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INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF MICROBIO BLOODSTREAM INFECTION (BSI) ASSESSMENT TEST EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN MAY

Queensland biotechnology company Microbio expects clinical evaluation trials of its InfectID-BSI tests to be completed next month, prior to launching in the European market.

US based Landrich Group is managing the trials at four locations in the USA, South America, India and Australia, undertaking a performance evaluation of Microbio InfectID assays.

The Landrich Group is a full-service Contract Research Organisation (CRO) dedicated to the conduct of clinical trials of cutting-edge biotechnology development.

Landrich Group CEO Tina Landess said the company was delighted to be involved at this critical stage of Microbio's Design and Development Plan.

"We are excited to participate in the innovative approach of Microbio to upgrade the blood culture methodology when treating patients suspected of blood infection," Ms Landess said.

The study is designed to determine the efficacy of the Microbio InfectID-BSI bacterial and yeast detection assay in a clinical laboratory environment using remnant samples as well as contrived samples for pathogen detection and identification versus the gold standard assay of blood culture.

One of the prominent clinicians selected by the Landrich Group to conduct the trials is Professor Alan Wu from the University of California San Francisco, who is chief of the clinical chemistry and toxicology laboratories at San Francisco General Hospital.

Ms Landess said the UCSF is an experienced investigational site that has conducted nearly a dozen studies with the Landrich Group. Professor Wu's team is expected to complete its work to meet the May deadline.

Microbio CEO Dr Flavia Huygens said that Microbio was confident to submit its InfectID-BSI tests to such rigorous assessment by scientists of the calibre of Professor Wu and was delighted that the Landrich Group had agreed to manage the clinical evaluation.

"We are excited by the results our own trials have provided and we are looking forward to receiving independent validation from the experts assembled by Landrich Group," Dr Huygens said.

The current 'gold standard' method to identify the causative pathogen is a slow, two-step blood culturing and identification process that takes between 12 hours and several days and has limited sensitivity.

Microbio's InfectID-BSI provides the potential for early BSI/sepsis diagnosis and therefore earlier use of optimal antimicrobials, which is likely to reduce the length of hospital stays and healthcare costs. The diagnostic test identifies 26 common BSI/sepsis-causing pathogens, using Real-Time Polymerase Chain

Reaction (RT-PCR) instruments, which are open hardware platforms used in pathology labs around the world.

Bloodstream infection (BSI) and sepsis result in 11 million deaths annually, killing more people than all forms of cancer. InfectID-BSI is an in vitro diagnostic test which significantly improves patient outcomes by telling clinicians within three hours of taking a blood sample which infection to treat.

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About Microbio

Microbio is an Australian scale-up 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 flagship product: InfectID-Bloodstream Infection. InfectID-BSI uses real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (qPCR) to identify sepsis-causing pathogen species directly from blood without the need for pre-culture.

Microbio Founders

Paul Carboon | Executive Director, Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Paul has 30 years of commercialisation experience. In the

technology sector, Paul brings deep understanding of commercial and product management as well as product development and been an executive for over 10 years. Paul has PMBOK in Project Management, GAICD, and has completed CEO Master Classis and is a leader in biotechnology innovation. He currently serves on the AusMedtech national advisory group and. Paul is also an Honorary Fellow of Biotechnology at Melbourne University.

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.