BIOASTER collaborates with Bio-Rad and GeneticAnalysis to develop novel microbiome-based diagnostics within the field of metabolic disorders

Resulting new tests will help researchers investigate links between gut microbiota and diabetes and obesity

BIOASTER, the French Technology Research Institute for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, today announced the initiation of a collaborative program with BIOASTER, *Bio- Rad Laboratories, Inc.* and Genetic Analysis aimed at evaluating microbial dysbiosis signatures in the field of metabolic disorders.

This project is a unique opportunity for BIOASTER to capitalize on its breakthrough deep and 16S-targeted sequencing technologies and advanced pipelines of data analysis for highlighting new gut microbiome biomarkers of medical added value.

Endocrine and metabolic diseases are among the most common contemporary human afflictions in western countries and particularly in the United States. The high prevalence and incidence of common metabolic disorders such as diabetes and obesity have been confirmed through large population-based studies. Moreover, an increasing number of studies show that deregulation of gut microbiota composition ("dysbiosis") is associated with onset of metabolic diseases and may impact treatment.

This original collaboration between *Bio-Rad*, a world leading provider of life science research and clinical diagnostic products, Genetic Analysis, a Norwegian company renowned in microbiome molecular diagnostics and BIOASTER will add an innovative edge of this research program by examining gut microbiota signatures for diagnostics. Genetic Analysis and Bio-Rad previously announced in December 2017 a supply and distributionagreementforGeneticAnalysis'sGA-map™clinicaltestforgutdysbiosis.

"*This collaborative program illustrates very well BIOASTER's ambition: bringing together multiple partners and complementary expertise for accelerating innovation towards industrial product development,"* said Nathalie Garçon, CEO & CSO of BIOASTER. "*We are very proud to be part of this exciting project that will generate new avenues in the field of the microbiome- baseddiagnostics.*"

"*We are delighted to collaborate with BIOASTER and Bio-Rad on this important research project" commented Ronny Hermansen, CEO of Genetic Analysis. "As more and more links are discovered between the human microbiome and immune status, the need for accurate biomarker-based tests becomes pressing. Genetic Analysis and Bio-Rad have a strong track record along with considerable experience in developing and bringing innovative diagnostic tools to market. We look forward to working with BIOASTER on this very interesting project", headded.*

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About BIOASTER

BIOASTER is an independent non-profit organisation and one of the 8 French Technological Research Institutes (TRI). It was created in 2012 thanks to the joint efforts of the Paris Institut Pasteur and the Lyonbiopôle competitive cluster.

These original founders were joined at the start by the CEA, the CNRS, INSERM, Danone Nutricia Research, Institut Mérieux and Sanofi Pasteur and later in 2018 by bioMérieux. BIOASTER also benefits from the support of the French government through the Programme Investissements d'Avenir (Investing for the Future program,PIA),of Région Auvergne-Rhône- Alpes and Métropole du Grand Lyon.

In the field of microbiology, BIOASTER develops and implements technological and transformative innovations,which speed up the development of new publichealth solutions and personalised medicine solutions.

BIOASTER is involved in four main application fields:

-Antimicrobials: to identify new medical candidates, to fight antimicrobials resistance

-Vaccines: to improve vaccines safety and efficacy

-Microbiota: to take full advantage of human and animal microbiota

-Diagnostic: to quickly diagnose infections at patient bedside

In each of these fields,our goal is to turn industrial needs into research projects dedicated to solutions and leveraging discoveries from academic research. BIOASTER thus develops a collaborative, multi-disciplinary and technologically integrated approach, to promote open innovation.

KEY FIGURES:

interconnectedstateofthearttechnologyunitstoserve4majorprograms: diagnostics/vaccines/antimicrobials/microbiota2450m2laboratoriesBSL2&3(LYON&PARIS)120people,including80%ofscientificexperts,18differentcitizenships54projectsincluding27withprivatepartners25withpublicpartnersand10 international&europeanprojects.

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