BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

China genomics institute installs Roche system

29 May 2012 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

China genomics institute installs Roche system

Singapore: Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI), which is one of the world's largest genomics organizations, successfully installed Roche GS FLX+ System at its facility in Shenzhen, China, with the aim to complement its existing array of short read sequencing technologies and enhance its long read sequencing capability.

The GS FLX+ System, developed by 454 Life Sciences, a Roche Company, features the unique combination of long reads, exceptional accuracy and high-throughput, making the system well suited for larger genome projects. "We're excited that BGI has implemented our GS FLX+ System in their Shenzhen facility," said Dr Thomas Schinecker, president, 454 Life Sciences. "This again demonstrates the continued importance of the GS FLX+ platform and its utility as a powerful replacement for Sanger sequencing applications."

"We are very pleased to have Roche's GS FLX+ System," said, Meifang Tang, director, NGS Department, BGI, "So far, the system has been operated successfully with a stable performance. We can achieve the read lengths up to 1000 bp reads in our laboratory. With the implement of this system, we hope assemblies will be greatly improved with fewer gaps, longer contigs and scaffolds in de novo genomics and transcriptomic research."

Roche and BGI have been working closely together over the years. They have made great collaborative efforts to develop methodologies and tools to assist scientists pursuing genomics research. Last November, Roche NimbleGen and BGI

developed a major histocompatibility complex (MHC) region capture technology that will help advance research and development of new medicines for human diseases. "In the future, I hope we can cooperate even more closely, and make more breakthroughs in life science," added Tang.