

## **Courtagen Life Sciences Announced Today the Launch of Two New Next Generation DNA Sequencing Tests for Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Developmental Delay, Intellectual Disability, and Autism Spectrum Disorders**

*Courtagen launched today devSEEK™ and devACT™ clinical genetic tests*

WOBURN, MA. May 6, 2014 - Courtagen Life Sciences, Inc., an innovative molecular information company, announced today the release of the devSEEK™ Sequence Analysis for Neurodevelopmental Disorders Panel and the devACT™ Clinical Management Panel.

Courtagen's devSEEK™ test focuses on just over one hundred genes known to be causative of **neurodevelopmental disorders**, including **autism spectrum disorders**. Test results provide information that may be used to identify a known genetic cause and, to direct care and services for the patient.

Courtagen's devACT™ test screens for over two hundred known treatable **genetic disorders** with the clinical presentation of **autism spectrum or other developmental disorders**. Results confirming such disorders are likely to change clinical management. Before now, a test like this never existed for patients.

“Often diagnosis of such neurodevelopmental disorders is challenging due to the wide range of symptoms and severity. Multiple lines of evidence support that genetic factors play a pivotal role,” said Brian McKernan, Chief Executive Officer of Courtagen. “Our new tests take advantage of recent advances in next generation sequencing technology and enable new opportunities to elucidate genetic causes and guide treatment to improve the patient's quality of life.”

“Until now, testing for these conditions was only possible by ordering over 20 separate and highly-specialized tests, which is very expensive, and in many cases invasive, including a spinal tap. With many of these causes, early diagnosis and treatment can make a dramatic difference in the outcome of the child”, said Richard Boles, M.D., Medical Director of Courtagen. “In some cases, targeted treatment can mitigate autistic and other disruptive behaviors. With hundreds of treatable conditions, these benefits cannot be realized without an exact diagnosis. Now, any physician can order Courtagen's test, and receive all of that information, and more, from a single saliva sample.”

### **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](http://www.courtagen.com).

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