

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wed, 11 Mar 2020 19:30:25 -0400  
**To:** John M Jessup  
**Subject:** Re: You are great - a thought

Kim:

Thanks for the note. That is exactly what the cdc is starting to do.

Best,  
Tony

On Mar 11, 2020, at 7:22 PM, John M Jessup (b) (6) wrote:

Tony,

We have seen each other over the decades. I am the (b) (6) from NCI who decreed the lack of information about Eboal since it was limited to fruit bats as a reservoir.

An idea about testing. Maryland still has testing limited to subjects with symptoms who have contact with people from affected areas or who really ill with a respiratory infection

Why not forget the contacts and test those with flu-like symptoms without the need for contacts but instead test for flu and if that is negative move on to covid-19.

That would still be a tremendous demand so ... go to a formal two-tier test where PCR is done with approved PCR primers and if that is positive then the confirmation is with a FDA test for covid-19.

There are a lot of manufacturers of PCR primers, most clinical labs have PCR machines so that screening tests ought to be supported without a lengthy FDA clearance if it winnows the number of patients who need a formal test.

You are terrific. Keep it up with common sense as opposed to whatever the top of the administration suggests. I bet that the primer manufacturers would be supportive.

Kim

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