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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Ipsogen's JAK2 MutaQuant™ assay chosen to monitor molecular response in two large international leukemia trials on Polycythemia Vera and Essential Thrombocythemia**

**Marseille, France, July 25, 2011** — IPSOGEN SA (Alternext: ALIPS), a majority-owned subsidiary of QIAGEN N.V. (Nasdaq: QGEN / Frankfurt, Prime Standard: QIA), today announced that its JAK2 MutaQuant™ assay has been selected by the MyeloProliferative Disorders Research Consortium (MPD-RC) to assess the JAK V617F mutation load in two international multicenter trials supported by the National Cancer Institute and Roche Pharma AG. IPSOGEN will contribute all JAK2 MutaQuant™ kits required for the two studies.

Quantification of JAK2 V617F load at preplanned time points will be used to assess molecular response in patients with Polycythemia Vera (PV) or Essential Thrombocythemia (ET), in combination with classical clinical and hematological parameters. Both trials, involving investigational centres in the US and Europe, are planned to start in September 2011 and run for three years.

In the first trial, 600 PV or ET patients will be randomised to either hydroxyurea or pegylated interferon alfa-2a. In the second trial, 188 high-risk PV or ET patients will receive salvage therapy with pegylated interferon alfa-2a (see <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01259856?term=MPD-RC&rank=7> and <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01259817?term=MPD-RC&rank=5> for additional information).

*"We are pleased to bring our contribution to this large international scientific programme, that should generate supportive data on the value of molecular monitoring in treatment and follow-up of MPN patients", concluded Vincent Fert, CEO of IPSOGEN. "The discovery of JAKV617F has been a significant progress for diagnosis of Myeloproliferative Neoplasms, and molecular monitoring based on JAK2 V617F mutation load quantification could represent an equally important second step, opening the field of personalised medicine to MPN patients" added Hélène Peyro-Saint-Paul, MD, CMO of IPSOGEN.*

#### **About Myeloproliferative Neoplasms and the JAK2 V617F mutation**

Testing for the JAK2 V617F mutation is recommended in the World Health Organization's 2008 guidelines as an aid in the diagnosis of patients suspected of having a BCR-ABL negative myeloproliferative neoplasm (MNP). This group of diseases, which belongs to leukemias, is characterized by chronic overproduction of some blood cell types by the bone marrow. The three main BCR-ABL negative myeloproliferative neoplasms are Polycythemia Vera (PV), Essential Thrombocythemia (ET) and Primary Myelofibrosis (PMF). MPN prevalence is approximately 45-50 cases / 100,000. There is currently no definitive treatment for MPN; a wide range of supportive or modulating treatments are available based on disease severity, from phlebotomy to anti-agregants, various modalities of chemotherapy or immunotherapy.

Quantification of the JAK2 V617F load is proposed to assess molecular response to treatment. Several publications, albeit on limited patient series, have already provided supportive data for this indication. Specific response levels, to be used in clinical trials, have recently been defined by the European Leukemia Network Expert Consensus (Barosi et al, Blood 2009).

IPSOGEN has a worldwide exclusive licence on the JAK2 V617F mutation.



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## About IPSOGEN

*IPSOGEN, cancer profiler, develops and markets molecular diagnostic tests that help to map diseases and guide patients and oncologists' decisions along their therapeutic path.*

*With more than 80 tests already used routinely worldwide for the diagnosis, prognosis and follow up of thousands of patients with leukemia, IPSOGEN is now targeting breast cancer with the aim of providing currently inaccessible diagnostic information.*

*Strengthened by its scientific, clinical and technological partnerships, and by its multidisciplinary team in France and the USA, IPSOGEN intends to become a world leader in the molecular profiling of cancers, and to continue the development and promotion of best-in-class diagnostic references that have a significant impact on patients, medical professionals and society.*

*The company is headquartered in Marseille, France, and has a subsidiary in the USA.*

*IPSOGEN is in the process of merging with QIAGEN N.V. (Nasdaq: QGEN / Frankfurt, Prime Standard: QIA).*

*For further information on IPSOGEN, visit [www.ipsogen.com](http://www.ipsogen.com).*

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