



For more information, contact:
Jennifer Pursley 713-677-7401

For immediate release

TEXAS INSTITUTE FOR GENOMIC MEDICINE SHARES GENETIC RESOURCE DATA TO PROMOTE MEDICAL RESEARCH THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

More than 275,000 nucleotide sequence tags from TIGM's knockout mouse library are deposited into National Institutes of Health's GenBank, providing scientists free access to research tools

HOUSTON (August 7, 2007) – To foster its mission to accelerate the pace of medical breakthroughs, the Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine (TIGM), based in the Texas Medical Center in Houston, Texas, has responded to the National Institutes of Health's call for mouse genetic sequence data to be shared with the scientific research community worldwide. As a result, TIGM recently submitted 276,372 nucleotide sequence tags generated from its world's largest gene trap library of C57BL/6 mouse embryonic stem cells, to the Genome Survey Sequences division of the GenBank® database. The sequence data submission will provide scientists with valuable information in their research efforts to understand and treat the underlying genetic causes of chronic human diseases and conditions.

The GenBank database is accessible by researchers through the Internet and contains gene sequences representing 100,000 distinct organisms to help support pioneering scientific and medical research. TIGM's contribution represents one of the largest single submissions to the GenBank database since its formation in 1982. The sequence data provided by TIGM will also be distributed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information, a division of

NIH, to the European Molecular Biology Laboratory Nucleotide Sequence Database and the DNA Data Bank of Japan.

“We are pleased to support the research community worldwide by contributing the sequence data generated from our gene trap library to GenBank,” said Dr. Richard H. Finnell, President of the Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine.

“GenBank is an example of cooperation among the scientific community that taps into the power of genomic information and advances research development globally. We look forward to future opportunities to share our data through the NIH database as well as other databases worldwide.”

About the Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine (TIGM)

The Texas Institute for Genomic Medicine (TIGM) is an independent, non-profit research institution created in 2005. TIGM’s mission is to accelerate the pace of medical discoveries and pioneer scientific breakthroughs through internal research and effective collaborations. TIGM maintains the world’s largest gene trap library of mouse embryonic stem (ES) cells. This resource is used for internal research and research conducted through strategic alliances. TIGM also provides both clones and mice to academic and commercial institutions around the world. The Institute headquarters and laboratory facilities are based in the Texas Medical Center in Houston, Texas, with additional facilities currently under construction in College Station, Texas. TIGM is a member of the International Mouse Knockout Consortium to help promote advances in research resources around the world. For more information, visit www.tigm.org or call 888-377-TIGM (toll free in North America).

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