

Torino University licensed cfDNA assay to monitor organ rejection in lung transplants to GenDx, a Dutch transplant diagnostics company

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GenDx has obtained a worldwide license from Università degli Studi di Torino (UNITO) for their method to detect donor specific cell free DNA (cfDNA) in patients that have undergone a lung transplant.

To monitor graft survival, patients typically need bronchoscopy or lung biopsies that are invasive, require anaesthesia and are risky. Moreover, these methods suffer from interobserver variability and are expensive. Researchers at UNITO developed a method that instead requires only a blood sample to monitor transplant rejection. The method comprises a sensitive digital droplet PCR assessment of the cfDNA donor fraction and is superior to biopsies in terms of costs, turnaround time and level of sensitivity. The assay, although developed for lung transplant patients, opens a door for broader solid organ transplants as it supports a pan-organ strategy.

This UNITO license broadens the licence agreement that was obtained earlier from Medical College Wisconsin for its method to detect cfDNA in paediatric patients that have undergone a heart transplant.

“Combining the knowledge of both UNITO on cfDNA and GenDx on DNA typing by NGS and real-time PCR in a transplant setting, offers an enormous potential to develop products which can predict early the potential rejection of transplanted organs. We are excited to collaborate with UNITO enabling new options for accurate transplant monitoring,” said Wietse Mulder PhD, CEO of GenDx.

Statement UNITO, said: “We are glad to start this new collaboration with GenDx and excited to see that a research idea from our group can move forward and hopefully become a kit. Our goal now is to go on with the necessary steps to optimize our method to fit it in a box and validate it in larger cohorts of patients, working in close collaboration with a company that is a leader in the field of molecular diagnostics for transplantation.”

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About Cell free DNA

Donor derived cfDNA refers to all non-encapsulated DNA fragments that enter the bloodstream; this mostly happens during apoptosis or necrosis. Analysis of cell free DNA (cfDNA) after solid organ transplantation has been shown to accurately identify and characterize allograft injury and correlate with pathologic findings (e.g. organ rejection).

About the UNITO

The University of Torino (UniTo) in north-west Italy is one of the country's largest and most prestigious universities. Founded in 1404, UniTo provides quality higher education and research

opportunities; many UniTo graduates have achieved international renown. Today, the University of Torino offers over 150 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in almost every field of study. A growing number of programs are taught in English, and Italian language tuition is available for incoming students. The University's 27 departments offer excellent opportunities for Italian and non-Italian academic staff; doctoral school provides more than 30 doctoral programs. International and local funding programs, both public and private, support the university's commitment to innovation and research. UniTo is extremely aware of its role in the local community, promotes knowledge transfer to industry through patent licensing and spin-offs, and engages publicly with science, respecting economic, social and environmental sustainability. More than 600 agreements with other universities all over the world enhance UniTo's international dimension.

About GenDx, a Eurobio Scientific Company

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 (sanger and NGS) HLA sequencing-based typing strategies and offers both reagents and software. As one of the sequencing pioneering companies in the HLA field, 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, the Netherlands and was founded in 2005 by Erik Rozemuller PhD, Wietse Mulder PhD. In October 2022, Eurobio Scientific acquired all shares of GenDx. For further information about GenDx visit www.GenDx.com.

About Eurobio Scientific

Eurobio Scientific is a key player in the field of specialty in vitro diagnostics. It is involved from research to manufacturing and commercialization of diagnostic tests in the fields of transplantation, immunology and infectious diseases, and sells instruments and products for research laboratories, including biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. Through many partnerships and a strong presence in hospitals, Eurobio Scientific has established its own distribution network and a portfolio of proprietary products in the molecular biology field. The Group has approximately 148 employees and three production units based in France, in the Paris region, in Germany and in the United States, and several affiliates based in Dorking UK, Sissach Switzerland, Bünde Germany and Utrecht in The Netherlands. Eurobio Scientific's reference shareholder is the EurobioNext holding company which brings together its two directors, Jean-Michel Carle and Denis Fortier, alongside the "Pépites et Territoires" by AXA & NextStage AM investment program, managed by NextStage AM. For more information, please visit : www.eurobio-scientific.com The company is publicly listed on the Euronext Growth market in

Paris Euronext Growth BPI Innovation, PEA-PME 150 and Next Biotech indices, Euronext European Rising Tech label. Symbol: ALERS - ISIN Code: FR0013240934 - Reuters: ALERS.PA - Bloomberg: ALERS:FP

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