



## SpeedX Develops PCR test to detect Monkeypox virus

### **PlexMonkeypox** | Specific Identification

*For Research use only, not for diagnostic procedures*

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA — (October 10, 2022).** SpeedX Pty. Ltd., a developer of innovative molecular diagnostic solutions, have added a new product to their portfolio; **PlexMonkeypox\*** a single well, multiplex qPCR that simultaneously detects the Orthopoxvirus L1R gene as well as the Monkeypox virus specific Serine Protease Inhibitor (SPI) gene.

The World Health Organization's (WHO) overall goal of surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing to stop the human-to-human transmission<sup>1</sup> is key to controlling the current outbreak - Dr Lee Smith, Principal Scientist at SpeedX and developer of **PlexMonkeypox**. "We don't want to see another pandemic sweep the globe, fast and accurate surveillance is critical at this time."

**PlexMonkeypox** provides laboratories with the tool to research Monkeypox outbreaks in their surrounding communities.

### **About Monkeypox**

Monkeypox is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms similar to those seen in the past in smallpox patients, although it is clinically less severe.

Monkeypox virus is an enveloped double-stranded DNA virus belonging to the Orthopoxvirus genus of the Poxviridae family.<sup>2</sup> There are two distinct genetic clades of the monkeypox virus: Clade I (formerly the Congo Basin (Central African) clade) and Clade II (formerly the West African clade).<sup>3</sup> Clade I has historically caused more severe disease with higher fatality rates and thought to be more transmissible.<sup>2</sup> The current outbreak is related to Clade II and is classified as 2b.

### **About SpeedX**

Founded in 2009, SpeedX is an Australian-based private company with subsidiary offices in Austin and London, and distributors across Europe. SpeedX specializes in molecular diagnostic solutions that go beyond simple detection to offer comprehensive information for improved patient management. Innovative real-time polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) technology has driven market-leading multiplex detection and priming strategies. Product portfolios focus on multiplex diagnostics for sexually transmitted infection (STI), antibiotic resistance markers, and respiratory disease. For more information on SpeedX please see: <https://plexpcr.com>

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### **References**

<sup>1</sup><https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Surveillance-2022.3>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.who.int/news/item/12-08-2022-monkeypox--experts-give-virus-variants-new-names>

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