

September 24, 2003

Press Release

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Genetics Company, a Schlieren, Switzerland, based and privately held drug and diagnostics discovery and development company announces that a blinded and carefully controlled study has shown positive results for its *in vitro* Alzheimer's Disease diagnostics tests. The study was carried out by two German university clinics. It compared the neurochemical markers A β 42 and total Tau (tTau) protein with the A β peptide 42/40 ratio, a marker which was introduced in the market recently. The study showed that the A β peptide 42/40 ratio classified more patients correctly, as compared to the concentration of A β 42 alone. The Genetics Company is the world-wide exclusive marketer of test kits based on the A β peptide 42/40 ratio.

Please find enclosed our press release. Thank you for your kind consideration.

For further information please contact:

The Genetics Company, Inc.

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Yours sincerely,

Rosy Hirzel
Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

The Genetics Company announces positive results of a first clinical study of its Alzheimer Disease diagnostics tests.

Zürich, Switzerland - September 24, 2003 - The Genetics Company, a Schlieren, Switzerland, based and privately held drug and diagnostics discovery and development company announces that a blinded and carefully controlled clinical study has shown positive results for its in vitro Alzheimer's Disease diagnostics tests. The study was carried out by the departments of psychiatry and psychotherapy of the universities of Erlangen-Nuremberg and Göttingen (both Germany) and was initiated by Prof. Jens Wiltfang, Erlangen-Nuremberg. Prof. Wiltfang is also the coordinator of the module neurochemical dementia diagnostics of the German competence network dementias (KND). The study compared the neurochemical markers A β 42 and total Tau (tTau) protein with the A β peptide 42/40 ratio, a neurochemical dementia marker which was introduced in the market last year. The study showed that the A β peptide 42/40 ratio classified more patients correctly, as compared to the concentration of A β 42 alone.

Cerebrospinalfluid (CSF) concentrations of amyloid β peptides ending at positions 42 and 40 (A β 42 and A β 40, respectively), and total tau (tTau) protein were measured by ELISA in order to compare their accuracy in discriminating patients with Alzheimer's Disease (n=22), non-Alzheimer's dementia (n=11) and control subjects (n=35). The group of Alzheimer's Disease patients consisted of patients diagnosed according to the criteria of ICD-10 and National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke-Alzheimer's Disease and related Disorders Association (NINCDS-ADRDA). The degree of mental impairment was assessed with the Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE). The majority of patients of this group had a moderate to severe stage of mental impairment. The study showed that the A β peptide 42/40 ratio classified more patients correctly, as compared to the concentration of A β 42 alone: Alzheimer's Disease versus controls, 94 and 86.7 %; Alzheimer's Disease versus non-Alzheimer's dementia, 90 and 85 %; and Alzheimer's Disease versus non-Alzheimer's dementia plus controls, 90.8 and 87 %, respectively. The percentage of correctly classified patients further improved when the A β peptide 42/40 ratio was combined with the analysis of the tTau protein concentration. The Genetics Company is the world-wide exclusive marketer of test kits based on the A β peptide 42/40 ratio.

Says Prof. Jens Wiltfang "The findings are very promising and will be further confirmed in larger groups of patients". Additional studies are ongoing, and Dr. Harald Eistetter, CEO of The Genetics Company, comments "we have cases where we could deliver a precise and reliable Alzheimer's diagnosis by the A β peptide 42/40 ratio when cognitive tests could only provide a first hint." For the Genetics Company, the results confirm the high competitiveness of its products. Adds Harald Eistetter "We are delighted to see that for the first time, we have clear clinical proof that our method based on the A β peptide 42/40 ratio is clinically relevant and better than the single measurement of A β 42. These findings underline that we are the forefront of today's Alzheimer's Disease diagnostics." The study is published in the September issue of the scientific journal "Neurobiology of Aging".

About The Genetics Company, Inc. The Genetics Company is a dedicated team of entrepreneurs and scientists focusing on the research, development and commercialization of innovative products for the diagnosis, therapy and therapy monitoring of patients suffering from neurodegenerative disease and cancer. Apart from a set of worldwide unique diagnostic kits and tools for the diagnosis and monitoring of patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease (AD), the Company has identified small molecule inhibitors of BACE (beta-amyloid converting enzyme). It has also identified small molecule inhibitors of two proprietary targets within the Wnt-pathway, which is believed to play a crucial role in colon cancer. In parallel, the Company has identified and is in the process of further characterizing novel growth-related drug target candidate genes and potential growth-related small molecules for exploitation in cancer therapy. Headquartered in Zurich-Schlieren, Switzerland, the Company currently has 29 employees.

For additional information about the clinical study, please contact:

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