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Press Release

BlueGnome launches 24sure™ microarray for single cell aneuploidy screening

UK based service paves the way for a full product launch of 24sure™ microarray platform

BlueGnome announced today that it has developed a new microarray platform for the investigation of aneuploidy in single cell applications. The new platform, christened 24sure™, is available immediately as a UK based service with a full product launch scheduled in 2009.

24sure uses a combination of advanced microarray technology and sophisticated mathematics to count the number of chromosomes in a single human cell. With the exception of the gametes all human cells contain 23 pairs of chromosomes. Abnormal cells, termed aneuploid, may however contain more, or less, than the expected 46 chromosomes. Accurate characterization of aneuploid cells has important implications in a wide range of research and medical investigations; from IVF to oncology. Existing approaches include fluorescent in-situ hybridization (FISH) which is limited to a small subset of chromosomes, and metaphase CGH which is time consuming and manually intensive. 24sure overcomes these limitations by providing an objective report of the number of copies of each chromosome in a single cell within 24 hours.

Nick Haan, CEO of BlueGnome, commented, "24sure is a revolutionary technology for the testing of single cells. Allowing investigators to rapidly screen all 24 chromosomes will transform existing single cell applications, and will also open up entirely new application and research areas."

The 24sure technology is initially available via a commercial service, in order to enable organizations to evaluate its potential without investing in expensive microarray infrastructure.

24sure technology is available for research use only. For more information e-mail info@cytochip.com.

About BlueGnome

BlueGnome (www.cytochip.com) is a specialist developer of microarrays, consumables, software and FISH probes to improve the speed and resolution of cytogenetic investigations.

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