

Qiagen expands its assay panels for NGS offerings

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Singapore: Qiagen N V announced plans to significantly expand its existing portfolio of molecular assays used in next-generation sequencing (NGS) during 2013 as part of its expansion into this fast-growing market and ambitions to provide an ecosystem of products and services designed to drive greater use of this breakthrough technology in clinical research and diagnostics. Qiagen is exhibiting its NGS products at the European Society of Human Genetics Conference from June 8-11 in Paris.

The current portfolio of nine GeneRead DNaseq panels launched in late 2012 is being expanded to approximately 20 during the course of 2013. Qiagen is leveraging its deep molecular content and assay portfolio to create these new gene panels for targeted NGS analysis based on the GeneGlobe portfolio of more than 60,000 annotated molecular assays. Initial customer demand has been very strong for these products, which are "universal" and are designed to be used on any NGS platform, and also to integrate seamlessly into the sample-to-result NGS workflow that includes the Qiagen GeneReader platform targeted for placements to select customer groups in 2013.

Since sequencing of entire human genomes requires considerable resources and time, users of NGS technology in clinical research and diagnostics often prefer to perform targeted sequencing of clinically relevant genes based on focused gene panels of interest. This expanding portfolio of products addresses the urgent needs of customers to efficiently generate relevant NGS data by providing fast turnaround time, low DNA input requirements and quality control standards, all of which result in more cost-effective, accurate and reproducible results from each sequencing run.