



BlueGnome Ltd, Breaks House, Mill Court, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB2 5LD, UK
tel: +44 (0) 1223 844441 fax: +44 (0) 1223 844445 www.cambridgebluegnome.com

Press Release

MGZ Munich completes validation of higher resolution v2 CytoChip

BlueGnome optimizes BlueFuse version 3.5 for use in clinical applications.

The Medizinisch Genetisches Zentrum in Munich, one of Germany's leading clinical laboratories, announced today that it has completed the validation of BlueGnome's recently released version 2.0 CytoChip.

The CytoChip is used in over 14 countries to investigate patients presenting with constitutional genetic disorders. At just over half megabase resolution the v2 CytoChip offers a 50% increase over v1.1, with the majority of extra resolution focused on clinically important sub-telomeric regions.

The v2 CytoChip is supported by a new release of BlueGnome's arrayCGH analysis software, BlueFuse for Microarrays, which has been optimized for use with the CytoChip. Dr Nick Haan CEO of BlueGnome, explained, "As an open platform BlueFuse is required to make general assumptions about the microarray being analysed. However with the v2 CytoChip we took the opportunity to co-develop the content and layout of the chip with a new set of algorithms tailored for diagnostic applications."

Dr Udo Koehler, Head of Cytogenetics, MGZ Munich, confirmed, "We have investigated over 200 patients using the v1.1 CytoChip and found it a very robust platform for clinical diagnostics. The combination of the new v2 CytoChips and BlueFuse algorithms will enable us to further enhance our service because, in contrast to conventional wisdom, we are able to increase the resolution of our investigations, while keeping interpretation simple and detection of polymorphisms to a minimum."

The CytoChip is available worldwide, including the United States, for more information see www.cytochip.com.

About BlueGnome

BlueGnome (www.cambridgebluegnome.com) is a specialist developer of software and consumables for the clinical application of arrayCGH. BlueGnome's CytoChip, a high quality BAC microarray, has been developed in collaboration with leading laboratories of the UK NHS to support the investigation of 90 known genetic conditions, telomeres and screening of the genome at median 0.565Mb resolution in a single, dye swap experiment.

For further information please contact: BlueGnome Ltd, Mill Court, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB2 5LD, UK

T +44 1223 844441 F +44 1223 844445 info@cytochip.com

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