

FWDX BioBlade – Glossary

Term	Definition
IVD	Stands for In Vitro Diagnostics , “In Vitro” meaning “In Glass” tests. These are tests that can detect disease, conditions and infections. (Link)
Primer	Primer is a short strand of DNA or RNA that serves as a starting point for DNA synthesis. For example if you had a book (your entire genetic code) and you wanted to make a copy of a specific sentence. The primer would tell you where that sentence starts. (Link)
Probe	Probe is a fragment of DNA or RNA used to detect the presence of specific DNA fragments within a sample. For example if you had a book (your entire genetic code) and you wanted to detect a specific sentence, the primer would tell you where to start and the probe would detect if the sentence is what you’re looking for. (Link)
NIH	National Institute of Health (nih.gov) is a primary agency of the U.S government responsible for biomedical and public health research. (Link)
NCBI	The National Center for Biotechnology Information advances science and health by providing access to biomedical and genomic information. (Link)
Taxonomic ID	A unique identifier assigned by the NCBI to the source organism of the protein, “taxonomic identifier” or “taxid”. (Link)
Accession ID	An accession number , in bioinformatics, is a unique identifier given to a DNA or protein sequence record to allow for tracking of different versions of that sequence record and the associated sequence over time in a single data repository (NCBI, NIH, etc). (Link)
GISAID	Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data is a global science initiative database that provides access to genomic data viruses (previously only influenza, branched out to others including COVID-19). (Link)
BV-BRC	Bacterial and Viral Bioinformatics Resource Center is a comprehensive resource for bacterial and viral infections disease research. (Link)
VeupathDB	Eukaryotic Pathogen, Vector and Host Informatics Resource is a bioinformatics database, recently been defunded. (Link)
qPCR	A quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) assay is a laboratory technique that measures the amount of a virus in a sample. (Link)
PCR	Sometimes called “molecular photocopying”, the polymerase chain reaction is a fast and inexpensive technique used to “amplify” - copy - small segments of DNA. For example, imagine you have an ancient piece of paper with life or death information on it. PCR allows you to create billions of copies of the original page for testing. (Link)
Assay	An assay is a procedure to measure or assess a target entity in a sample. Some examples of assays are drug testing, pregnancy test, covid tests. (Link)
Reagent	A reagent is added to cause a chemical reaction or test if one occurred, could be a compound, mixture, or solution. In an assay a reagent is what is reacting to the drugs in the drug test, or the hCG in a pregnancy test etc... (Link).

