Class 4: Polymerase Chain Reaction Diagnoses Human diseases (Part 1)

Reading assignment

* Yang et al (1999)

Classroom activity (time limit: 45 minutes)

1. What are the current detection methods for HIV-1? What are the disadvantages of these methods?
2. How did the author choose gp41 M/O from all the candidates? How did the authors test the specificity and sensitivity of the primer set? (Figure 1)
3. How did the authors demonstrate that the gp41 M/O primer set is highly specific for plasma detection of HIV-1 only? (Table 1 and figure 2)
4. What are potential applications of the gp41 M/O primer set?