



# NEWS




June 14, 2010

## >> Virco News

### **Antivirogram Service Ends (for routine clinical use)**

Due to declining demand for the Antivirogram® in the US and other markets, Virco BVBA announced that as of April 26th, 2010, it will no longer offer this service for routine clinical use. The test will remain available for research and the drug discovery and development market.

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### **Virco BVBA moving premises**

In a staged execution, Virco has started to move its laboratory and administrative offices from the site in Mechelen, Belgium to the Janssen Pharmaceutica campus in Beerse, Belgium. We will continue to offer our vircoTYPE HIV-1 and HCV research services during the move and have taken the necessary measures to ensure real-time testing of samples during this transition period.

Once we have more details we will be advising our customers, but formal communications on this are being disseminated. We look forward to continuing all our services from our new premises with the same quality and efficiency as we did from Mechelen.

## >> CONGRESSES 1st Half 2010 - HIV


### **CROI 2010**

The 17th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections was held between February 16th □ 19th in San Francisco.

Virco, in collaboration with leading specialists, presented three posters:

- Resistance Associated Mutations to Etravirine (TMC-125) in Antiretroviral Naïve Patients infected with non-B HIV-1 subtypes□; Maïga AI, et al.
- [Primary Mutations Associated with Resistance to Raltegravir are not Detectable by Pyrosequencing in Integrase-Inhibitors Naïve Patients](#); Ceccherini-Silberstein F, et al.
- [Estimation of Virological Residual Activity on a Regimen of Abacavir/Zidovudine/Lamivudine \(ABC/3TC/ZDV\)](#); Dunn D, et al.

Other key highlights included research presentations on response prediction, second generation integrase inhibitors, anti-microbicide development and tropism.

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### **EHDRW 2010**

The European HIV Drug Resistance Workshop was held between March 17th and 19th in Sorrento, Italy.

Virco was very pleased to be able to present three oral presentations:

- [Rare HIV-1 drug resistance mutations exert subtle synergistic and antagonistic effects in the context of the genetic background](#); Van Houtte M, et al.
- [Genetic diversity and multi-drug class resistance of a large HIV-1 sequence repository](#); Van Der Borght K, et al.
- [Efficiency of HIV-1 PR-RT genotyping on clinical isolates with viral load less than 1000 copies/mL: A 12 year analysis](#); Pattery T, et al.

Of particular interest we noted some very interesting new research on managing integrase inhibitor resistance and on response prediction.

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## >> CONGRESSES 1st Half 2010 - Health Information Technology (HIT)

As Virco has now expanded into HIT with its recent acquisition of the LABTRACKER<sup>®</sup> HIV electronic health record, we recently attended two international conferences:

### **Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) 10, Atlanta, USA March 1st □ 4th**

At the largest US, if not global meeting, the focus of discussion and presentation was:


- Dominated by the US stimulus package healthcare reforms and the considerable expansion in the electronic medical record market.

### **World of Health IT (WoHIT), Barcelona, Spain March 15th □ 18th**

An international audience with a focus on the operational aspects of health information systems that are already being implemented:

- A very different agenda, with some key themes for EU electronic medical record adoption.

We will provide more updates on our HIT activity and the development of the LABTRACKER<sup>®</sup> platform as appropriate throughout the year..

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## >> CONGRESSES 1st Half 2010 - Viral Hepatitis

### **The International Liver Meeting 2010**

The annual meeting of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) was held in Vienna between 14th to 18th April.

Hepatology, and in particular the management of viral hepatitis is seeing a considerable paradigm shift in terms of both therapeutics and diagnostics:

- From a therapeutic perspective the impending late-stage results from direct acting antivirals (DAAs) and the significant development pipeline across the industry reinforce the potential paradigm shift for the

treatment of chronic hepatitis C.

- Diagnostics are playing an ever-increasing role, especially following the discovery of human biomarkers for predicting chronicity of disease and potential response to therapy with pegylated interferon and ribavirin.

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