

Inspired.



LABORATORY QUARTERLY

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You say you want a Revolution?

Sakura Finetek has responded with advancements in Histology that will bring long awaited excitement and efficiencies.

Historically the rate of change in the histology laboratory has been slow. The "bones" of tissue processing and embedding have remained virtually the same for the last 20 years.

As Sakura's new generation of high-efficiency technologies in rapid tissue processing and automated embedding platforms begin to step into the pathology laboratory, innovative new products are also being introduced that will show dramatic labour savings immediately while supporting the transition to full automation.

We start with the introduction of the Tissue-Tek® Paraform® Sectionable cassette system which simplifies and streamlines grossing to sectioning. Paraform® cassettes allow tissue to be orientated and secured at the grossing stage eliminating tissue manipulation during embedding and reducing labour up to 50%. Recently evaluated by John Garratt and his histopathology staff at Lion's Gate Hospital in Vancouver B.C., John quotes, "This innovative product (the Paraform® system) has the potential to revolutionize grossing, embedding and microtomy in Anatomical Pathology."

Here's how:

- Grossed tissue is positioned in the Paraform® Cassette Unit
- Cassette lid is set to secure specimen and preserve orientation
- Processing is performed with no complications
- Cassette is pressed through the frame to secure into base mold
- Paraffin is added to cassette without removing or disturbing tissue orientation
- Block is solidified on cooling tray
- Block is ready for the microtome – blades cut right through the ParaForm® cassette

This new sectionable cassette sets the stage for Sakura's new automated embedding platform but, what makes the Paraform® system so unique and versatile is that it operates independently of the other systems and can be used to enhance efficiencies in every sized histology laboratory. John further comments on his evaluation, "Microtomy was a real surprise, Technologists and myself found that cutting tissue embedded in Paraform® was easier with better quality sections. I know this is a subjective analysis but the difference is so noticeable it is conclusive for us."

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You Say You Want a Revolution?... cont'd

To schedule a demonstration of the Paraform® cassette system in your laboratory please contact Tina Ng at 1-800-661-9993. In addition Somagen and Sakura will be hosting an exclusive Canadian showing of the new Rapid Tissue Processor, Automated Embedding technology and the Paraform® system at the upcoming National Histology show in Louisville, Kentucky October 18-23. Hope you can join us!

Paraform® Sectionable Cassette – the newest innovation from Sakura.



How Fast Can You Catch A Virus?

Somagen introduces rapid diagnostic tests for human enteric and respiratory pathogens from CORIS BioConcept

We've been ravaged this year by the recent increased profile of life-threatening viruses – West Nile, SARS, HIV...

While it is well recognized that access to rapid, accurate and simple pathogen detection leads to a significant improvement in overall patient care, many of our well known, more prevalent viruses are analyzed outside the hospital site or sent to reference laboratories lengthening the time to results.

In addition to faster diagnosis, treatment and efficient management of patient isolation, achieving the fastest turn-around-time (TAT) of results offers the best protection for health care providers that may also be at risk of infection.

To this end, Somagen Diagnostics is pleased to introduce CORIS BioConcept as a new partner. This alliance sees the introduction of rapid, simple diagnostic tests for the detection of human enteric and respiratory pathogens. The tests are suitable for single sample analysis, requiring minimal sample manipulation providing unequivocal diagnosis within 5-10 minutes for positive samples. This makes it easy and cost effective to perform analysis in house and provide results with a TAT to ensure the most effective virus management.

CORIS BioConcept's technology is based on immunochromatography employing a colloidal gold conjugate and a coated nitrocellulose strip. The strip is dipped into a diluted sample and then both the sample and gold conjugate migrate by capillarity. At the end of the chromatography process, a red line appears indicating a positive result. Another red line will appear as the internal control result to indicate that the migration process was successful

RANGE OF PRODUCTS

RSV RESPI-STRIP: for the detection of Respiratory Syncytial Virus in nasopharyngeal secretions/culture supernatants (C-1006, 25 tests)

ADENO RESPI-STRIP: for the detection of Adenovirus in nasopharyngeal secretions /culture supernatants (C-1009, 25 tests)

INFLU-A RESPI-STRIP: for the detection of Influenza A virus in nasopharyngeal secretions/culture supernatants (C-1010, 25 tests)

INFLU-A/B (COMBI) RESPI-STRIP: in development

ADENO-STRIP: for the detection of Adenovirus group in stool specimens (C-1002, 25 tests)

40/41 ADENO-STRIP: for the detection of Adenovirus type 40/41 in stool specimens (C-1003, 25 tests)

ROTA-STRIP: for the detection of Rotavirus in stool specimens (C-1001, 25 tests)

COMBI-STRIP: for the detection of both Rotavirus and Adenovirus in stool specimens (C-1004, 25 tests)

CRYPTO-STRIP: for the detection of Cryptosporidium parvum in stool specimens (C-1005, 25 tests)



In summary, this next generation of dipstick technology for virus detection is perfectly suited for any laboratory setting providing inexpensive, rapid, simple and specific results more sensitive than classical latex tests*.

Catch your virus faster than it catches you.

*specificity and sensitivity available for each test on request.



SOMAGEN BABIES

From Conception to Delivery

Somagen Diagnostics has played an active role in the area of Reproductive Medicine for many years by providing quality, reliable laboratory based media and reagents for IVF (In-vitro Fertilization) procedures. Irvine Scientific continues to be at the forefront in this field by offering reproductive media manufactured under stringent quality controls standards and by their continued response to changes within the technology and advances in research. Somagen Diagnostics long-standing partnership with Irvine Scientific offers prompt and quality service in responding to customer needs allowing each facility to meet and exceed performance standards.



Somagen has also recognized a need for rapid and reliable results in other area of Reproductive Medicine and therefore this product portfolio continues to expand. In partnership with Medix Biochemica, testing is now available at the bedside to aid in the diagnosis of Premature Rupture of Membranes (PROM) and Preterm Labor. The actim™ PROM test aids in the identification of PROM by the detection of IGFBP-1 (Insulin-like Growth Factor Binding Protein-1) in amniotic fluid. The actim™ Partus tests detects cervical ripening by detecting phosphorylated IGFBP-1. These tests are very economical and effective, providing vital information within minutes to assess labour status and aid in the management of pregnant women.



Through the innovative advances of Infectio Diagnostic, neonatal GBS disease may now be a complication of the past. An assay kit is now available, using real-time PCR, providing results to physicians from a primary sample within one hour. For pregnant women presenting preterm, with no prenatal care and no record of a culture screening, empirical therapy is no longer necessary. Treatment decisions can now be made at the most important timing during pregnancy, at delivery, using molecular technology, the most sensitive and specific bacterial identification system.

Somagen's continual involvement and support of the SOGC (Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada) and CFAS (Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society), and comprehensive product portfolio will allow for continued improved patient therapy in the area of Reproductive Medicine. There is a contribution of both art and science in making of healthy babies.

We have a new "look"



You will notice this issue of Laboratory Quarterly has an updated and more "inspirational" feel. Somagen has incorporated "Inspired" into our communications as a reflection of our continued motivation to come up with innovative solutions for our customers.

We are proud to present and support our industry leading technologies. Coupled with our highly technical and professional representatives, our Inspired images share the dimension of our spirit.

We hope this issue of the Laboratory Quarterly Inspires you!

Somagen Representatives... "They have been informative, knowledgeable, courteous and respectful of client's time ... I admire the company's interest in product improvement, service, and getting product information to clients"...

Rachel Peters, FIMLS, ART Histopathology, Toronto Medical Laboratories

NEW PARTNERSHIP Provides Laboratory Increased Opportunities

Somagen™ Diagnostics Inc. is pleased to pass on an exciting announcement regarding our partner in Rapid Response Diagnostics. Biosite® Diagnostics and Beckman Coulter have signed an agreement for Beckman Coulter to manufacture an automated version of Triage® BNP test for use on Beckman Coulter's immunoassay systems.

Triage® B type Natriotic Peptide (BNP), is a breakthrough new marker identified to contribute considerably in rapid diagnostic accuracy for early and late-stage Congestive Heart Failure.

Somagen™ will be the only company able to offer our Canadian customers - Heart Function clinics, Emergency rooms, small hospitals, large hospitals and reference labs - their choice of platforms on which to run the Gold Standard Triage® BNP test.

Beckman Coulter is an ideal choice for this partnership as they are a well-known and well-respected manufacturer of laboratory equipment and a leading provider of instrument systems and complementary products that simplify and automate laboratory processes. Beckman Coulter offers a broad range of instrumentation that will run the Biosite Triage® BNP assay from the bench top Access and Access II immunoassay analyzers, the Synchron LXI integrated Chemistry and Immunoassay system, to the high throughput and recently-launched UniCel DxI 800 Access immunoassay system.

Somagen™ Diagnostics Inc. and Biosite® remain dedicated to innovation in Rapid Response testing as the Triage® platform provides time-critical results and the highest value to patients and clinicians when used at the point-of-care. For those



customers whose testing needs require high throughput, the Beckman Coulter portfolio of analyzers will present an ideal addition or alternative to our Triage® platform.

All inquiries regarding Triage® BNP and the relation to the Beckman analyzers will be directed to Brian Roskewich of Somagen™ Diagnostics Inc.



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Visit our website at www.somagen.com



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