OWL Metabolomics will present new data regarding innovations in NASH and NAFLD diagnosis in the settings of clinical practice and companion diagnostic testing (CDx) for NASH trials at the forthcoming 2016 EASL/ILC Congress.

Bilbao (Spain), Press Release, April 6, 2016 - OWL Metabolomics, a biotechnology firm focusing on the development of innovative laboratory tests for common liver diseases like NASH and NAFLD, today announced the presentation of new data at the International Liver Congress (ILC), the annual meeting of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) from 13th to 17th of April, in Barcelona, Spain.

Scientific presentations at the meeting will include: blinded and clinical validations of commercially available NASH/NAFLD non-invasive blood-based assays, the use of lipidomics as a tool for the subtyping of NASH, for improved identification of the onset of NAFLD; and for correlating a patient’s lipidomic signature and grade of steatosis, as validated by MRI. Previous blinded validations of the OWL liver assays for NAFLD and NASH have been routinely performed versus the gold-standard for fatty liver testing, the invasive liver biopsy.

Specific presentations will include the following:

- **Oral Presentation**
  
  Friday, April 15th, 4:30pm, Hall 8.0-D1

  Identification of lipidomic signatures that define three specific subtypes of NAFLD and differentiate NASH from simple steatosis

- **4 posters:**

  Friday, April 15th, 8am-6pm

  FRI-289: A non-invasive lipidomic test accurately discriminates NASH from steatosis: a blind validation study
Friday, April 15th, 8am-6pm

**FRI-304: Novel serum lipidomic signature correlates with the grade of steatosis measured biochemically and by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)**

Friday, April 15th, 8am-6pm

**FRI-323: Clinical validation of a non-invasive lipidomic test for the diagnosis of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)**

Friday, April 15th, 8am-6pm

**FRI-273: Lipidomic connections between liver and serum during the onset of NAFLD in humans**

- **Focus Group Meeting open to EASL attendees:**
  
  Friday, April 15th, 6:30pm-7:30pm, Hall 8.0-E2

  "Accurate & non-invasive NAFLD/NASH diagnostic methods: a metabolomics perspective", with Jose M Mato, PhD, Jesus Bañales, PhD, Cristina Alonso, PhD, and Puneet Puri, MD.

- **Corporate display in the commercial exhibit space**

  OWL Metabolomics is located within the Biotech Village in the Main Exhibitor Hall. Please visit our scientific team anytime during the commercial display period for Q & A.

  For more information on the Congress, please visit the EASL annual meeting website:

  [http://www.easl.eu/discover/events/international-liver-congress](http://www.easl.eu/discover/events/international-liver-congress)

**About the OWLiver® Care Assay (NAFLD diagnostic)**

The OWLiver® Care test has been validated in clinical practice via blinded comparisons to invasive liver biopsies, the gold standard for NASH and NAFLD diagnosis. The OWLiver® Care assay is a very robust blood-based diagnostic for identifying the presence of non-alcoholic fatty liver, including patients with isolated hepatic steatosis and only mild non-specific liver inflammation.
The NAFL patient presents without histopathological hepatocellular injury or fibrosis, but the identification of this early stage of fatty liver involvement is considered clinically relevant in the patient care continuum.

**About the OWLiver® Assay (NASH diagnostic)**

The OWLiver® assay can discriminate the NAFL patient from a patient with a more progressed disease state, NASH, or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis. The testing employs a process known as liquid chromatography followed by mass spectroscopy (LC/MS), to which a specific algorithm is applied. This simple and safe blood test could also help guide physician care decisions regarding the need for, and timing of, more expensive clinical testing and patient work-ups.

Moving forward, the OWLiver® test may help guide and monitor the most appropriate use of new classes of NASH pharmacotherapeutics and may also largely obviate the need for initial or follow-up invasive liver biopsies.

**About OWL Metabolomics**

OWL Metabolomics is a biotechnology company committed to the identification, validation and global commercialization of novel diagnostic assays for the liver and other prevalent human diseases, including the identification of potential therapeutic targets involved in the development of such diseases. Since its inception in 2002, OWL has pioneered unique diagnostic research within the fatty liver space, a field of considerable focus in new drug development.

The ‘OWLiver’ and ‘OWLiver Care’ assays are the world's first metabolomics-based in-vitro tests for diagnosing NASH and hepatic steatosis (NAFLD), respectively, using micro-blood samples ( <0.2 ml) versus today's diagnostic gold-standard which mandates an invasive liver biopsy.

OWL Metabolomics is a privately-held company based in Derio, Spain. Its prime partner is the Venture Capital Management Firm Cross Road Biotech Inversiones Biotecnológicas (CRB Inverbio). OWL Metabolomics collaborates globally with hospitals, liver research centers, biotechnology groups and the pharmaceutical industry.

http://www.owlmetabolomics.com/

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