

PRESS RELEASE

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Milano, Italy
Tübingen, Germany
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Genomnia srl has signed an agreement with Germany's CeGaT to distribute in Italy Sequencing-Based Dx Tests on SOLiD for a range of Diseases

Genomnia srl has signed an agreement for the promotion and distribution in Italy of sequencing-based diagnostic tests on Life Technologies' SOLiD machine for epilepsy and metabolic diseases, dementia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and hereditary eye diseases panels developed by the German diagnostics and sequencing service provider Center for Genomics and Transcriptomics, CeGaT.

Genomnia is a Start-up SME founded in October 2008, as a spin off of ab medica spa, with the aim of offering deep sequencing and bioinformatic services and collaborations with private and public institutions, covering genomics, transcriptomics and epigenetics projects.

The staff has a considerable expertise in molecular biology and bioinformatic analysis of deep sequencing data applied to biomedical projects: transcriptome qualitative and quantitative analysis, miRNA identification and profiling, ncRNA identification and annotation, mutation detection, targeted genome resequencing and analysis.

The agreement with CeGaT is in line with the mission of the company to sell and develop diagnostic applications on the Next generation Sequencing platform SOLiD. The use of CeGaT's diagnostic panels will allow the simultaneous screening for mutations in disease associated genes. A medical report will be issued to the requesting medical doctor.

Tests will not be offered directly to consumers, but instead through doctors, university clinics, and centers specialized in diseases covered by its panels.

Enrichment of targeted genomic regions will be performed by Agilent's SureSelect in-solution capture for target enrichment, and fragment sequencing on the SOLiD, obtaining at least 20-fold coverage of each base. The company then validates its findings with Sanger sequencing and performs bioinformatics analysis using the SOLiD LifeScope software.

The advantage of a next generation sequencing-based diagnostic test is that it establishes a molecular basis for the disease in significantly higher number of case compared to the conventional gene by gene approach. In many instances the results of the diagnostic test lead to specific treatment. In addition, it allows [clinicians] to predict prognosis. Moreover the discovery of mutations that led to an individual's disease subtype could enable testing of relatives, and prenatal diagnosis becomes possible validation of the mutations with Sanger sequencing, and individual bioinformatics analysis. Genomnia is the first company introducing the clinical sequencing using NGS platform in the Italian market.

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Genomnia srl is a SME founded in October 2008 as a spin off of ab medica spa with the aim of offering deep sequencing and bioinformatic service. Genomnia established several collaborations with private and public institutions, covering genomics, transcriptomics and epigenetics projects.

In addition the company has relevant experience in bioinformatic analysis of deep sequencing data applied to biomedical projects: transcriptome qualitative and quantitative analysis, miRNA identification and profiling, ncRNA identification and annotation, mutation detection, targeted genome resequencing and analysis. Genomnia is one of the official Service Providers of Life Technologies SOLiD™ for this platform.

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CeGaT GmbH is a diagnostic sequencing company and official service provider for life technologies. CeGaT, located in Tübingen, Germany, was founded in 2009 by Saskia Biskup, MD PhD.

CeGaT is specialized in Molecular Diagnostics, Next-Generation-Sequencing, combining technical, bioinformatical and medical know-how.

More information is available at www.cegat.de