Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health selects DNA Genotek's OMNIgene® devices for Microbiome Biobank

Samples to be collected from over 25,000 participants in Nurses' Health Study II (NHSII) cohort

BETHLEHEM, PA. – March 21, 2018 – DNA Genotek Inc., a leading provider of sample collection kits and end-to-end services, today announced that the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health has selected DNA Genotek's OMNIgene® family of microbiome collection devices to provide reliable self-collection of microbial samples for The Biobank for Microbiome Research in Massachusetts (BIOM-Mass). DNA Genotek will also provide customization, fulfillment and logistics services through its GenoFIND™ services offering.

Human health is shaped not only by genetics and environmental factors, but also by the billions of microbes living in and on the body (the microbiome). Scientists are just beginning to understand the many ways in which microbiome can impact human health including cancers, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and GI disorders.

Created by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in collaboration with academic and industry partners, BIOM-Mass is an integrated platform to collect, use and analyze microbiome-based specimens. BIOM-Mass intends to create the world's most comprehensive human microbiome specimen biobank, using samples from more than 25,000 individuals from the Harvard-based Nurses' Health Study II (NHSII) and other long running studies. The researchers will use OMNIgene devices to catalog the microbiome profile across multiple body sites from study participants, combining that data with individual lifestyle, health, and genetic information that has already been collected.

"The state of Massachusetts is a hub for microbiome-based research and development, and BIOM-Mass will expand academic and industry innovation in this field. I am excited about the partnerships that this facility will make possible, and the opportunities to advance public health," said Wendy Garrett, Professor of Immunology and Infectious Disease, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

"We are very proud that the Harvard Chan School has selected our OMNIgene•GUT and OMNIgene•ORAL devices as well as GenoFIND services to incorporate microbiome data into BIOM-Mass, one of the world's most highly regarded epidemiological studies", said Aaron Del Duca, Vice President Technology & Microbiome Program Lead at DNA Genotek. "This rich resource will enable multiple research initiatives that could lead to the discovery of new predictive, preventive and therapeutic strategies for a broad range of diseases."

"The Biobank for Microbiome Research in Massachusetts (BIOM-Mass) at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health will create a state-of-the-art facility and integrated platform allowing the Massachusetts life science community to collect, use, and analyze microbiome-targeted biospecimens in human populations," said Curtis Huttenhower, Associate Professor of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

About DNA Genotek

DNA Genotek Inc., a subsidiary of OraSure Technologies, Inc. (NASDAQ: OSUR), focuses on providing high-quality biological sample collection products and end-to-end services for human genomics, microbiome and infectious disease applications. The company's Oragene•Dx and ORAcollect•Dx product lines are the first and only FDA 510(k) cleared saliva-based DNA collection devices for in vitro diagnostic use. DNA Genotek also offers Research Use Only products to collect and preserve large amounts of DNA or RNA from multiple sample types. DNA Genotek markets its products worldwide and has a global customer base with thousands of customers in over 100 countries. For more information about DNA Genotek, visit www.dnagenotek.com.

For information about this press release contact:

Shauna White
DNA Genotek Inc.
613-723-5757 ext. 307
shauna.white@dnagenotek.com

###