laboratories with GeneXpert platforms
- Evaluation of rapid serological tests

# Results

- **Number of samples tested : 15 599 ( 400 -500 samples / day)**
- **Confirmed cases : 1971**
- **Time between receipt of samples and reporting of result < 24h**

**since the end of last week, the opening of several COVID-19 testing centers and the delay in opening other laboratories has made it impossible to report results <24H**



## **Lessons learned**

- **We have not learned enough from previous epidemics (Ebola)**
- **Have a surge capacity plan is critical**
- **Know how to assess your needs (everything can be critical)**
- **Knowing how to be a leader**