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noSARS – Interdisciplinary methodological approach for the rapid analysis of secretions causing respiratory syndrome

The corona crisis is pushing the civil society to its limit. While a fraction of the community members only has to comply with restrictive measures, others are much more affected. At present, insufficient corona virus flash test feasibilities comprising the entire population are a major problem, which distinctly impedes the containment of the epidemic. If flash tests are available in sufficient numbers, early isolation of infected individuals could efficiently break the infection chains and stop the epidemic. The **noSARS** project is targeted on this problem, demonstrating the feasibility of a test system for rapid and cost-effective detection of SARS-CoV-2 from a nasopharyngeal swab. A specific characteristic of the virus enables the selection of a new, interdisciplinary sensor approach using electromagnetic fields. To prove the feasibility of a cost-effective and fast test procedure by means of a demonstrator, Fraunhofer IZFP and Fraunhofer IBMT are collaborating, thus combining their assets. This could blaze a trail for a nationwide screening of the whole population and have a major share in overcoming the crisis.