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ABSTRACT

A method of highly sensitively and specifically amplifying a target nucleic acid in a sample by using a chimeric oligonucleotide primer having a ribonucleotide provided at the 3'-terminus or in the 3'-terminal side, an endoribonuclease and a DNA polymerase having a chain transfer activity, i.e., an isothermal and chimeric primer-initiated amplification of nucleic acids (ICAN) method; a method of detecting an amplified fragment obtained by using the above method; a process for producing a target nucleic acid by using the above amplification method; and chimeric oligonucleotide primers to be used in these methods.