

DIASORIN LAUNCHES THE FIRST FULLY AUTOMATED ASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE TOXINS A AND B IN STOOLS

December 19, 2011 - Saluggia (VC) - DiaSorin S.p.A. (FTSE MIB: DIA) is pleased to announce the launch on its LIAISON platforms of the new Clostridium Difficile Toxins A&B assay. The product will be made available to DiaSorin customers in all the main markets with the exception of the US and the UK.

The LIAISON C. Difficile Toxins A&B assay detects toxigenic strains of *Clostridium difficile* in stool samples in nosocomial patients, resulting in acquired diarrhoea which may lead to severe complications or death. The size of the diagnostic market for C. Difficile detection is estimated to exceed \$150 MM worldwide as a combination of serological assays and newly introduced molecular products.

This assay is the first of a full LIAISON gastrointestinal (GI) stool testing panel which will include, among others, GDH and H. Pylori Antigen detection which are scheduled to be launched in selected markets by the end of 2012. Some of these assays have been developed through an alliance with Meridian Bioscience, a worldwide leader in products for antigen detection in stools.

By adding LIAISON C. Difficile Toxins A&B assay on its CLIA platforms, DiaSorin further expands its portfolio of specialties, and it is uniquely positioned as the only manufacturer that can provide a C. Difficile toxin testing fully automated solution from the collection device to the platform. DiaSorin plans to leverage on its current installed base of over 2,000 LIAISON, which are placed in Microbiology labs worldwide, for a rapid adoption of the new C. Difficile assay.

Mr. Carlo Rosa, Chief Executive Officer of DiaSorin Group, commented *"I'm really proud to announce the launch of the first fully automated assay for the detection of C. Difficile Toxins A and B on stools on our LIAISON instruments."*

GI stool testing represents a very important pillar for our future strategy, because of the growing demand, the current lack of assays on stool to be performed on a fully automated system, and the possibility for DiaSorin to leverage on its infectious disease leadership and its broad LIAISON installed base.

The fully automated Clostridium Difficile is the first of the new products that DiaSorin plans to launch in the next years, strengthening its recognition as a specialty player in the IVD market”.

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