

Development and practical use of a rapid diagnostic kit for Ebola virus disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

(International Collaborative Research Program : Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS))

- Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreaks have occurred sporadically in Africa, particularly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The research group developed a rapid diagnostic kit (QuickNavi™-Ebola) by using an immunochromatographic method to detect Ebola virus antigens. During the EVD outbreak in the country between 2018 and 2020, the QuickNavi™-Ebola kit was dispatched to the affected areas and introduced on a trial basis as a diagnostic aid. As a result, its high sensitivity and specificity were confirmed by comparison with a standard quantitative PCR method. In March 2021, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) approved the kit for manufacturing and marketing in Japan, and in June 2024, the Ministry of Health of the DRC approved the kit for domestic use. * 1
- The QuickNavi™-Ebola kit can provide diagnostic results in approximately 10 minutes and can be stored at room temperature without requiring specialized equipment. It is expected to be used in medical facilities with limited resources in remote areas and to help prevent the spread of EVD.

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- Project title: Epidemiology of Zoonotic Virus Infections in Africa
- Research period: FY 2018 – FY 2023
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QuickNavi™-Ebola, a rapid diagnostic test kit for Ebola virus antigens, was approved for domestic use in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



*1 [Press release of the results](#)