

DIATHERIX Laboratories Introduces Gastrointestinal Test Panel

Test provides rapid, accurate diagnosis of C. Diff and other GI infections

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., March 29 /PRNewswire/ -- DIATHERIX Laboratories (<http://www.diatherix.com/>) adds a gastrointestinal (GI) panel to its lineup of highly sensitive, rapid response diagnostic tests. In a single result, the DIATHERIX GI panel can detect and differentiate nine types of GI infections so physicians can quickly identify patients who have severe, life-threatening infections. By providing physicians with accurate test results in one day, patients can be more effectively treated through targeted therapeutics which reduces overall medical costs and a patient's down time.

"The DIATHERIX gastrointestinal test panel represents a major breakthrough in the diagnosis of infectious bacterial diarrhea and the identification of *C. difficile* and the toxin B gene," said Don Lazas, M.D., a gastroenterologist with Associates in Gastroenterology in Nashville, Tenn. "Current stool culture based testing for these types of GI infections typically require long turn around times and often yield poor results, especially if a patient has been prescribed prior antibiotic therapy. In a single specimen, the DIATHERIX test provides highly-accurate, same-day diagnosis of all common causes of infectious bacterial diarrhea. It can also identify pathogens even in the presence of antibiotics."

"The GI infection *C. difficile* is becoming more of a hospital threat than MRSA, and since hospitals are currently limited in their testing methods, this is the ideal time to introduce our new panel," said Dennis Grimaud, Chairman and CEO of DIATHERIX, Inc.

The nine bacterial pathogens targeted in the GI panel include *Clostridium difficile*; *Clostridium difficile* toxin B gene; *Campylobacter jejuni*; *Escherichia coli* strain 0157; *Listeria monocytogenes*; *Salmonella enterica*; *Staphylococcus aureus*; *Vibrio cholerae*; and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*.

The GI panel is DIATHERIX's sixth standard testing panel. Other panels include tests for infectious disease; Staphylococcus differentiation; respiratory infections; human papillomavirus typing and viral respiratory. All six panels use the company's proprietary technology, which is target enriched multiplex polymerase chain reaction (Tem-PCR). Tem-PCR is the first diagnostic tool introduced to the clinical market that can identify multiple pathogens, detect co-infections and determine genetic drug resistance in a single result.

DIATHERIX Laboratories, Inc. is located in the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in Huntsville, Ala. DIATHERIX operates as an independent high complexity CLIA-certified clinical laboratory providing advanced multiplex molecular diagnostic services to assist healthcare providers in the detection of infectious disease. For more information, please visit the company's web site at <http://www.diatherix.com/>.