

ON THE MARKET

EARLY DETECTION SYSTEMS

The rapid detection of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) is possible with the **myoglobin assay** from Randox. The assay can be fully automated and uses a latex-enhanced technique, which is said to enable accurate detection of myoglobin in minutes. Features of the assay include a broad measuring range up to myoglobin levels of 1,000 ng/ml and a stated sensitivity down to 4.8 ng/ml. Moreover, Randox says that high antibody avidity and concentration reduces prozone effects, with a prozone limit of up to 2,000 ng/ml; there is minimal interference from methemoglobin and rheumatoid factor.

Reader Service No. 94

Tel. (+44) (0) 1849-422413

Fax (+44) (0) 1849-452912

The endostatin protein Accucyte immunoassay kit, which was developed collaboratively by EntreMed and CytImmune Sciences, enables the **detection of human endostatin protein** in biological fluids, such as blood, in patients with cancer and cardiovascular disease. For its part, CytImmune Sciences developed the endostatin antibody and the critical components of the kit; EntreMed supplied purified recombinant endostatin for the generation of the antibody and for use as the kit standard against which unknown endostatin protein is measured.

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Tel. (+1) 301-445-4220 (CytImmune)

Tel. (+1) 301-738-2490 (EntreMed)

Cambio has an **ELISA for the study of cortisol** in stress patients. Cortisol is released by the adrenal cortex in times of stress and high levels of the hormone have been correlated to medical conditions such as clinical depression and cardiovascular disease. Until now, testing for the presence of cortisol has been done using conventional blood-based assays—a procedure that can itself increase the stress levels in patients under test. Cambio's non-invasive test uses saliva. The test is based on work at done at Cambio and that of Cambridge University.

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Fax (+44) (0) 1223-350069

IMMOBILIZATION/CAPTURE STRATEGIES



Acrydite oligonucleotide modification chemistry.

Acrydite, designed for DNA immobilization and hybridization applications, provides researchers with an easy-to-use, single-step DNA-attachment capability and a high-speed DNA-hybridization process. Developed by Mosaic Technologies, Acrydite **oligonucleotide modification chemistry** allows nucleic acid probes to be immobilized into the gel matrix itself—turning the gel, in effect, into a hybridization support. This allows researchers to attach DNA to any surface in seconds using familiar laboratory methods, says Mosaic. Moreover, the entire hybridization process can be completed in less than 30 min.

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Tel. (+1) 800-688-2248 (Operon

Technologies-distributor)

Tel. (+1) 800-533-4363 (Research

Genetics-distributor)

Tel. (+1) 617-232-7636 (Mosaic

Technologies)

PCR AND POLYMERASES



Teche's Touchgene thermal cycler comes in eight models.

The Touchgene **thermal cycler** from Teche features a 115 mm × 90 mm touch-sensitive display that not only incorporates a full keypad but also displays a real-time graphical representation of both the sample block and calculated sample temperature. The instrument's user interface is designed to simplify the programming and storage of complex protocols; SmartMedia memory cards provide the user with an alternative to the internal memory. All of the eight

Touchgene models come with a quick-release, heated lid with pressure regulation as standard.

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Tel. (+44) (0) 1223-832401

Fax (+44) (0) 1223-836838



Seeing red with REDTaq DNA polymerase.

Seeing is believing, says Sigma, with its REDTaq **Taq DNA polymerase** that, when added to a tube, produces a thin red layer that is visible at the bottom. As such, any uncertainty that can occur with interruptions in pipetting is eliminated. When the red color is uniform, a solution is thoroughly mixed. REDTaq requires no loading buffers, as the post-PCR samples are dense enough to be loaded directly onto an agarose gel. The red dye works as a tracking dye, migrating just faster than bromophenol blue, says Sigma. REDTaq is formulated at one unit per microliter and so is easier to pipette accurately.

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Tel. (+1) 314-771-5765

Fax (+1) 314-771-5757

CLONE BY PHONE

Edge Biosystems now offers rapid **sequence-to-clone screening service**. The company uses a high-throughput method to screen 10^7 clones from their large (10^8 clones/library) and complex libraries. To ensure best results, Edge says it uses quality libraries: Oriented vectors, high representation, low background (<1.0%), and large inserts. The presence of a rare and large (9 kb) gene such as TP-1 is checked during quality control. With Seq-to-Clone, all you need to provide is about 100 bp of sequence: No primers are needed. Researchers may select up to 10 of Edge's premium libraries or a custom library (using a vector of your choice) can be made in as little as 2–3 weeks. Five of the largest clones or an ORF will be delivered in a high expression mammalian vector.

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