



## **AdnaGen<sup>®</sup> signs exclusive agreement with Innogenetics<sup>®</sup> to develop and commercialize new multiplex oncology tests**

**Ghent, Belgium, and Langenhagen, Germany, – October 11, 2007 – 18:00 h – Innogenetics NV and AdnaGen AG announced today that they have entered into an exclusive worldwide license agreement to develop and commercialize new multiplex tests in the field of oncology. The diagnostic tests rely on circulating tumour cells in patients' blood. The exclusive license covers fields such as breast and colon cancer. Innogenetics entered into the agreement following the successful conclusion of a feasibility study to convert the current gel-based AdnaDetect products into a routine *in-vitro* diagnostics multiplex platform.**

Cancer diagnostics is a fast evolving and rapidly growing segment of *in-vitro* diagnostics. After cardiovascular disorders, cancer ranks as the second most deadly condition, affecting over 25 million people worldwide, with more than 10 million new cases diagnosed annually. Approximately 420,000 and 470,000 persons are diagnosed every year with colon and breast cancer, respectively, in the Europe and the US combined. Furthermore, the costs associated with treating cancer puts serious pressures on national healthcare budgets. These data prime the need for improved diagnostics that either provide a diagnosis at an earlier stage or assist in better therapy management.

AdnaGen's circulating tumour cell technology for breast and colon cancer consists of tools aiming at improved cancer prognosis and patient management. The technology is based on the selection of tumour cells from blood followed by detection of tumour-specific markers using molecular diagnostic techniques. The detection of a broad range of tumour markers results in increased test specificity and sensitivity. Since tumour cells circulating in the blood generally have a short half-life, the detection of circulating tumour cells is indicative of active disease. AdnaGen's licensed proprietary technology, combined with Innogenetics' expertise in developing multiplex assays will, for the first time, allow the detection of a broad range of tumour markers from circulating tumour cells present in a single blood sample. This new diagnostic assay could result in better characterization of tumour cells, leading to an improved patient therapy management.

The newly licensed AdnaGen technology can be applied in three distinct cancer diagnostic areas. The first is better prognosis through the identification of circulating tumour cells as a measure of elevated risk of tumour progression. Secondly, the detection of circulating tumour cells provides an indication of the treatment efficacy. Re-occurrence of circulating tumour cells may require prolongation of the treatment or seeking alternative approaches. Finally, the detection of circulating tumour cells months after therapy may indicate that the treated or resected tumour is relapsing.

Last year Innogenetics entered into a feasibility agreement to evaluate and develop alternatives to the current gel-based technique and convert them into other multiplex formats in the *in-vitro* diagnostics industry such as the routinely used LiPA platform, or 4-MAT<sup>™</sup>. The successful conversion of the AdnaGen gel-based technique initially into Innogenetics' LiPA-based multiplex format led to the conclusion of this agreement.

Frank Morich, CEO of Innogenetics, commented: *"The signature of this agreement confirms Innogenetics' interest in new and emerging clinical diagnostic fields such as oncology. We are pleased with the feasibility results and believe that monitoring circulating tumour cells will provide physicians the means for improved cancer therapy. Cancer diagnostics is an evolving field and Innogenetics wants to capture part of this market by offering solutions for improved patient management, based on our multiplex capabilities and expertise."*

Winfried Albert, Managing Director of AdnaGen, remarked: *"This agreement offers the possibility to advance the detection and analysis of multiple molecular markers, including new therapeutic targets, in circulating tumour cells. We are very pleased with Innogenetics' commitment to develop further AdnaGen tests on a routine multiplex platform. Innogenetics has already proven its competence in developing novel molecular diagnostics systems. AdnaGen's proprietary technology paired with Innogenetics' experience in systems development will ensure a successful entry into the routine tumour diagnostics market."*



### **About AdnaGen**

AdnaGen, founded in 1999, is a privately held biotechnology research and development company based in Langenhagen, Germany. As of 2005 OncoVista Inc. USA, an oncology drug development company is the majority owner of AdnaGen. AdnaGen focuses on the development of innovative tumour diagnostics by utilizing its proprietary technology for the detection and analysis of rare cells. Kits for metastatic breast and colon cancer are CE-marked and currently marketed by Innogenetics in Europe. AdnaGen is DIN EN ISO 9001:2000 and DIN EN ISO 13485:2003 certified. For more information, go to [www.adnagen.com](http://www.adnagen.com).

### **About Innogenetics**

Innogenetics NV is an international biotechnological company that develops and markets diagnostic products and develops immune therapeutics to improve therapy management and patient health.

Innogenetics' diagnostics business unit develops and markets a wide range of diagnostic assays with a focus on molecular diagnostics and multiparameter testing. Its products are sold in over 90 countries through its 6 subsidiaries and a large number of distributors. In 2006, diagnostics sales totalled €45.8 million, more than 95% of which were achieved outside Belgium.

As of October 1, 2007, Innogenetics grouped its therapeutics activities into the wholly owned subsidiary called GENimmune. GENimmune focuses on developing innovative immune therapeutics and therapeutic vaccines and is supported by a world-class biomanufacturing unit providing third-party services as well.

Founded in 1985, Innogenetics is listed on Euronext Brussels [Ticker: INNX].

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### **Forward looking statement**

*This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to projections of future revenues, operating income, and other risks. Prospective investors should be aware that these statements are estimates, reflecting only the judgments and projections of Innogenetics' management, and no undue reliance should be placed on such forward-looking statements.*