



The Impact of Emerging Diagnostic Laboratory Techniques on Infectious Diseases

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The diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases has been significantly facilitated by new testing methods including nucleic acid sequencing, PCR, and mass spectrometry. Such methods have provided considerably faster and more accurate means for diagnosis of pathogens traditionally isolated and identified by cultivation and in some cases, have provided the first means for identification and quantification of pathogens, particularly viruses. The objectives of this lecture will include an historical and a high level technical review of newer diagnostic methods, and the impact these methods have had on the diagnosis and treatment of infectious disease. Additionally, a futuristic view of infectious disease diagnostics will be provided.