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Fluidigm Releases CFTR Next-Generation Sequencing Library Prep Assay for Use With the Juno System

April 12, 2018

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., April 12, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Fluidigm Corporation (NASDAQ:FLDM) today announced the introduction of the Advanta™ CFTR NGS Library Prep Assay, a highly efficient and scalable next-generation sequencing (NGS) library prep workflow for sequencing of the CFTR (cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator) gene.

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a complex, multisystem disease that is caused by mutations in the CFTR gene and affects over 70,000 individuals worldwide. With more than 2,000 variants identified in the CFTR gene, NGS offers a more comprehensive approach to CFTR genetic analysis than traditional genotyping methods. Current NGS targeted sequencing library prep workflows, however, can be very costly and labor-intensive for a molecular laboratory.

Developed for research use with the Juno™ system, the Advanta CFTR NGS Library Prep Assay automates the target enrichment of CFTR variants from each of the gene's 27 exons and selected intronic regions using proven microfluidics technology. Providing a significant savings opportunity in cost per sample, the workflow substantially reduces hands-on time and conserves precious reagents by reducing reactions to nanoliter scale.

With the capacity to produce from 48 to 1,500 or more NGS libraries each week from DNA derived from blood, saliva or buccal swabs, this Advanta assay offers simplified scalability to meet customer needs. Each integrated microfluidic circuit (IFC) is also provided with open inlets to simplify the addition of new assays over time.

"This new product is representative of an expanding menu of high-value genetic assays we are developing for use with Fluidigm automated microfluidic systems," said Chris Linthwaite, President and CEO of Fluidigm. "Designed to be complementary to the CFTR sequencing assay currently in development with Baylor Genetics, this assay combines the benefits of microfluidics technology with CFTR variant detection to ultimately improve the future of health care."

About Fluidigm

Fluidigm (NASDAQ:FLDM) develops, manufactures, and markets life science analytical and preparatory systems for markets such as mass cytometry, high-throughput genomics, and single-cell genomics. We sell to leading academic institutions, clinical research laboratories, and pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and agricultural biotechnology companies worldwide. Our systems are based on proprietary microfluidics and multiparameter mass cytometry technology and are designed to significantly simplify experimental workflow, increase throughput, and reduce costs while providing excellent data quality. Fluidigm products are provided for Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

We use our website (www.fluidigm.com), corporate Twitter account (@fluidigm), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/fluidigm>), and LinkedIn page (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/fluidigm-corporation>) as channels of distribution of information about our products, our planned financial and other announcements, our attendance at upcoming investor and industry conferences, and other matters. Such information may be deemed material information, and we may use these channels to comply with our disclosure obligations under Regulation FD. Therefore, investors should monitor our website and our social media accounts in addition to following our press releases, SEC filings, public conference calls, and webcasts.

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Forward-Looking Statement for Fluidigm

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including, among others, statements regarding the anticipated benefits of newly introduced products and development of additional products. Forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from currently anticipated results, including but not limited to risks relating to uncertainties in contractual relationships and international regulated markets; challenges inherent in developing, manufacturing, launching, marketing, and selling new products; the uncertain regulatory environment; potential product performance and quality issues; intellectual property risks; competition; interruptions or delays in the supply of components or materials for, or manufacturing of, Fluidigm products; and risks associated with international operations. Information on these and additional risks and uncertainties and other information affecting Fluidigm business and operating results are contained in Fluidigm's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, and in its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. Fluidigm disclaims any obligation to update these forward-looking statements except as may be required by law.

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