

May 28, 2019



Bio-Techne's New Exosome-Based Liquid Biopsies Helping To Advance Personalized Care In Lung Cancer Diagnostics

MINNEAPOLIS, May 28, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Bio-Techne today announced the publication of a recent validation study demonstrating that the proprietary exosome-based liquid biopsy tests from Bio-Techne's Exosome Diagnostics brand may be used to assess the mutational status of the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (*EGFR*) gene in patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). The data from this study will be available to discuss at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting taking place from May 31 to June 4 in Chicago, IL.

NSCLC is the most common type of lung cancer. Approximately 10-40% of patients with NSCLC have mutations within the *EGFR* gene. Several treatment options for NSCLC use drugs targeting cells with *EGFR* mutations; however, over half of these patients develop resistance during treatment due to the emergence of a resistance mutation in the gene. It is critical that tumor mutations be monitored during therapy of NSCLC patients, given the aggressive nature of this lung cancer, and to ensure that patients receive the most effective treatment option.

The study published in [Oncotarget](#) describes Bio-Techne's proprietary technique to co-isolate exosomal RNA/DNA and cell-free tumor DNA in a single step, followed by a qPCR-based assay to detect 29 different types of mutations in *EGFR*, including *EGFR* T790M.

Highlights of the data include:

- The extended *EGFR* panel achieved a sensitivity of 92% (L858R) and 95% (T790M) both at 100% specificity, and 86% sensitivity for exon 19 indels at 94% specificity in patients with M1b extra-thoracic disease.
- Including the challenging patients with intrathoracic (M0/M1a) disease resulted in a sensitivity of 90% (L858R), 83% (T790M) and 73% for exon 19 indels.

"This a game-changer for liquid biopsies," stated Steven Silverman, VP and General Manager of Bio-Techne's Exosome Diagnostics brand. "The results from this validation study shows not only that our proprietary technique increases the performance of liquid biopsy mutation assays, but it can also be used to measure changes on the RNA transcriptome. In addition, we can enrich for exosomes derived from specific tissues using surface markers, making it possible to profile the RNA transcriptome from those tissue-specific cells in the biofluids."

Forward Looking Statements:

Our press releases may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act. Such statements involve risks and uncertainties that

may affect the actual results of operations. The following important factors, among others, have affected and, in the future, could affect the Company's actual results: the effect of new branding and marketing initiatives, the integration of new businesses and leadership, the introduction and acceptance of new products, the funding and focus of the types of research by the Company's customers, the impact of the growing number of producers of biotechnology research products and related price competition, general economic conditions, the impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations, and the costs and results of research and product development efforts of the Company and of companies in which the Company has invested or with which it has formed strategic relationships.

For additional information concerning such factors, see the section titled "Risk Factors" in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements we make in our press releases due to new information or future events. Investors are cautioned not to place undue emphasis on these statements.

About [Bio-Techne Corporation](#) (NASDAQ: TECH)

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