

Courtagen Life Sciences Announces Collaboration with Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) for Genetic Analysis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Patients

Courtagen to provide genetic profiling of patients in Connecticut Children's Autism Neurogenetics Clinic.

WOBURN, MA. April 23 2014 - Courtagen Life Sciences, Inc., an innovative molecular information company, announced today a collaboration with Connecticut Children's Medical Center to utilize Courtagen's sophisticated Next Generation Sequencing assays to help identify and characterize alterations found in genes associated with ASD.

“Through the use of our new devSEEK™ sequencing panel targeting developmental delay, intellectual disability, and autism spectrum disorders, we expect our collaboration to help elucidate the linkages between certain gene alterations and ASD phenotypes beyond what is possible with current testing technologies, such as chromosomal microarrays,” said Brian McKernan, CEO of Courtagen. “We are delighted to partner with CCMC on this important genomics initiative, and hope to bring more pieces to the puzzle.”

“We are excited to partner with Courtagen on this initiative with the hope of gaining better insight into the role of genetic alterations in autism spectrum disorders. Our study will look at the association between specific genetic changes and phenotypes in children diagnosed with autism in our Autism Spectrum Assessment Program (ASAP) and Autism Neurogenetics Clinic,” said Louisa Kalsner, MD, Pediatric Neurologist at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. “We anticipate that through analysis of detailed historical and medical information, alongside results of the sophisticated genetic analysis provided by Courtagen, we will gain a better understanding of which genes play a role in the development of autism in our patients.”

About Courtagen Life Sciences, Inc.

Courtagen is a privately-held life sciences and molecular information company that converts genomic data into actionable clinical information for the diagnosis of critical pediatric neurological and metabolic disorders. Specifically, Courtagen focuses on mitochondrial disorders, epilepsy, and intellectual disability, including autism spectrum disorders. Courtagen's state-of-the-art Next-Generation Sequencing clinical laboratory integrates genotype, phenotype, and disease mechanism data using cloud-based computing and custom analytical methods to provide the most comprehensive results for clinicians, patients, and their families to better understand and treat their disease. More information can be found at www.courtagen.com.

About Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Connecticut Children's Medical Center is a nationally recognized, 187-bed, non-profit children's hospital serving as the primary teaching hospital for the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. Named among the best in the nation for several of its pediatric specialties in the annual U.S. News & World Report "Best Children's Hospitals" rankings, Connecticut Children's is the only free-standing children's hospital in Connecticut that offers comprehensive, world-class health care to children. www.connecticutchildrens.org