

# Genetics and oncology

Gene expression and antibodies for diagnostics.

## MACS Anti-Melanoma MicroBeads

Miltenyi Biotec [www.miltenyibiotec.com](http://www.miltenyibiotec.com)

*Combined cell enrichment and staining*

Anti-Melanoma MicroBeads are used to enrich disseminated melanoma cells from peripheral blood, bone marrow and lymphoid tissue and for purifying melanoma cells from single-cell suspensions of skin biopsies. The antibody, clone 9.2.27, conjugated to MicroBeads, recognizes a surface antigen expressed by most melanomas. Following enrichment, melanoma cells can be analysed by immunocytochemistry, flow cytometry or RT-PCR, or taken directly into culture.

**Reader Service No. 100**

## GeneMap

Genomic Solutions [www.genomicsolutions.com](http://www.genomicsolutions.com)

*Pre-printed microarrays*

The GeneMap array consists of 1,152 cancer-related genes spotted in duplicate within a 9 × 9, 32-patch array, with a centre-to-centre spacing between spots set at 400 μm. A control gene, the Q gene from lambda, is spotted at the A1 position of each patch, and there are eight blanks within each patch. A gene list can be downloaded from the company's website.

**Reader Service No. 101**

## c-Met

Zymed [www.zymed.com](http://www.zymed.com)

*Prognostic marker for cancers*

Rabbit anti-c-Met antibody (PAD: CVD13) can be used in immunohistochemistry applications for the detection of formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissues and western blotting of human samples. c-Met (HGFR) is a proto-oncogene (locus 7q21q31) and a cell-surface receptor for hepatocyte growth factor. c-Met is overexpressed in many cancers and often amplified between tumorigenesis and metastasis. As such, it may be a useful prognostic marker in breast cancer, gastric carcinoma, endometrial carcinoma and others.

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## GeneSystem320

KPL [www.kpl.com](http://www.kpl.com)

*A fragmented approach*

This system uses a defined set of 320 PCR primers and dedicated software available over the Internet to identify known genes or for gene discovery. A message fragmentation protocol involves isolation of actively transcribing genes, isolating a single fragment per mRNA molecule, and conducting specific combinatorial oligo PCR on the fragments. GS320 is

available for human, mouse and rat.

**Reader Service No. 103**

## WAVE for ATM

Transgenomic [www.transgenomic.co.uk](http://www.transgenomic.co.uk)

*Detecting ATM exon 42 mutations*

The Transgenomic WAVE Nucleic Acid Fragment Analysis System performs rapid, automated separation and quantification of single- and double-stranded nucleic-acid fragments, allowing for high throughput, greater accuracy, higher resolution, and substantial savings in cost per sample. The company's Application Note 108 covers the use of WAVE technology for the detection of the ATM (ataxia-telangiectasia) gene.

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## Beclin 1 antibody

Novus Biologicals [www.novus-biologicals.com](http://www.novus-biologicals.com)

*Antibody to key autophagy protein*

Novus have introduced an antibody to beclin 1. *beclin 1* is the first identified mammalian gene to mediate autophagy, and has also been attributed with tumour suppression and antiviral functions. It is speculated that Beclin 1 may work through induction of autophagy to negatively regulate tumorigenesis and control viral infections.

**Reader Service No. 105**

## GeneXPRO contract services

InnoGenex [www.innogenex.com](http://www.innogenex.com)

*Gene profiling at your service*

GeneXPRO will carry out assays to analyse cellular and tissue-level expression for gene expression profiling and perform target localization and validation. Gene profiling services include design, synthesis and labelling of probes, correlation of gene expression profile



Catch a WAVE.

with normal and pathogenic conditions on cells, tissues and tissue arrays, and determination of changes in gene expression in response to candidate drugs. Other services available include screening mouse monoclonal antibodies on mouse tissues, immunohistochemistry and *in situ* hybridization on human and rodent tissues.

**Reader Service No. 106**

## COLARIS

Myriad [www.myriad.com](http://www.myriad.com)

*Calculated risk*

This predictive test assesses an individual's risk of developing hereditary colon cancer based on the presence of a mutation in either of two genes. The same mutations also substantially increase a woman's risk of endometrial cancer. A positive COLARIS test result indicates an 80% lifetime risk of colon cancer, and a 40–60% risk of uterine cancer in women.

**Reader Service No. 107**

*These notes are compiled in the Nature office from information provided by the manufacturers.*

### ADVERTISEMENTS

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