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PanoramaTM non-invasive prenatal test offers great benefit to the clinical practice

Natera had joined hands with MedGenome to perform the Panorama non-invasive prenatal test (NIPT) at the latter's genetics laboratory in Bangalore, leveraging Natera's proprietary technology and Constellation- Natera's cloud-based software platform, for clinical genomic analysis.

28 December 2015, 12:17 PM IST

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Newsletter



Bangalore, India (December 24, 2015) - Natera, Inc., (NTRA) had joined hands with MedGenome to perform the Panorama non-invasive prenatal test (NIPT) at the latter's genetics laboratory in Bangalore, leveraging Natera's proprietary

technology and Constellation- Natera's cloud-based software platform, for clinical genomic analysis. MedGenome is the first provider to offer NIPT locally in India and is the first to be PNDT (prenatal diagnostic techniques) certified for NIPT.

Panorama is a safe and simple way for expectant mother to gain certain information about the health of their fetus without an invasive diagnostic procedure, such as Chorionic Villi Sampling (CVS), amniocentesis etc. Panorama uses a simple blood draw from the mother to examine cell-free DNA found in maternal blood originating from both mother and fetus to screen for chromosome abnormalities including trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome), trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome), monosomy X (Turner syndrome), and triploidy. The burden on the families and society is significant. For instance, Down syndrome affects 1.17 in 1000 live births each year accounting to thousands of affected babies in a year. The screening test can be performed as early as nine weeks of gestation and there is no risk to the fetus. In accordance with Indian law, PanoramaTM will not be used to reveal the gender of the fetus.

The Constellation software platform provides cloud-based access to the bioinformatic algorithms that Natera has developed for clinical genomic applications in circulating cell-free DNA. The availability of these algorithms allows partner laboratories around the world to rapidly develop and validate their own clinical genomic assays for current applications such as NIPT and non-invasive prenatal paternity testing and future products in development such as liquid biopsy assays for oncology. The Constellation software platform is developed to meet rigorous patient privacy standards and is highly scalable to accommodate the growing demand for genetic testing around the world.

MedGenome genetics facility underwent a multiple step verification and validation process during the technology transfer. Of the first hundred conventional high-risk samples tested commercially, ninety eight percent were reported to be low risk by PanoramaTM test. Only two percent required confirmatory invasive testing, which is a significant reduction in the number of unwanted invasive procedures. "We are pleased that MedGenome has chosen the Natera Constellation platform to offer NIPT to the large and rapidly-growing market in India," said Matthew Rabinowitz, Ph.D., CEO of Natera. "Constellation is a highly scalable platform that enables non-invasive DNA testing capabilities to laboratories around the world."

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