

Trends and Technology: Winter 2005

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ONLINE

For this issue, I found a listing of graduate schools in the clinical laboratory sciences (CLS), part of a more general web site called gradschools.com. The link to graduate CLS programs is programs.gradschools.com/usa/clinical_lab_science.html. The site is not comprehensive, nor is it precisely about CLS—a couple of the listings include grad school degrees in biotechnology or in exercise physiology. For the most part, however, it is a list of graduate schools in the clinical laboratory sciences (36 to date). This might be a good site to use in a clinical laboratory career day setting for college or community college students. Likewise, if your institution does not have its graduate school on this listing, it might be worth exploring a listing. You can also explore the site further by going to www.gradschools.com and searching the school programs by subject; you have to go to “C” to find “Clinical Laboratory Science”.

NEW PRODUCTS

The VITROS 5,1 FS Chemistry System features Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics MicroSlide Technology for the highest reportable result efficiency plus Intellicheck Technology for system monitoring and advanced clot and bubble detection. In addition, the VITROS 5,1 FS Chemistry System is the first system to support the new VITROS MicroTip reagents, which will provide an extended menu of proteins, therapeutic drugs, drugs of abuse, and other critical assays. MicroTip Technology is unique in eliminating the maintenance and cost

associated with traditional chemistry systems, such as plumbing, drains, fixed probes, mixing assemblies, and water supplies. MicroTip Technology will eliminate sample and reagent carryover that may occur with sample probes and reusable cuvettes. Contact Darcie Schwarz at (585) 248-2300 or darcie.schwarz@pulleyn.com.

Leica Microsystems introduces a high-performance microtome, the Leica RM2265, designed primarily for users in biomedical research and industry. The introduction of the Leica RM2265 replaces its predecessor, the RM2165. This latest microtome is a fully motorized and programmable rotary microtome with an emphasis on safety, ergonomics, and performance reliability. Contact Molly Lundberg at (847) 405-0123.



Leica RM2265 microtome

Bayer Diagnostics has launched its newest chemistry analyzer, the ADVIA® 1200 Chemistry System. Designed to improve productivity and optimize laboratory efficiency, this

fully automated system meets the on-demand testing needs of small- and medium-sized laboratories. The system complements the suites of other ADVIA analyzers and shares the same level of standardization of reagents, software, and results across all ADVIA.

American Diagnostica has announced the availability of the new ActiScreen™ XL-FDP assay, an innovative and rapid immunoagglutination procedure for the detection of XL-FDPs in human plasma. Convenient enough to be used in a variety of diagnostic testing facilities, including physician office, hospital, and reference laboratories, the assay is intended for use as a clinical aid in diagnosing several thrombotic disorders. By quantitating XL-FDPs, laboratories also can monitor thrombolytic therapy with tissue plasminogen activator and streptokinase. Contact Robert Trinkka at (203) 602-7777, ext 31.



ActiScreen™ XL-FDP

Pickering Laboratories, a leader in the design, manufacture, and supply of post-column derivitization instruments and consumables, has introduced a more sensitive method for identifying hard-to-detect chemical

TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGY

compounds. At the heart of Pickering's industry-advancing development is the pulse-free syringe pump, designed for the new Pinnacle PCX post-column derivitization system, which is now available for shipping. Contact Michael Gottschalk at (800) 654-3330 or (650) 694-6700 or mgottschalk@pickeringlabs.com.

ESA Inc announces an advance in HPLC technology: the Corona Charged Aerosol Detector. Charged Aerosol Detection (CAD) offers all-in-one performance benefits that refractive index (RI), low wavelength (UV), evaporative light scattering (ELS), and chemiluminescence nitrogen (CLN) detector methods lack. Corona™ CAD™ represents a new HPLC detection technology that typically provides ten times the sensitivity of ELS. The technology provides consistently high sensitivity and low limits of detection independent of molecular structure, detecting compounds in low nanogram quantities. Contact John Christensen, (978) 250-7175 or johnc@esainc.com.

The Model C85-12 laboratory freezer from So-Low Environmental Equipment can be used for preserving tissue, plasma, blood cells, microbiology specimens, and other research and storage purposes. The cabinet is an all-steel construction with a counter-balanced lid. The temperature control allows a range from -40 °C to -85 °C. No liquid is needed for the air-cooled condenser for this unit, which has a 12-cubic-foot capacity. Contact Jim Schrum at (513) 772-9410 or visit www.so-low.com.



So-Low environmental freezer

Dade Behring is introducing its benchtop Viva-E™ Drug Testing System for its Syva® product line. The Viva-E is designed to run Dade Behring's Syva Emit®-branded therapeutic drug monitoring, drugs of abuse, and serum toxicology assays as well as its tests for determining the validity of drug test samples. The product was scheduled at press time to become available in the fourth quarter of 2004. Contact Melissa Ziriakus at (847) 236-7038.

AGREEMENTS

Dade Behring, the University of Frankfurt, and Innovectis announced the signing of an exclusive license agreement which provides Dade Behring with worldwide rights for the inventions of Professor Zeiher's group at the University of Frankfurt that relate to placental growth factor (PIGF) for cardiovascular diseases (CVD), soluble CD40 ligand (sCD40L) for the prognosis of the course of disease in acute coronary syndrome (ACS), and additional markers for cardiovascular diseases. Recent studies show that these markers add substantial information for the diagnosis of acute coronary syn-

drome (ACS(1-3)). Contact Melissa Ziriakus at (847) 236-7038.

APPROVALS

Diagnostic Chemicals Limited (DCL) announced the launch of Ammonia L3K, the latest addition to DCL's L3K line of clinical chemistry products. Ammonia L3K is a single vial, stable liquid reagent which incorporates a patented and proprietary co-enzyme analog technology. The use of liquid reagents eliminates the need for reagent preparation, thereby saving time and labor, and reducing potential for error. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted 510(k) clearance for this product. Contact Robert Janetschek at (203) 881-2020, ext 304.

Streck Laboratories, announced that the company has perfected a technology for preserving patient blood samples for up to seven days. The technology, called Cyto-Chex BCT is a vacuum blood collection tube that contains a preservative reagent. Cyto-Chex BCT preserves the integrity of white blood cells at room temperature three times longer than traditional methods. Streck Laboratories has received FDA clearance to manufacture and sell Cyto-Chex BCT. The product allows for more cost-effective, reliable, and safer testing for immune system diseases. This new technology gives the health community the ability to ensure that fragile blood samples arrive at the laboratory intact, even in less developed countries, where within a day's access to clinical laboratories is not always possible. Previously, samples could only be preserved for a short period of time. Contact Streck Laboratories Inc at (800) 843-0912 or visit www.streck.com.