



Media Contact
Samson Chen (Dr.) M.D., M.Sc
Director, Sales & Marketing
MP Biomedicals Asia Pacific
2 Pioneer Place Singapore 627885
Fax: +65 6775 4536
e-mail: samson.chen@mpbio.com

MP Biomedicals Introduces World's First Anti-Dengue IgA Rapid Test

DENGUE is the most rapidly spreading vector-borne disease. An estimated 50 million dengue infections occur annually and approximately 2.5 billion people live in dengue endemic countries (WHO 2008). World Health Organization is concerned with the emergence and re-emergence of dengue as a serious public health threat in dengue endemic countries and gave emphasis that the global climate change has resulted in an increase in outbreaks which has far-reaching cross-border and international implications. The geographical spread, incidence and severity of Dengue Fever (DF) and Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) are increasing in South East Asia, Western Pacific and Latin American countries.

Dengue disease is diagnosed by either isolation of the virus, through serology or molecular technique or by detection of high levels of antibodies characteristic of dengue virus infection. Although several commercial dengue diagnostic kits are available, concerns have arisen with respect to the performance characteristics of these kits. Current available dengue diagnostic tools can cover only either antigen or antibody window period which limits the detection of majority of dengue cases at one point of sample collection. In theory, it should be possible to establish a diagnosis of on-going or recent dengue infection during the acute or early convalescent stages of the disease.

ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test

Singapore, July 21, 2009 – MP Biomedicals LLC announced the availability of ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test. This assay is a reverse flow immunochromatographic rapid test for qualitative detection of anti-dengue IgA antibody in human samples (serum, whole blood and plasma) which not only increases the sensitivity of the technique but also make the test useful at the acute phase of infection at any level of health care system (Sil *et al.*, 2007). The test was found to detect more dengue positive cases during acute stage of infection compared to any dengue diagnostic tool available in the market.

MPD ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test is the World's First Anti-Dengue IgA Rapid Test. Its overall sensitivity and specificity is better than other diagnostics tests in the market.

- **MPD ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test** showed high level of detection of dengue positive cases from suspected whole blood samples in comparison with plasma in reference NS1 Ag ELISA and IgM Capture ELISA.
- **MPD ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test** is significantly a better diagnostic test than the IgM / IgG Rapid Test as it is able to detect both primary and secondary infections competently.
- **MPD ASSURE® Dengue IgA Rapid Test** detected more dengue secondary infection compared to Dengue NS1 Ag ELISA and Dengue IgM Capture ELISA.

Please turn over....2

"With our ASSURE Dengue IgA Rapid test, we seek to fill the gap that definitely exists in the current dengue diagnosis. This is a significant step in the dengue diagnostics; more so when you consider the scenario - the dengue treatment is merely supportive, there are no signs of preventive vaccination in the immediate future and not so effective bio-risk reduction. The product has many unique features apart from its IgA detection platform such as the ability to detect right from day one of the illness and to detect more secondary infection cases." Dr. Bijon Kumar Sil, R&D Director, MP Biomedical Asia Pacific and the lead inventor of the product.

Product/ Sales enquiries:

Product and sales enquiries can be made at art.willis@mpbio.com (North America), gilda.sanchez@mpbio.com (Latin America), patrick.lebeau@mpbio.com (EMEA) and Samson.chen@mpbio.com (Asia Pacific)

To find out more about all MP Diagnostic products, plan to visit booth # 4253 at AACC Clinical Lab Expo to be held July 19-23, 2009 at McCormick Place in Chicago or visit the company's website; www.mpbio.com.

About MP Biomedicals LLC

MP Biomedicals is a worldwide corporation, with headquarters in Santa Ana, Calif., and regional offices in Europe, Asia and Australia. The company manufactures and sells more than 55,000 products. One of the only companies in the industry to offer a comprehensive line of life science, fine chemical and diagnostic products, the organization maintains a vast network of global distributors with ISO 13485-certified diagnostic products facilities in Solon, Ohio, Burlingame, Calif. and a distribution center in Strasbourg, France. MP Biomedicals Asia Pacific Pte Ltd is the Asia Pacific Headquarters located in Singapore