

BIOPHARMICA LIMITED

Bridging Biotechnology Borders

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“BioPharmica Prototype and Pilot Test”

Development of the DAS biotechnology has advanced to prototype and pilot testing indicating a significant milestone for the company.

The biotechnology is being developed with Dr Fry and Dr Nawagamuwa from Diagnostic Array Systems Pty Ltd (DAS) to diagnose infectious diseases in a patient's sample using the DNA of bacteria.

Dr Fry said, “we have now completed laboratory work showing a capability to enable faster and much more effective diagnosis of diseases caused by bacteria. We are now ready to complete the product prototype and commence pilot testing with pathology laboratories”.

“Current methods of diagnosing a patient with a disease caused by bacteria are notoriously unreliable. Pathology laboratories have great difficulties in identifying bacterial pathogens for Doctors and therefore the most effective treatment cannot be prescribed”.

“Our aim is to improve the treatment of patients with infectious diseases by providing pathology laboratories and hospitals with effective diagnostic tools that incorporate our DAS biotechnology”.

DAS intends to commence prototype and pilot testing once funding and laboratory agreements have been finalised over the next few weeks and program scale is determined.

The first product release of the DAS biotechnology will be a diagnostic test for lung disease, a leading cause of death.

It is not anticipated that either FDA approval in the United States or TGA registration in Australia will be required for the DAS lung disease diagnostic, providing the opportunity for an expediated entry into the market.

Upon completion of prototype and pilot testing the company intends to fine tune the product and commercialise through licensing, direct sales or distributorships.

The DAS biotechnology is targeted towards solving critical deficiencies in the diagnosis of human diseases caused by bacteria. Current diagnostic methods limit the ability of pathology laboratories to provide doctors with timely and clinically relevant information. Products are being developed as diagnostic tools to detect bacteria by its DNA rather than by growing culture, therefore results are far more accurate and reliable and can be provided in hours rather than days or weeks.

BioPharmica Managing Director David Breeze said, “The prototype and pilot test will provide feedback of the product in commercial settings, thus the development of the DAS biotechnology has advanced to a very critical stage”.

“Antibiotic resistance and the limitations of current methods are impacting heavily on patient treatment and costs to the health system. Dr Fry and Dr Nawagamuwa should be commended on their research into the genetic structure of bacteria as their discovery has the potential to dramatically improve the diagnosis and treatment of people with infectious diseases.”

“Although diagnosing lung diseases is the first application, the product range can potentially be expanded quite quickly to a wide range of infectious diseases,” said Mr Breeze.

David Breeze

Managing Director
BioPharmica Ltd

BioPharmica is a biomedical commercialisation business partnering with universities, medical institutes and hospitals. Existing product development is targeted at the billion dollar markets for the detection and treatment of breast, prostate and colorectal cancers and the effective diagnosis of infectious diseases caused by bacteria.

The Company is working with the University of Western Australia and Professor Peter Klinken from the Laboratory for Cancer Medicine at the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research. The Institute combines the Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Fremantle Hospital and the University of Western Australia.

BioPharmica is also partnered with Dr Benjamin Fry and Dr Viraj Nawagamuwa who are both world leaders in the genetic structure of bacteria. Products are being developed to identify which specific bacterium is causing an infectious disease (such as pneumonia or legionnaires disease) by using the genetic structure (DNA) of bacteria. In using bacterial DNA the testing process can be faster and much more accurate. Treatment is then more effective as drugs are prescribed sooner and for the specific bacterium causing the disease.