

SkylineDx Inks Joint Development Agreement with Mayo Clinic to Develop Diagnostic Tests for Melanoma

Rotterdam, the Netherlands, January 30, 2018 – SkylineDx today announced a strategic collaboration with Mayo Clinic to develop novel diagnostic tests which will improve clinical decision making for melanoma patients. For SkylineDx the collaboration with the renowned Mayo Clinic is an important milestone as it enables the company to develop new diagnostic tests and extend its product offering for a broader group of patients and clinicians.

The knowledge and experience of SkylineDx in the field of bio-informatics will help Mayo Clinic to optimize and further develop an algorithm to identify risk factors associated with metastasis, originally discovered and developed by Mayo Clinic dermatologist Alexander Meves, M.D., and his team.

The outcome of these molecular-based tests will help physicians target patients to appropriate treatment interventions. This meets the growing need for individual treatment and personalized medicine. Molecular testing can be performed on routinely collected biopsy tissue and determine the probability for metastatic spread with high accuracy.

“The collaboration with Mayo Clinic is an important milestone for SkylineDx since this enables us to further extend our product offering by using our knowledge and experience in the field of bio-informatics in other disease areas outside of Multiple Myeloma, building upon our existing assets and capabilities,” said Dharminder S. Chahal, Chief Executive Officer of SkylineDx. “We are very impressed with the work of Dr. Alexander Meves and his group and are delighted that they chose SkylineDx as their collaboration partner to address an unmet medical need and to improve the quality of life for patients.”

The basis for this collaboration originated from the data and algorithm originally published in the peer-reviewed Journal of Clinical Oncology in 2015 by Mayo Clinic dermatologist Alexander Meves, M.D., in which he and his group worked

to discover new molecular risk factors associated with SLN positivity in the primary melanoma.

Dr. Alexander Meves will present new data at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology in San Diego, 16th -20th of February, 2018

About Melanoma

Melanoma is a type of skin cancer that develops in the pigment-producing melanocytes in the basal layer of the epidermis. Risk for developing melanoma is influenced by several factors including exposure to radiation from sunshine, skin type, age and sex. If melanoma is recognized and treated early, it is almost always curable. However, melanoma is responsible for a majority of skin cancer related deaths, because it may spread to other sites of the body, where it becomes hard to treat and can be fatal. According to the World Cancer Research Fund International, an estimated 232,000 people around the world are diagnosed with invasive melanoma each year.

About SkylineDx

SkylineDx is a commercial-stage biotech company based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Originally a spin-off of the Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam, the company specializes in the development and marketing of innovative gene signature-based prognostic tests to assist healthcare professionals in making personalized treatment decisions for individual patients. These tests are designed to accurately determine the type or status of the disease or to predict a patient's response to a specific treatment. Based on the test results, healthcare professionals can tailor the treatment to the individual patient. MMProfiler with SKY92 is the company's lead product. To learn more, please visit www.skylinedx.com.

Media Inquiries for SkylineDx

Dharminder Chahal, SkylineDx
+31 (0)10 703 8410
info@skylinedx.com

Sterk Schakelen maakt innovaties zichtbaar

Het openen van een kantoor op het Pivotal Park voelt voor Nienke Oldenburg (biochemicus) van Sterk Schakelen een beetje als thuiskomen. “Jaren geleden werkte ik als research medewerker en applicatiespecialist voor Organon Teknika. Nu combineer ik mijn farma achtergrond met kennis van online marketing en webdesign om bedrijven in de life sciences te ondersteunen met hun communicatie en online zichtbaarheid.



Na een carrière bij verschillende farmaceutische bedrijven start Nienke een eigen bureau voor webdesign. Ze werkt tien jaar met veel plezier voor klanten uit diverse branches. “Maar vorig jaar begon het toch weer te kriebelen, ik wilde meer doen met mijn achtergrond en interesse in farma en life sciences. Ik denk in oplossingen, heb veel affiniteit met dit vakgebied en spreek de taal. Hierdoor kan ik gericht meedenken en bedrijven ondersteunen om zichzelf of hun producten zichtbaar te maken. Ik help zowel startups, kleine als middelgrote bedrijven om hun innovaties in begrijpelijke taal en op een aantrekkelijke manier te presenteren aan klanten en investeerders”, vertelt zij enthousiast.

Plezierig en laagdrempelig

Dat de komst naar het Pivotal Park een goeie stap is, blijkt wel uit het project dat Sterk Schakelen inmiddels uitvoert voor mede ‘Pivotal Parker’ InProcess-LSP. “In januari zijn we gestart met een online marketingtraject om bekendheid te genereren voor een nieuw instrument. Ik werk daarvoor samen met een PR- en marketingstrategie. Als projectmanager maak ik de vertaalslag voor de klant. Voor specialisaties schakel ik de deskundigen uit mijn netwerk in, denk bijvoorbeeld aan vormgevers, marketingstrategen, videografen of tekstschrijvers. Ik ben sterk in het contact en het schakelen tussen mensen. Op het Pivotal Park heerst een fijne laagdrempelige sfeer waardoor je gemakkelijk bij elkaar binnenloopt. Ik merk dat klanten dat enorm waarderen. Het is hier plezierig werken, met als leuke bijkomstigheid dat ik nog regelmatig oud-collega's uit mijn Organontijd tegen het lijf loop.”

www.sterkschakelen.nl

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