



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OGT'S MIRNA PROFILING SERVICE PROVIDES RAPID ANSWERS FOR DISEASE RESEARCH

Oxford, UK - May 13, 2008 - Oxford Gene Technology (OGT), the pioneer of microarray-based technologies, is pleased to announce the launch of a new microRNA (miRNA) profiling service designed to help researchers accelerate their discoveries. The flexible and cost-effective service offers high quality, customisable microarrays with the most up-to-date miRNA probe sequences, providing data from samples in just a few days.

In developing this service, OGT has co-funded the design of novel miRNA microarrays with the MolPAGE project (Molecular Phenotyping to Accelerate Genomic Epidemiology), a pan European consortium co-ordinated by Oxford University that focuses on diabetes and vascular disease. MicroRNAs are thought to be influential in the onset of diabetes and there is growing interest in their regulation of processes such as glucose homeostasis, insulin secretion and adipocyte differentiation. This new microarray will be used to measure the expression levels of mature miRNA and miRNA star sequences (miRNA*) in biomarker discovery samples.

Dr Mike Evans, Chief Executive at OGT said: "OGT aims to be at the forefront of emerging technology and welcomes the opportunity to network with leading scientists in Europe. Our multi-array methodology allows for up to sixteen samples to be tested per slide, and has been optimised for high specificity, reproducibility, and low inter-array variability. The arrays are suitable for diverse studies in several eukaryotic species."

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About Oxford Gene Technology

- Founded in 1995 by the pioneer of Southern Blotting, Professor Sir Edwin Southern, OGT is based at Begbroke Science Park near Oxford
- OGT offers a comprehensive custom microarray consultancy service, from experimental design through all stages to data analysis and interpretation. It has a strong proven track record in providing custom microarray service in a range of applications including Gene Expression (GE), Comparative Genome Hybridisation (CGH) and Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP)

The key focus areas of OGT include:

1. **Cytogenetics products and services** for high resolution detection of chromosomal abnormalities. [CytoSure™ arrays](#) are the first oligonucleotide microarrays designed exclusively for the cytogenetics research community to achieve accurate, high resolution analysis of chromosome copy number and structural changes
[CytoSure Syndrome Plus array](#) is a 105k feature syndrome focussed array covering the whole genome and [CytoSure Chromosome X exon specific array](#) is a 44k feature array covering the X chromosome. All products include complimentary [visualisation software](#). In addition, OGT offers a rapid design service providing focussed custom arrays through access to OGT's unique oligonucleotide probe database, the [Oligome™](#)
2. **Licensing.** OGT operates an open licensing policy which has successfully provided access for a number of companies to OGT's fundamental intellectual property, particularly in the area of microarrays
3. **Digital microarrays/ Single Cell analysis.** OGT's innovative, patent-protected technology development programme is aimed at analysing genomic events at the single cell level for major applications such as stem cell and cancer biology

For further information on OGT visit <http://www.ogt.co.uk/>

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