



## **For Immediate Release**

**November 10, 2015**

### **Ceres Nanosciences announces publication of data from pioneering clinical study to develop urine based Lyme Antigen Test**

*Development progress and publication of data for urine-based Nanotrap® Lyme Antigen test leads to expanded offering of test and new funding to obtain approval from FDA.*

**MANASSAS, Va. — November 10, 2015 —** Ceres Nanosciences, Inc. (Ceres) announced today the publication of a three year 300-person clinical study in the Journal of Translational Medicine. The study, titled: “*Application of Nanotrap technology for high sensitivity measurement of urinary outer surface protein A carboxyl-terminus domain in early stage Lyme borreliosis*” documents the development and data behind Ceres’ groundbreaking test for Lyme disease. The clinical study was led by George Mason University in partnership with four patient clinics in northern VA and MD. The test is the first highly-sensitive urine based test capable of directly detecting the Lyme protein antigen in a patient at any stage of infection. It is now available across the United States for physician offices to order for their patients.

Additionally, to accelerate the expansion of Ceres’ Lyme test program, Ceres has been awarded funding from the Virginia Biosciences Health Research Corporation (VBHRC) to adapt the test to a new format for FDA approval and to incorporate additional testing capabilities for other tick-borne diseases.

Ceres, a biotechnology company located in northern Virginia, has developed and commercialized a novel nanoparticle technology, the “Nanotrap®”, which provides powerful biofluid sample processing capabilities for cutting edge diagnostic applications and sample handling needs.

The Nanotrap technology was invented at George Mason University under funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for biomarker discovery applications. Currently it is being developed into commercial products by Ceres with support from the NIH, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

“We are very excited about the Nanotrap Lyme Antigen test. It is the first urine based test that directly measures the presence of proteins from the Lyme pathogen itself. This test can render an accurate and objective measurement of the presence of Lyme infection at any stage of infection,” said Ross Dunlap, Chief Executive Officer of Ceres. “Without the Nanotrap technology as an upfront sample concentration step, this assay would not be possible. The Nanotrap technology is contributing already to the medical field’s understanding of Lyme disease, and other infectious diseases, leading to better tests, vaccines, and therapies.”

“Our test offers a much higher sensitivity and specificity compared to existing Lyme testing methods. We are measuring a Lyme surface protein region that is conserved across all the known Lyme species and strains that infect patients in America and Europe. The Nanotrap particles enhance the sensitivity of this test one hundred fold.” said Dr. Lance Liotta, principal investigator of the Lyme Disease Clinical Trial and Co-Director of the Center for Applied Proteomics and Molecular Medicine at George Mason University and co-founder of Ceres.

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**About Ceres Nanosciences, Inc.**

Ceres Nanosciences is a privately held company focused on the development of research and diagnostic products using its unique and proprietary Nanotrap® capture particle technology. Ceres' business goals are to develop a number of commercial applications of the Nanotrap® for high-demand diagnostics and other needs in the life sciences industry.

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