USPEULEU Udsl | WA AIY-1i 7 WIICUCUO Is sdlQ

to be confirmed if the respiratory tract aspirate or

blood samples test positive for SARS-CoV-2 nucleic

acid using RT-PCR or by the identification of SARS-

CoV-2 genetic sequence in respiratory tract aspirate

or blood samples (80). The patient will be confirmed

as cured when two subsequent oral swab results are

negative (153). Recently, the live virus was detected

in the self-collected saliva of patients infected with

COVID-19. These findings were confirmative of

using saliva as a noninvasive specimen for the

diagnosis of COVID-19 infection in suspected

individuals (152). It has also been observed that the

initial screening of COVID-19 patients infected with

RT-PCR may give negative results even if they have

chest CT findings that are suggestive of infection.

Hence, for the accurate diagnosis of COVID-19, a

combination of repeated swab tests using RT-PCR

and CT scanning is required to prevent the

possibility of false-negative results during disease

screening (154). RT-PCR is the most widely used test

for diagnosing COVID-19. However, it has some

significant limitations from the clinical perspective,

since it will not give any clarity regarding disease

progression. Droplet digital PCR (ddPCR) can be

used for the quantification of viral load in the

samples obtained from lower respiratory tracts.