

February 27, 2017

## **The Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research and NanoString Technologies Demonstrate a Novel Approach for High-Plex, Spatial Profiling of Proteins Using nCounter-Based Digital Quantification at 2017 ASCO-SITC Clinical Immuno-Oncology Symposium**

### **Digital Spatial Profiling Technology Enables Spatially-Resolved, Quantitative Protein Profiling in FFPE Tissue Providing Detailed Molecular Characterization of Tumors**

ORLANDO, Fla., Feb. 27, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- NanoString Technologies, Inc. (NASDAQ:NSTG), a provider of life science tools for translational research and molecular diagnostic products, today highlighted a novel approach to profiling immuno-oncology protein targets through digital quantification using the nCounter® Analysis System. The data was presented by David Lee, M.D., Ph.D., a Senior Investigator, with the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research as part of a Technology Access Program (TAP) for NanoString's Digital Spatial Profiling (DSP) technology, and was the focus of a poster presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology - Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (ASCO-SITC) joint conference, being held Orlando, Florida.

"Our DSP platform enabled the assessment of 30 proteins simultaneously with digital spatial context that demonstrated strong correlation with IHC methods," stated Joe Beechem, Ph.D., senior vice president of R&D for NanoString. "We were able to characterize the tumor microenvironment allowing us to better understand the function of the immune system and the status of T-cells and checkpoint markers that are critical in immuno-oncology."

Through the collaboration with Novartis, researchers demonstrated:

- | Spatially-resolved, quantitative protein profiling in FFPE tissue enables detailed molecular characterization of tonsil, melanoma and colorectal tumors
- | A prototype instrument enabled 30+ multiplexed protein characterization from regions of interest 650 micron down to single cell resolution
- | The strong correlation of NanoString DSP data to Novartis IHC data indicates the feasibility to spatially profile multiple key proteins with no destruction of patient tissue
- | Future advances may enable characterization of up to 800 RNA and protein targets at high resolution within spatial context from the complex tumor microenvironment

NanoString is expanding access to the Digital Spatial Profiling TAP. Under the program, technology access partners can submit up to 20 FFPE tissue sections and NanoString will perform a high-plex protein spatial profiling assay from a panel of 30 pre-validated antibodies. An assay report along with raw digital data and processed results will be provided back to partners. Researchers interested in participating in NanoString's technology access program for its Digital Spatial Profiling technology should contact the company at [TAP@nanosttring.com](mailto:TAP@nanosttring.com).

Digital Spatial Profiling poster:

*"A new approach for immuno-oncology biomarker discovery: High-plex, spatial protein profiling based on NanoString digital quantification. (Abstract 27 / BOARD C10)"*

First Author: David Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Investigator, Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research  
Poster Session B: Biomarkers and Inflammatory Signatures, and Modulating Innate Immunity  
Date: Friday, February 24: 11:30 AM-1:00 PM and 5:30 PM-6:30 PM

#### **About NanoString Technologies, Inc.**

NanoString Technologies provides life science tools for translational research and molecular diagnostic products. The company's nCounter Analysis System has been employed in life sciences research since it was first introduced in 2008 and has been cited in more than 1,500 peer-reviewed publications. The nCounter Analysis System offers a cost-effective way to easily profile the expression of hundreds of genes, proteins, miRNAs, or copy number variations, simultaneously with high sensitivity and precision, facilitating a wide variety of basic research and translational medicine applications, including

biomarker discovery and validation. The company's technology is also being used in diagnostics. The Prosigna® Breast Cancer Prognostic Gene Signature Assay together with the nCounter Dx Analysis System is FDA 510(k) cleared for use as a prognostic indicator for distant recurrence of breast cancer. In addition, the company is collaborating with multiple biopharmaceutical companies in the development of companion diagnostic tests for various cancer therapies, helping to realize the promise of precision oncology. For more information, please visit [www.nanostring.com](http://www.nanostring.com).

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

*This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include statements regarding the expected performance of the company's DSP technology and its related technology access program. Such statements are based on current assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially. These risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, include market acceptance of our products; delays or denials of regulatory approvals or clearances for products or applications; delays or denials of reimbursement for diagnostic products; the impact of competition; the impact of expanded sales, marketing, product development and clinical activities on operating expenses; delays or other unforeseen problems with respect to manufacturing, product development or clinical studies; adverse conditions in the general domestic and global economic markets; as well as the other risks set forth in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. NanoString Technologies disclaims any obligation to update these forward-looking statements.*

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