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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST TEST TO MONITOR PANCREATIC CANCER RECEIVES US MARKET CLEARANCE

Fujirebio Diagnostics CA 19-9™ Radioimmunoassay Receives Clearance for U.S. Marketing

Malvern, Pa., May 13, 2002 – Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc. (FDI), a leading oncology diagnostics company, today announced that it received marketing clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its CA19-9™ Radioimmunoassay (RIA) for monitoring of pancreatic cancer patients. The CA 19-9 RIA is a simple laboratory test that enables physicians to evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of treatment and is the first blood test cleared for use in pancreatic cancer.

"This is great news," said Herbert A. Fritsche, Ph.D., Professor, Biochemist and Chief, Clinical Chemistry at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. "Recent reports, mainly from Europe, have shown that serial measurements of serum CA 19-9 can reflect the response of patients to chemotherapy. The availability of the CA 19-9 test in the U.S. will give us a new tool for early assessment of the effectiveness of the many new drugs that are becoming available for the treatment of metastatic cancer of the pancreas."

CA 19-9 is already available in many countries throughout the world, and is used by oncologists in these countries to measure the effectiveness of pancreatic cancer treatment. Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S.

"The clearance of CA 19-9 by the FDA represents a major milestone for the company," said Aris Petropoulos, President and Chief Operating Officer, FDI. "The assay has been approved for use in every major country around the world and is clinically accepted as the standard of care. We believe that CA 19-9 can positively impact the management of pancreatic cancer patients as a result of this clearance."

An *in-vitro* tumor marker, such as CA 19-9, can enable a physician to evaluate whether there is a need for immediate, additional imaging tests and more aggressive treatment because the disease is progressing, or whether the disease has stabilized and the current therapy should be continued. A decrease in CA 19-9 assay values correlates with a positive response to therapy. An increase in CA 19-9 values may indicate progressive disease and thus aid the physician in assessing treatment regimens.

“The CA 19-9 assay has now been clinically proven in studies performed in the U.S. to correlate with disease status,” said Daniel J. O’Shannessy, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc. “Since it is a simple blood test, the CA 19-9 assay should aid significantly in the management of this devastating disease by providing information to aid in the assessment of disease status and modify therapies appropriately.”

According to the American Cancer Society, there were an estimated 29,200 new cases of cancer of the pancreas in the United States in 2001, with 28,900 deaths. The overall one-year survival rate of patients with cancer of the pancreas is 19 percent, and only three percent of patients survive five years. The clinical management of pancreatic cancer is very difficult. Since most cases have spread beyond the pancreas at the time of diagnosis, management of the disease consists of accurate staging as a guide to aggressive intervention or chemotherapy. Treatment consists of surgical intervention, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and palliative care measures, as well as nutritional management.

“CA 19-9 is an extremely useful marker of disease status, especially when assessed frequently since, in conjunction with clinical assessment, it enables clinical decisions with respect to treatment options to be made earlier to the benefit of the patient,” said Jules Harris, M.D., The Judd and Majorie Weinberg Presidential Professor of Medicine, Professor of Immunology and Microbiology, Rush Medical College in Chicago. “The availability of CA 19-9 in the US will positively impact the care and management of patients with pancreatic cancer.”

Polymedco, Inc. of Cortlandt Manor, NY is the exclusive distributor of FDI’s CA19-9™ RIA and will provide front-line technical and customer service support. Polymedco has been serving the clinical laboratory community for over 20 years. Polymedco. They can be contacted by phone at 800-431-2123 ,fax at 914-739-5890 or on their website at www.polymedco.com

About Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc.

Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc. (FDI), is a premier diagnostics company and the industry leader in Tumor Marker assays specializing in the clinical development, manufacturing and commercialization of *in vitro* diagnostic products for the detection, prognosis, and monitoring of human disease states with an emphasis in Oncology. The company, formerly known as Centocor Diagnostics, was acquired by Fujirebio, Inc. of Tokyo, Japan in November 1998. FDI utilizes its worldwide distribution network to enable access by physicians and patients to its diagnostic products.

www.fdi.com

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