

Company Profile

Industry Sector: Molecular Diagnostics

Company Overview: Investigen, Inc. is part of the revolution in point of care (POC) nucleic acid detection by developing a proprietary smartDNA™ Molecular Diagnostic platform. While smartDNA can be used in laboratories, its simplicity should make it uniquely able to serve in diagnostic tests that can be used away from a central lab (in peripheral labs, at the POC or at the point of sample collection (POS)).

Target Market(s):

TB – developing world
Rapid isothermal NA diagnostics

smartDNA 1 minute, RT,
isothermal, visual



Key Value Drivers

Technology: Investigen's smartDNA is a simple, rapid, novel colorimetric NA detection technology. smartDNA is performed rapidly at room temperature and uses inexpensive, stable reagents. Investigen has discovered that a subset of cyanine-based dyes undergo a light-dependent chemical reaction when they bind to a PNA-NA hybrid. Under the correct conditions, this dye-PNA-NA complex becomes an artificial catalytic site that causes the conversion of the dye to a colorless form and ultimately renders the solution colorless. A prototype assay and for detection of TB have been developed.

Competitive Advantage:

- No temperature control
- No enzyme
- No expensive equipment
- Rapid, Easy
- Stable reagents

Plan & Strategy: Seeking a licensing partner.

Management

Leadership:

Heather Koshinsky, CEO-Co Founder
Didier Perez, CFO & Bus. Dev.
Bill Rutter, COB, co founder of Chiron
Mickey Urdea, SAB, cofounder of Tethys

Scientific Advisory Board:

ASSAY CHEMISTRY (1) Bruce Armitage, Carnegie Mellon (2) Peter Nielsen, U. Copenhagen, (3) Jerzy Paczkowski, Bydgoszcz Univ., Poland
BIOINFORMATICS (1) Yuriy Fofanov, UniveHouston, (2) Catherine Putonti, Loyola Univ. Chicago
ENGINEERING, Alex Izmailov, ASC, Canada TB (1) Abdulrahman A. Alrajhi, King Feisal Hospital, Saudi Arabia, (2) Niaz Banaiee, Stanford (3) EllenJo Baron, Stanford (4) Budiman Bela, Univ Indonesia, Jakarta (5) Cynthia Daniel, Cbanatuan City, Philippines, (6) Omoniyi Fadare, Nigeria National TB & Leprosy Control Program, (7) Philip Hopewell, UCSF, (8) Midori Kato-Maeda UCSF, (9) Laurence Huang, UCSF & Mulago Hospital, Uganda, (10) John Peabody, IGH, (11) Nadia Wiweko

Product Pipeline

BUSINESS

- ✓ Q4 2007 – Identify licensing partner
- Q2 2008 – Negotiate first license
- ✓ Q2 2008 – Identify second license partner
- Q3 2008 – Negotiate second license

SCIENCE

- ✓ Q1 2008 – Prototype instrument
- ✓ Q2 2008 – Improve LOD
- ✓ Q2 2008 – Publish first paper
- Q3 2008 – Develop second assay
- Q1 2009 – Prototype of POC instrument (LabTop)