

MICROBIO PREPARES FOR FIRST DELIVERIES IN INDIA

Brisbane, Australia, 8 December 2021: Australian biotech company Microbio has appointed a distributor in India for its range of COVID-19 tests.

The appointment of Indian firm, BioGTech, follows the approval of Microbio's COVID-19 tests by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and validation testing by Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB). The first deliveries to India are expected to be made in coming weeks.

Microbio's two tests, InfectID-COVID-19-Detection and InfectID-COVID-19-Replicating, have been developed in Brisbane and are currently manufactured in Canada. The tests have undergone testing in Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States and Italy, in addition to the testing conducted by RGCB.

Microbio CEO Paul Carboon said validation testing was completed at the RGCB during 2021 and both the InfectID-COVID-19 Detection and Replicating tests have received ICMR clearance for immediate use.

"Clearance by the ICMR means that our tests are now available to Indian health professionals and we can ramp up supply to meet a growing demand."

Microbio's InfectID-COVID-19 tests have been designed to specifically target unchanging regions of the SARS-CoV-2 genome. This means they remain effective on variants, including the recently identified Omicron variant.

The InfectID-COVID-19 Replication test overcomes one of the biggest limitations of the current PCR-based tests - the inability to detect the virus early in an infection before large amounts of virus is present. InfectID-COVID-19-Replicating has been designed to detect genetic material present in large quantities when the virus is actively copying itself.

Microbio has the immediate capacity to deliver 500,000 tests a week from its manufacturing facility in Canada.

For more information, visit microbio.com.au/about

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About Microbio

Microbio is an Australian biotechnology company based in Brisbane. The team at Microbio has brought together the latest advances in bioinformatics, genomics and molecular microbiology to develop a unique and revolutionary pathogen detection test. The Microbio team is working tirelessly to deliver their game-changing new test to the millions of patients who will benefit from better pathogen diagnosis. Microbio is actively seeking partners worldwide, especially in population health and virology, who will integrate this new information into their proactive regional and corporate testing protocols. Additionally, Microbio is looking to work with pathology laboratory partners who can help deliver these highly specific results faster and to remote locations to improve health, regardless of a patient's location.

About InfectID®

InfectID® is a diagnostic technology that detects and identifies bacterial, fungal, and viral targets. The test targets Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs), the pathogen's DNA 'fingerprint', found at a specific point in each pathogen's genetic code. By focusing on SNPs rather than the whole genome, the process is fast, inexpensive, highly sensitive and can be adapted to target different pathogens. The technology was refined and became the foundation of Microbio's core InfectID®-Blood Stream Infection (which is currently in development) InfectID®-Blood Stream Infection uses real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) to identify Sepsis-causing pathogen species directly from whole blood without the need for pre-culture. Because the technology is suitable for detecting viruses, the company pivoted in 2020 to develop SARS-CoV-2 detection tests.

Microbio Founders

Dr Flavia Huygens | Executive Director, Founder and Chief Scientific Officer

Flavia's 30-year teaching and research career has focused on molecular microbiology, with a particular focus on human pathogens. Flavia's expertise and exceptional ability to bring together emerging technology in molecular microbiology, genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics have culminated in the creation of InfectID.

Paul Carboon | Executive Director, Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Paul has 25 years of commercialisation experience. In the technology sector, Paul brings deep understanding of commercial and product management as well as product development. Paul is a leader in biotechnology innovation. He currently serves on the AusMedtech national advisory group and is a founding adviser with the BridgeTech Program. Paul is also an Honorary Fellow of Biotechnology at Melbourne University and has been a judge for the prestigious Eureka awards.