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DARPA AWARDS INFLAMMATIX UP TO $1.1 MILLION TO DEVELOP DIAGNOSTIC THAT PREDICTS COVID-19 SEVERITY RISK

New Data Shows Inflammatix Machine Learning-Based Approach of Reading Immune System is Superior to IL-6 and Other Measures in Predicting Patients at High Risk for Severe COVID-19

BURLINGAME, Calif. – September 29, 2020 – Inflammatix, a pioneering molecular diagnostics company, announced today that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has awarded the company up to $1.1 million for further development of a rapid diagnostic that reads the immune system to predict severe respiratory failure risk in COVID-19 patients. The diagnostic is being developed to help physicians make better hospital admission and resourcing decisions for COVID-19 patients at hospital presentation.

The Inflammatix approach – known as host-response diagnostics – rapidly reads the immune system using multiple mRNA biomarkers and a machine learning algorithm. The company is developing other host-response diagnostic tests that identify the presence and type of infection (viral or bacterial), in addition to predicting the risk of severe disease, to enable physicians to make more informed decisions for patients with acute infection and sepsis.

"We are grateful that DARPA has recognized the promise of our host-response approach to benefit COVID-19 patients and caregivers, and we look forward to accelerating development and availability of our CoVerity™ COVID-19 Severity Test as a result of this agreement," said Inflammatix CEO and Cofounder Tim Sweeney, MD, PhD. "The 5-mRNA classifier for CoVerity was developed on a training set of more than 20 clinical studies and we intend to translate it into a rapid assay that can be used as a clinical tool to help triage patients after diagnosis with COVID-19. Improved triage has the potential to reduce morbidity and mortality while enabling hospitals to allocate resources more effectively."

The company's host-response diagnostic approach for predicting COVID-19 severity risk was shown to be superior to clinical biomarkers, including IL-6, in a new study presented last week at the 2020 European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infection Diseases (ESCMID) Conference on Coronavirus Disease (ECCVID).

"While major progress has been made in developing rapid platforms to diagnose SARS-CoV-2 infection, predicting severity in COVID-19 patients remains an unmet medical need," said Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, MD, Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at ATTIKON University General Hospital in Athens, Greece, Chairman of the European Sepsis Alliance, President of the European Shock Society, and lead investigator for the study. "In this study, the host-response approach demonstrated very high accuracy for identifying severe disease in COVID-19 patients and outperformed clinical markers for risk stratification. Existing

tools have shown limited accuracy in enabling us to confidently identify high-risk patients early who need close monitoring or discharge non-severe patients to recover at home."

In this prospective study of 97 patients with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia and blood drawn on the day of admission at ATTIKON University General Hospital in Athens, Greece, CoVerity demonstrated an area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC) of 0.88 (95% CI 0.81-0.95) for identifying patients who developed respiratory failure or died, independent of age, while IL-6 had an AUROC of 0.73 (95% CI 0.62 - 0.85). The new classifier had the highest accuracy among all single biomarkers tested, including IL-6, procalcitonin, C-reactive protein, lactate, and SuPAR.

This agreement is part of DARPA's efforts to develop platform technologies that can be deployed safely and rapidly to provide the U.S. population with near-immediate protection against emerging infectious diseases and engineered biological weapons, even in cases when the pathogen or infectious agent is unknown.

About Inflammatix

Inflammatix is a molecular diagnostics company that is reimagining diagnostics by reading the patient's immune system to deliver rapid results that improve patient care and reduce major public health burdens. The company's initial focus is on acute infections and sepsis, where its tests combine proprietary biomarkers and advanced machine learning to help physicians quickly get the right treatments to the right patients. Future tests will be developed to run on the company's sample-to-answer isothermal instrument platform, Myrna™, in under 30 minutes, enabling the power of precision medicine at the point of care. The Burlingame, Calif.-based company is funded by leading medical technology investors including Khosla Ventures, Northpond Ventures, the Stanford StartX Fund, Think.Health Ventures and OSF Ventures. For more information, please visit www.inflammatix.com and follow the company on Twitter (@Inflammatix_Inc).

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