



## **OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Implements PNA FISH® Tests to Help Provide Best Care for Patients with Bloodstream Infections**

*First hospital in northern Illinois to use a new, cutting edge diagnostic technology to fight serious infections and improve patient care and outcomes.*

Woburn, MA, U.S.A. and Vedbaek, Denmark – February 10, 2009 – AdvanDx today announced OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center in Rockford, Illinois has implemented AdvanDx's PNA FISH® tests to identify bloodstream pathogens 1 to 3 days earlier than conventional methods to help their physicians, pharmacists and nurses improve care and outcomes for patients with bloodstream infections.<sup>1</sup>

Every year, 350,000 patients contract bloodstream infections in the United States causing over 90,000 deaths and significant costs to the healthcare system. Rapid and accurate identification of the causative pathogen is crucial to ensuring appropriate antibiotic therapy and improving patient outcomes. Conventional diagnostic methods can take 48 hours or longer forcing physicians to treat patients empirically with broad-spectrum antibiotics that may prove to be ineffective and can lead to long-term resistance. AdvanDx's PNA FISH tests use the bacterial pathogens' own genetic material to provide identification results 1 to 3 days sooner than conventional methods.<sup>1</sup>

Clinical trials conducted at hospitals in the United States have shown that implementing PNA FISH and delivering fast results to clinicians directed earlier, effective antibiotic therapy, reduced mortality rates and improved hospital operational efficiency by reducing hospital length of stay, bed utilization, and pharmacy and lab costs related to unnecessary antibiotic use.<sup>1,2,3</sup> OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center is the first hospital in northern Illinois to implement the rapid PNA FISH tests and enable their clinicians to use the fast, therapy-directing diagnostic results to improve care and outcomes for their patients.

"We are very excited to provide the latest diagnostic tool to help our clinicians identify these serious infections in our critically ill patients," said Dr. Gary Rifkin, Infectious Diseases Consultant and Physician Epidemiologist at OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. "The fast results from the laboratory will enable our clinicians to know which pathogens they are dealing with much earlier, will help them prescribe the most appropriate antibiotic, and allow us to deliver the best care for our patients," Dr. Rifkin added.

### **About OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center**

OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center is a 254-bed tertiary care facility located on a 100-acre campus near Interstate 90 and US Business 20 in Rockford, Illinois. The regional medical center is well known for providing pioneering care in its Level I Trauma Center, Regional Heart Institute, Center for Cancer Care, Illinois Neurosciences Institute and Women's Center.

### **About Bloodstream Infections**

Every year, 350,000 patients contract bloodstream infections, causing over 90,000 unnecessary deaths and significant costs to the healthcare system. The infection is detected when a culture of the patient's blood (i.e. a blood culture) turns positive with bacteria and yeast. Rapid and accurate identification of the specific infecting pathogen is crucial to ensure early and appropriate therapy and save patient lives.

### **About PNA FISH®**

PNA FISH is an easy-to-use and highly sensitive and specific fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) assay that uses PNA (peptide nucleic acid) probes to target species specific ribosomal RNA (rRNA) in live bacteria and yeast. PNA FISH tests enable microbiology labs to provide rapid and accurate identification of bloodstream pathogens directly from positive blood cultures in hours instead of days. Clinical studies show that rapid identification of bloodstream pathogens using PNA FISH tests leads to more appropriate patient therapy that saves lives and reduces unnecessary antibiotic use, patient length of stay and hospital costs.

#### References:

1. Forrest et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2008 Oct;52(10):3558-63.
2. Shoham et al. Ther Clin Risk Manag. 2008 Jun;4(3):637-40.
3. Forrest et al. J Antimicrob Chemother. 2006 Jul;58(1):154-8.

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