



Harnessing the power of T cell measurement

Press Release

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Study results confirm T-SPOT[®].TB is cost-effective in TB control programmes

Oxford, UK; 9th October 2007 – Oxford Immunotec Ltd, the T cell measurement company, today announced the publication of a recent study demonstrating that T-SPOT.TB is cost-effective when used in contact tracing investigation.

In this study taken from the European Respiratory Journal, actual data obtained from the Lausanne University Medical Polyclinic was used in a Markov model to calculate the cost-effectiveness of different screening strategies used for contact tracing.

Three models were compared; Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) alone, T-SPOT.TB alone and a two step approach in which those that were positive by the TST were then given a T-SPOT.TB test. The most cost-effective was the T-SPOT.TB alone.

The study shows that T-SPOT.TB based screening is cost-effective compared to doing no screening or running TST based programs. Also the use of T-SPOT.TB, either alone or in combination with TST, greatly reduces the number of contacts treated to prevent one TB case.

Commenting on the results, Dr Peter Wrighton-Smith, Chief Executive Officer of Oxford Immunotec said, "this study highlights the effectiveness of T-SPOT.TB when used in TB control programmes. Not only does the test identify infected subjects more accurately than existing tests, it also does this in a cost-effective manner. This study will provide further evidence for the use of T-SPOT.TB in contact tracing which will allow the test to become a cornerstone of future Guidelines for TB control".

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Notes to editors:

About Oxford Immunotec

www.oxfordimmunotec.com

Oxford Immunotec, the T cell measurement company, is headquartered near Oxford, UK. The Company develops and sells clinical diagnostic products based on its patented T-SPOT[®] technology, the first regulatory approved method for directly quantifying antigen-specific T cells.

T-SPOT is a simple and extremely accurate method of studying a person's cellular immune response to infection and can be applied to diagnose and monitor any major disease driven by a T cell response.

About T-SPOT[®].TB

T-SPOT.TB is an *in vitro* T cell measurement assay used for diagnosing TB disease and latent TB infection and the first product from Oxford Immunotec using the T-SPOT technology. The product is extremely robust in that it gives a result every time and offers unrivalled and maintained sensitivity in high risk and immunocompromised patient groups. T-SPOT.TB is approved for sale in Europe, Canada & over 40 other countries worldwide and is designed to replace the 115 year old Tuberculin Skin Test. As such it offers a substantially more accurate and effective tool for controlling the spread of TB, addressing a market exceeding \$1bn.

Unlike the traditional Tuberculin Skin Test, the T-SPOT.TB test incorporates a positive control, allowing the user to distinguish between a genuine negative result and one which is indeterminate (i.e. an inconclusive result) as a result of a technical failure.

T-SPOT is a trademark of Oxford Immunotec.

Journal Reference

Diel R, Wrighton-Smith P and Zellweger J-P. Cost-effectiveness of IGRA testing for the treatment of latent tuberculosis infection in Switzerland. ERJ 2007.