

Ocimum Launches Special Tuberculosis Day Awareness Campaign

Hyderabad, India, March 25, 2009: As a part of the Tuberculosis Day awareness campaign, Ocimum Biosolutions launched a special campaign to spearhead the use of its tuberculosis typing kits. According to WHO, one-third of the world's population is currently infected with the TB bacillus. Moreover, 5-10% of people who are infected with TB bacilli (but who are not infected with HIV) become sick or infectious at some time during their life.

Ocimum Biosolutions offers a kit that can be simultaneously used for detection as well as typing of the *M. tuberculosis* complex. This is a PCR-based method, which depends on the amplification of a highly polymorphic Direct Repeat (DR) locus in *M. tuberculosis* genome. This technique is highly useful for clinical samples as it can detect the causative bacteria and is capable of providing epidemiological information on strain identities. This technique has high specificity and sensitivity with clinical samples. This kit contains one membrane, positive control 1 (*M. tuberculosis* strain H37Rv), positive control 2 (*M. bovis* BCG P3), Primer DRa (biotinylated) and Primer Drb.

As a part of Tuberculosis Day awareness drive, Ocimum Biosolutions calls for collaborations with researchers, scientists and organizations working to combat the global challenges in tuberculosis.

For further information, contact us at europa@ocimumbio.com.

About Ocimum Biosolutions

Ocimum Biosolutions is a leading integrated genomics company providing comprehensive genomic reference databases, life science lab information management solutions, GLP-compliant microarray services and essential research consumables. Over 2/3rd of the top 25 pharma companies, leading research institutes and emerging biotech companies worldwide have chosen us as their preferred outsourcing partner and utilize our expertise for understanding underlying mechanisms of diseases, discovery and prioritization of gene targets and biomarkers.

We are a preferred outsourcing partner for providing integrated biorepository and genomic services for several global pharmaceutical companies. Our global infrastructure, standardized procedures, capacity, expertise and highly skilled staff support drug development programs from pre-clinical target development and toxicogenomic assessment to clinical biomarker identification and patient stratification. In creating the world's largest commercial gene expression databases – BioExpress® and ToxExpress®, we have developed expertise and capabilities that are unparalleled in the genomic services industry. Our specialty LIMS solution, Biotracker™ caters to the growing needs of core labs in global companies and research centers involved in Life Science Research.

We provide multiple GLP-compliant platforms for gene expression and SNP genotyping data generation. We also provide full biorepository and genomic services support for the Genetic Alliance, which is an umbrella organization representing ~600 genetic advocacy groups. Besides providing the physical infrastructure for storing thousands of biological samples, we provide services to assist sample accrual, IRB approvals, CRO training, sample collection, clinical data capture and management.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ocimumbio.com>

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