Press Release

OncoMethylome Announces Positive Research Results on its Urine Test for Prostate Cancer

Liege (Belgium) – April 20, 2007, 8:00am CET – OncoMethylome Sciences (Euronext: ONCO) announced today that its prototype urine-based test for prostate cancer detects cancers commonly missed by current screening guidelines. OncoMethylome, together with Veridex LLC, presented the data this week at the annual AACR meeting in Los Angeles.

Approximately 15% of prostate cancers occur in men who are commonly not examined for prostate cancer because their PSA levels fall within the normal range of 0- 4.0ng/mL. Published studies indicate that 10% of men with a low PSA level (2.5-4.0 ng/mL) have prostate cancer. Veridex is developing a urine test, which was licensed from OncoMethylome in December 2006, to help identify men in this group who are likely to have prostate cancer.

Veridex examined urine from 255 men enrolled in a multi-center clinical trial, of which 52 had a PSA in the range of 2.5 – 4ng/mL, which, under current screening guidelines, is still considered within the normal range. In this challenging patient group, the prototype test demonstrated a sensitivity of 58% and a specificity of 88% in urine samples. This data demonstrates that the test has the potential to detect cancers missed by the current screening process. Based on these findings, Veridex is planning to carry out prospective clinical validation trials.

“In light of these preliminary findings of the methylation-based assay, which will undergo further optimization by Veridex, we would expect this test to detect a significant proportion of prostate cancers that currently go undiagnosed” stated Herman Spolders, CEO of OncoMethylome Sciences.

The AACR meeting is the world's largest annual meeting of oncology research professionals.

About Prostate Cancer Screening
Prostate cancer, the second leading cause of cancer-related death in men, is curable if caught early. Although screening of men beginning at age 50 (>75 million men in the US and Europe) with the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test and the Digital Rectal Exam (DRE) has led to earlier diagnosis in many, the usefulness of these tests has been called into question by many healthcare professionals who are concerned about the accuracy of current tests. The PSA test is known to return false positive results up to 75% of the time, while at the same time still missing some cancers in men.

About Methylation
Methylation is a natural control mechanism that regulates gene expression in DNA. Abnormal methylation of certain genes, such as tumor suppressor genes, can silence gene expression and is often associated with cancer development. OncoMethylome owns proprietary technology that is highly sensitive and capable of detecting cancer in early stages of cancer development. In the case of prostate cancer, this technology identifies methylation at genes that have been shown to be associated with prostate cancer.

About OncoMethylome Sciences
OncoMethylome Sciences (Euronext Brussels: ONCOB; Euronext Amsterdam: ONCOA) is a molecular diagnostics company developing patent-protected gene methylation tests to assist physicians in effectively detecting and treating cancer. Specifically, the company's tests are designed to help the physician (i) accurately detect cancer in early stages of cancer development, (ii) predict a patient's response to drug therapy, and (iii) predict the likelihood of cancer recurrence.

OncoMethylome boasts a broad product development pipeline consisting of ten products and a solid partnering record. The company collaborates with leading international molecular oncology research centers, such as The Johns Hopkins University, and has a number of commercial and collaborative partnerships with Veridex LLC, a Johnson & Johnson company, Schering-Plough Corp., Chemicon International Inc., and EXACT Sciences Corp. OncoMethylome's products are based on methylation technology invented by Johns Hopkins University (USA).

Established in January 2003, OncoMethylome has offices in Liege and Leuven (Belgium), in Durham, NC (USA), and in Amsterdam (the Netherlands).

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