



Asuragen signs agreement with Biogen Idec to pursue companion diagnostic strategy

Austin, Texas – Date: July 20, 2009 – Asuragen, Inc., a leader in molecular diagnostics and RNA-based pharmacogenomics services, announced today that it has entered into an agreement with Biogen Idec (BIIB:NASDAQ) - a U.S. based Biopharma company - to identify a potential companion diagnostic test that may be used to select patients likely to respond to a Biogen Idec therapeutic candidate in clinical development.

"The integrated drug-diagnostic co-development strategy being pursued by Biogen Idec and Asuragen has enormous potential to help physicians identify patients that will benefit from specific cancer treatments, and will be another step towards delivering on the promise of personalized medicine," said Matt Winkler, CEO of Asuragen. "We look forward to leveraging our long history and broad expertise in biomarker discovery, pharmacogenomic services, and diagnostic development capabilities for this project."

About Asuragen, Inc.

Asuragen is a fully integrated diagnostic reagent company and molecular biology service provider, focused on molecular oncology and genetic diseases, with emphasis on microRNA (miRNA). Asuragen's current diagnostic product portfolio consists of Signature Genetic Testing and Oncology Testing products as well as industry leading controls and standards engineered using its patented Armored RNA technology. Asuragen is empowered with a high level of scientific expertise in assay development along with a well developed business infrastructure, GLP testing services and an established cGMP manufacturing facility that allows it to span the spectrum of discovery, testing, production and commercialization. Asuragen is dedicated to developing new technologies that will become cutting edge clinical products. More information is available at the Company's website: www.asuragen.com

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