



FIRALIS S.A. announces the launch of the Biopred panel, an innovative RUO product that profiles thousands of mRNAs associated with inflammatory autoimmune disorders via a pioneering targeted mRNA profiling technology without RNA extraction.

France, Huningue, 23th May 2018

Firalis S.A ("Firalis"), a developer of biomarker-based products and provider of biomarker services announced the release of the « **Biopred Immuno-Inflammatory panel** », a research-use-only (RUO) product for targeted RNA profiling. The Biopred panel is now on the market, offering novel solutions in personalized medicine.

The Biopred panel has been developed thanks to the know-how generated in the course of BT-Cure, one of the largest IMI projects and during a recent Horizon 2020 SME Instrument project, the Rabiopred consortia. The panel includes **more than 2100 mRNA targets** belonging to key pro-inflammatory, inflammatory, autoimmune and associated pathways, including key cytokines, interleukins, chemokines, growth factors, metalloproteinases and many others. The Biopred panel employs the innovative HTG EdgeSeq platform for targeted gene sequencing and NGS quantification.

Today, early diagnosis, disease activity monitoring and choice of an optimal treatment for a particular disease remain important challenges for physicians. To address these challenges, Firalis has developed a high-throughput **precision medicine tool** that involves targeted mRNA profiling **without RNA extraction**. The tool is to be used in research gene expression profiling of inflammatory autoimmune disorders and syndromes, such as rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, Sjögren's Syndrome, systemic sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, different forms of vasculitides, inflammatory myopathies, inflammatory cardiac diseases and many others...

Dr. H. FIRAT, CEO of Firalis Group said: « *This panel will help pharmaceutical companies to better characterize patient populations and to optimize the size and duration of the drug development process, consequently decreasing the overall costs of drug development* ».

«*Thanks to significantly reduced costs of sequencing, the Firalis Biopred panel offers a highly sophisticated and sensitive solution to profile thousands of mRNA targets on our HTG platform, the world-wide unique platform profiling mRNA signatures from whole blood without RNA extraction* », said Dr. E. Schordan, Director of Molecular Diagnostics at Firalis.

Increasing numbers of biological therapies developed during the last few decades offer improved therapeutic options for key immune-inflammatory disorders. « *Biopred panel profiling tool may help physicians to make the right diagnosis and therapeutic choice for each patient in function to their disease activity level* ». **said Prof. C. Jorgensen**, a KoL who first retrospectively tested the panel in a cohort of patient samples to identify biomarkers of drug-free remission.

About FIRALIS

Firalis is a biotechnology company with a mission to improve disease outcome, therapeutic decisions and generate savings in healthcare industry. Through biomarker discovery, development and regulatory qualification, Firalis develops and markets biomarker based RUO (Research-use-only) and IVD (In-vitro- diagnostic) kits in the field of cardiovascular, inflammatory and autoimmune diseases with particular interest in rheumatoid arthritis. With a cutting-edge technology platform and a very high quality environment (ISO 9001, ISO 13845, ISO 17025 and NF S 96-900), Firalis provides a comprehensive range of biomarker services from research to clinical applications in key therapeutic areas. Additional information is available at www.firalis.com

To get further information on **the Biopred panel** and its capabilities to successfully level up customer's projects, please contact sales@firalis.com.

Safe Harbor Statement:

Statements contained in this press release regarding matters that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements associated with the benefits of the agreement between Firalis and HTG, the impact of TNF α -inhibiting therapies on rheumatoid arthritis treatment and the size of the market, the ability to predict treatment response in rheumatoid arthritis, the potential to contribute to health care system improvements and in particular for profiling of inflammatory and autoimmune disorders. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "intends," "will," "goal," "potential," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, though not all forward-looking statements necessarily contain these identifying words. These forward-looking statements are based upon management's current expectations, are subject to known and unknown risks, and involve assumptions that may never materialize or may prove to be incorrect. Actual results and the timing of events could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements as a result of various risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, risks associated with the utility of our automation systems, proprietary profiling panels and solutions, and our ability to successfully manufacture and supply our products. These and other factors are described in greater detail in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including, without limitation, our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016. All forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date on which they were made, and we undertake no obligation to update such statements to reflect events that occur or circumstances that exist after the date on which they were made.

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* RUO : Research Use Only

* KoL : Key Opinion Leader

* mRNA: Messenger ribonucleic acid is a "copy" of a gene, intended to be read by ribosomes to allow the synthesis of a protein