



For immediate release

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MultiGEN Launches Novel Panels in Molecular Diagnostics for STDs in Pregnancy, and Vaginitis/Vaginosis

MultiGEN Diagnostics Inc. announced today that it has successfully launched two test panels for pathogens involved with Sexually Transmitted Diseases in pregnancy, and Vaginitis/Vaginosis.

These test panels cover a wide range of pathogens: The panel for sexually transmitted diseases and Group B strep includes *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoea*, *Herpes 1 & 2*, and *Group B strep*; and the panel for vaginitis/vaginosis includes *Trichomonas vaginalis*, *Candida albicans* and *Gardnerella vaginalis*. In the near future the company intends to add *Mycoplasma hominis*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Bacteriodes fragilis* to a separate panel specifically for vaginosis.

These pathogens belong to a wide range of phyla (viruses, bacteria, fungi, and protozoa) that presently require a variety of separate older methodologies for detection (culture, microscopy, ELISA, PCR etc.), resulting in delays, inaccuracy, high cost, and inconvenience. In consequence, all of the common pathogens relevant to a particular presenting syndrome may not be tested routinely, which could potentially compromise patient care.

“MultiGEN test panels are based on our patented MultiGEN platform”, said Dr. T. V. Moorthy, CEO/CSO. He added that “the result is a single electropherogram with verifiable accuracy that shows the specific DNA sequences of the multiple pathogens or mutations in the sample”, and he further noted that “when compared with current methods, each of the panels offer greater convenience in sample collection, and significantly enhanced clinical utility”.

“The investigation of infectious disease is changing rapidly from a pathogen based approach to a ‘*Syndrome Based*’ approach, giving the physician more comprehensive information for better clinical care”, observed Dr. Roger Hodgkinson, Director of Clinical Affairs. He further commented that “the use of a single collection swab saves time for the physician with sample collection, and simplifies logistics for the office staff”.

MultiGEN’s technology also routinely detects certain important mutations that can easily be missed with the more expensive and time consuming gene chip techniques. MultiGEN technology produces a verifiable read out of a specific DNA sequence, which can be confirmed independently by comparison with published DNA sequences, if need be. “These superior performance characteristics give me a much higher level of confidence when reporting results”, noted Dr. Joseph Voland, Medical Director.

MultiGEN’s sequence-based technology has an **unmatched combination of accuracy, speed, and convenience**, without requiring expensive investment in multiple, dedicated purpose, laboratory instruments. It offers physicians not only more useful and cost-effective information, but also results with verifiable accuracy – an important unique feature of MultiGEN technology that is unavailable with any other platform in molecular diagnostics.

-30-

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