Companion Diagnostics at NeoGenomics Laboratories



A focus on personalized medicines and immune-modulating drugs has given rise to biomarker-focused oncology clinical studies. The use of biological signatures to identify patients that will benefit from a particular therapy has greatly accelerated the pace of drug development and approval. For this reason, there has been increased use of biomarkers and more specifically companion diagnostics, in current oncology drug development. With more than 30 active programs with pharmaceutical sponsors and IVD companies NeoGenomics has been a key player in this new approach to oncology drug development.

As the development of personalized/precision medicine gains momentum, pharmaceutical companies are creating partnerships with device and diagnostic organizations for the development of companion diagnostics to accompany novel therapeutics in clinical trials. By definition a companion diagnostic is a medical device, most often an in vitro device, that by design provides critical information that can predetermine the safe and effective use of an established therapeutic in three major ways.

- Identify patients that will have optimal beneficial response to the drug
- Identify patients that will not respond or may be at risk with the drug and should not receive treatment
- Monitor responses to drug treatment for the purpose of adjusting treatment to potentially improve safety or effectiveness.

Because companion diagnostics are regulated devices, there are additional development requirements beyond those for biomarker or clinical assays used in clinical trials. Careful consideration must be given to the regulatory strategy and design of the assay and supporting technology platform to ensure that the device can be successfully commercialized. As a global organization, NeoGenomics is notably resourced with strong clinical and scientific expertise in multiple biomarker technologies that can develop, initiate and deliver companion diagnostic programs worldwide from clinical trials all the way through commercialization.

NeoGenomics has extensive experience working directly with large oncology IVD manufacturers across a multitude of platforms. These include Hoffmann-La Roche AG (Switzerland), Becton Dickinson, Agilent Technologies, Inc. (US), QIAGEN N.V. (acquired by Thermo Fisher Scientific) (Germany), Abbott Laboratories, Inc. (US), Danaher Corporation (US), Illumina, Inc. (US), NanoString (US), and Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. (US). Because of these strategic relationships, NeoGenomics can engage in a collaborative enterprise with pharmaceutical organizations who are seeking to develop a companion diagnostic biomarker.

The global nature of clinical trials and drug development requires networks of harmonized laboratories and partners to ensure that assays developed in early phase development are scalable to the rest of the world. With NeoGenomics' recent expansion into Singapore and China (laboratory) with a focus on supporting real-time companion diagnostic testing and established partnerships with global manufacturing partners, NeoGenomics is well positioned to continue our efforts in the global market to develop and commercialize companion diagnostics.

As the largest oncology-focused clinical reference laboratory in the United States, NeoGenomics uses a multitude of platforms and resources that not only supports companion diagnostic development but also commercial launch. Our Day One Launch program ensures that physicians and patients have access to companion diagnostic testing immediately following FDA approval of the drug/device combination.



Anatomic Pathology



Flow Cytometry



Immunoassay



Molecular



Multiplexed IF



FISH & Cytogenetics

In recent case studies associated with Merck and Novartis, NeoGenomics lead all other diagnostic companies in the development and commercialization of at least two successful companion diagnostics for targeted cancer therapies, KeyTruda and Pigray to support drug launch.

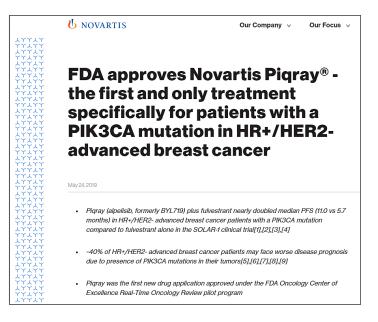
With known development and regulatory expertise NeoGenomics has created defined processes associated with each aspect of the program that involves coordinated efforts in the areas of Consultation; Customization; Commercialization; and Consolidation. Development of companion diagnostics is complex and time consuming. Our team of scientists, pathologists and business development professionals are here to help.

Consultation	Platform and technology selection
	Study design
	 Regulatory support and submission
	• Pathology
	Commercial Strategy
Customization	Assay Development
	 Fit for purpose assay design and validation
	• Global harmonization. Clinical trial testing (Phase 1-3)
	Project management
	Data management
Commercialization	• IVD Partnerships
	• Single-site FDA approved test
	USA commercial launch
	Partnerships for Ex-US launch
	Day One Launch Program
	Sponsored testing program
	Data services
Consolidation	Consolidate specialty testing with one CRO

Novartis CDx Case Study – Pigray.

NeoGenomics Becomes First to Launch PIK3CA CDx as Part of 'Day One' Program







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