

NEXT GEN DIAGNOSTICS ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF ITS OFFICE AT THE WELLCOME TRUST GENOME CAMPUS OUTSIDE OF CAMBRIDGE, UK

CAMBRIDGE UK and MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, June 30, 2017 – Next Gen Diagnostics announces the opening of its office at the Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, outside of Cambridge in Hinxton, UK. The Campus, which houses the renowned Sanger Institute, includes 2,500 genomic and bioinformatics scientists and support staff, and is one of the world’s leading centers for genomics, and has produced approximately 30% of all the pathogen sequences uploaded to GenBank to date. Next Gen’s office is in the BioData Innovation Centre, the first building on Campus to house companies. As such, Next Gen benefits from ready proximity to a world leading community of pathogen genomics researchers.

“Locating on Campus has been crucial, enabling us to efficiently interact with a wide range of advisors with world-leading expertise,” said Paul A. Rhodes, Ph.D., Next Gen’s CEO. “Every aspect of what we are developing, from automation of sample preparation to the development of well-validated automated bioinformatic systems for transmission detection, benefits from feedback we receive daily from someone on Campus. We hope in turn the work we are doing in pushing the boundaries of the use of machine learning to prediction pathogen characteristics from sequence has benefitted those who have interned with us. In addition, the Campus is a truly extraordinary environment in which to work every day, and we look forward to building our team there with great success in the years to come.”

“Next Gen exemplifies the companies we wish to attract to the BioData Innovation Centre which we launched in 2016 on the Wellcome Genome Campus,” said Dr. Adrian Ibrahim, Head of Technology Transfer and Business Development for the Wellcome Sanger Institute. “We seek companies which have synergy with the genomics research that defines the Campus, wish to work with our research community, and which have vibrant plans to bring genomic technologies into the clinic to benefit society. Next Gen fulfills all those goals. In addition, we have sought corporate members for our community whose example and presence could foster an atmosphere of entrepreneurship on Campus, to inspire startups of our own, and in this again Next Gen has exceeded our expectations. We have great expectations for what will come of the automated bioinformatics service they have developed.”

About the Next Gen Diagnostics WGS System

Next Gen Diagnostics has developed and deployed a fully automated pathogen bioinformatics analysis pipeline, based on the bioinformatics pipeline and expertise of the Sanger Institute. An interactive information system, the NGD Dashboard, is furnished, each morning highlighting the new transmission chains detected (if any) the night before along with new cases added to already-identified outbreak. Tools enable and support the action of infection control teams and other stakeholders in validating and intervening to stop outbreak. In addition, the NGD Dashboard includes modules that predict antibiogram, compare that prediction with phenotype, and enumerate the sample’s full resistome profile including all genes and mutations known to be associated with resistance. Quality control is embedded throughout the system. Information

visibility can be tiered by user ID, so infection control teams are presented with interpreted and actionable results (patient status within each transmission chain) while senior leadership can have access to layers of visualization suitable for expert review.

About Next Gen Diagnostics

Headquartered in Mountain View California and with a team based at the world-renowned Sanger Institute outside Cambridge, UK, Next Gen Diagnostics (NGD) has developed the world's most complete automation of pathogen WGS bioinformatics and has combined that with a highly automated robotic sample preparation and sequencing service to offer hospitals a unique turn-key capability: on site, 24 hour WGS results to enable transmission detection and outbreak prevention. Now deployed, validated and in clinical use, this system has already proven to detect transmission, and, in partnership with hospital infection control teams to prevent outbreaks.

About the Wellcome Sanger Institute

The Wellcome Sanger Institute is one of the world's leading genome centres. Through its ability to conduct research at scale, it is able to engage in bold and long-term exploratory projects that are designed to influence and empower medical science globally. Institute research findings, generated through its own research programmes and through its leading role in international consortia, are being used to develop new diagnostics and treatments for human disease. Find out more at www.sanger.ac.uk or follow [@sangerinstitute](https://twitter.com/sangerinstitute)

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