

Press Release

SYGNIS AG announces new tool for the detection and amplification of cell-free DNA in blood, a critical step for the early diagnosis and prevention of tumors

- **New tool is based on SYGNIS' TruePrime™ technology**
- **Enables the early detection of cancer using a blood sample instead of tissue biopsies**
- **Several top-level collaborations with hospitals and research centers in Europe and the US established to further develop the kit**
- **Market launch expected for Q4 2016**

Madrid, Spain, 17 June 2016 – SYGNIS AG (Frankfurt: LIO1; ISIN: DE000A1RFM03; Prime Standard) today announced that it has developed a new tool in its TruePrime™ product line to detect and amplify fragments of floating DNA derived from tumor cells in the blood. This innovative new product enables researchers to obtain sufficient quantities of DNA samples for any further downstream analysis.

This product, based on SYGNIS' proprietary TruePrime™ technology, will be used in particular to detect early-stage tumors by liquid biopsy, a new approach that represents a major advance in cancer diagnostics. Compared to the invasive solid tissue biopsies used today, liquid biopsies will enable the analysis of very small quantities of tumor DNA circulating in a patient's blood and the detection of disease already at a very early stage. Positive results have been obtained to date with the new kit, which will be the first of its kind on the market. It will be marketed under the name "TruePrime™ Cell-Free DNA Amplification Kit."

This new method was recently presented to international media in Madrid by SYGNIS' scientific advisors Prof. Margarita Salas and Prof. Luis Blanco and Chief Executive Officer, Pilar de la Huerta.

"When healthy and tumor cells die, they release small pieces of DNA which float in our blood and bodily fluids. This is known as cell-free DNA, of which there is very little in our bodies. Today, a lot of research is ongoing to find solutions to harvest these small pieces of DNA and amplify (copy) them to obtain a sufficient quantity to read (sequence) and analyze. This solution will enable us to find out, for example, whether a tumor is developing while it is still at an early stage," said Prof. Luis Blanco, scientific advisor of SYGNIS.

To analyze low concentrations of cell-free DNA present in the bloodstream, a very sensitive tool is needed for prior amplification. SYGNIS' new technology enables the amplification of quantities of DNA as low as femtograms (1 femtogram = 10^{-15} gram).

"There is a major demand within the research community to amplify cell-free DNA in the blood. Due to the small quantities usually available to carry out diagnostic studies, amplification becomes a crucial step," **Pilar de la Huerta, CEO of SYGNIS, explained.**

"In order to further develop this new tool, we have entered into collaborations with leading US and European hospitals and academic research groups, as clinicians and academic researchers will be the main customers for our new product. We strongly believe that new methods such as liquid biopsies will help to significantly increase the early diagnosis of life-threatening diseases, and we are highly committed to contributing to this effort with our innovative tools that can be easily and rapidly adopted."

The new product TruePrime™ Cell-Free DNA Amplification Kit is part of a range of kits based on the TruePrime™ technology, a proprietary, innovative DNA amplification technology based on a combination of proteins working together to amplify small amounts of DNA in a very efficient way. In addition to high sensitivity, the new SYGNIS kit also is highly reproducible and reliable in the amplification of different types of DNA samples.

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About SYGNIS AG: www.sygnis.com

SYGNIS, headquartered in Germany and Spain, specializes in the development and commercialization of innovative products for DNA amplification and sequencing. Based on its proprietary technologies, SYGNIS has developed a commercial product portfolio addressing key challenges in the fast-growing fields of molecular biology and next-generation sequencing applications. Key products include the TruePrime™ product line and SensiPhi®, licensed to a leading industry partner, for whole genome DNA amplification and sequencing, as well as the SunScript™ Reverse Transcriptase product family to convert genetic information from RNA molecules back to DNA. SYGNIS AG is listed on the German Stock Exchange in the Prime Standard segment (Ticker: LIO1; ISIN: DE000A1RFM03).

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