

GenDx to develop NGS-Turbo® following agreement with Oxford Nanopore Technologies

NGS-Turbo® is a novel rapid high-resolution HLA typing kit aimed at improving transplant outcomes

UTRECHT, September 13 2022

GenDx today announces that it has signed a non-exclusive service agreement with Oxford Nanopore Technologies (Oxford Nanopore), to bring its new NGS-Turbo® product to the transplant market for high-resolution HLA typing with a turnaround time of less than four hours, enabling improved matching of solid organs in situations where time is a critical factor.

Organ transplantation requires a solid donor organ to be matched to a recipient. Due to time constraints, HLA typing of solid organs such as kidneys is typically restricted to low-resolution results. Nanopore technology allows for high-resolution sequencing in a time period that is suitable for critical organ transplantations. The agreement between GenDx and Oxford Nanopore lifts the 48-hour data processing restriction for commercial software, allowing NGS-Turbo® users to deliver high-resolution HLA typing results to the clinic within four hours after receiving the sample. This contributes to better organ matching and facilitates a better transplantation outcome.

“We are happy that we were able to come to an agreement with Oxford Nanopore. By combining our expertise as a world leader in sequencing-based HLA typing with the sequencing knowledge of Oxford Nanopore, we are convinced that we will be able to bring products to the organ transplantation field that allow better HLA typing, enabling better matching and improved outcome of transplantation” said Wietse Mulder PhD, CEO of GenDx.

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About NGS-Turbo®

NGS-Turbo® is one of the latest developments by GenDx. An early access program will start later this year. It consists of a fast amplification of all 11 HLA loci using a whole-gene approach with NGS-Turbo® Amp. After the subsequent extremely quick library preparation NGS-Turbo® Prep, a sample can be sequenced on Oxford Nanopore sequencers and the data can be directly analyzed and typed with NGSengine®. NGS-Turbo is an expansion of GenDx’ current high-resolution HLA typing portfolio.

About Oxford Nanopore Technologies

Oxford Nanopore Technologies’ goal is to bring the widest benefits to society through enabling the analysis of anything, by anyone, anywhere. The company has developed a new generation of nanopore-based sensing technology for real-time, high-performance, accessible and scalable analysis of DNA and RNA. The technology is used in more than 120 countries to understand the biology of humans and diseases such as cancer, plants, animals, bacteria, viruses and whole environments. Oxford Nanopore Technologies products are intended for molecular biology applications and are not intended for diagnostic purposes.

About GenDx

Genome Diagnostics B.V., also known as GenDx, is a Dutch company specialized in molecular diagnostics, focused on development, production and sales of innovative assays and analysis software for transplantation and companion diagnostics. To support GenDx’s USA customers it has an office near O’Hare airport, Chicago, IL.

GenDx specializes in HLA sequencing-based typing strategies and offers reagents and software for both Sanger and NGS approaches. As one of the pioneering companies in the HLA field with Sanger approaches, GenDx started offering NGS strategies in 2013, consisting of NGSgo[®] reagents and the software package NGSengine[®] for various NGS platforms. Additionally, GenDx offers products for chimerism monitoring by qPCR and - launched recently - by NGS: NGStrack[®] & TRKengine[®]. Thanks to its extensive in-house expertise, GenDx also offers custom laboratory services for basic and clinical research organizations. GenDx Education organizes dedicated HLA sequence-based typing and chimerism monitoring training courses worldwide on a regular basis for anyone working in tissue typing or research laboratories, blood banks, and donor registries.

GenDx is based at the Utrecht Science Park (USP), the Netherlands and was founded in 2005 by Erik Rozemuller PhD, Wietse Mulder PhD as a spin-off of UMC Utrecht and funded by a 2002 allocated Biopartner First Stage Grant. In 2019, Ampersand Capital Partners obtained a minority share in the company. In August 2022, Eurobio Scientific S.A., a French based company in Paris, announced that they will acquire all shares from GenDx and stated that GenDx will continue all activities in both headquarter office in Utrecht and subsidiary office in Chicago, IL, USA

Forward-looking statements

This announcement contains certain forward-looking statements. Phrases such as "potential", "expect", "intend", "believe we can", "working to", "anticipate", "when validated", and similar expressions of a future or forward-looking nature should also be considered forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements address our expected future business, and by definition address matters that are, to different degrees, uncertain and may involve factors beyond our control.

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