



IRVINE, Calif., March 19, 2021 – PhageTech, Inc. (PhageTech), a privately held company pioneering a novel point-of-care diagnostic system, today announced the first patient enrollment in its trial of the Virus BioResistor (VBR) for bladder cancer screening. The trial is being conducted at two Orange County, CA area hospitals specializing in bladder cancer treatment, Providence Saint John's Cancer Institute and Hoag Hospital under principal investigators Jennifer Linehan, M.D. and Jeffrey Yoshida, M.D. This trial will confirm the ability of the PhageTech VBR to detect multiple bladder cancer biomarkers non-invasively in a simple urine sample.

“An accurate non-invasive point-of-care test would be an important advancement in bladder cancer surveillance and treatment for physicians and patients,” commented JWCI Principal Investigator Jennifer Linehan, M.D.

Bladder cancer is the most expensive cancer to treat per patient due to the high rate of re-occurrence. Patients need regular invasive diagnostic procedures to ensure early detection of new tumors. There are no accepted non-invasive diagnostic options for patients and PhageTech hopes to fill that void. The VBR sensors only need a single drop of sample fluid to return a result in about one minute.

“Patients require regular life-long monitoring for reoccurrence of bladder tumors,” explained Hoag Hospital Principal Investigator Jeffrey Yoshida, M.D. “Having a diagnostic tool that could reduce some of the invasive test or even allow some at-home testing would be very appealing to patients and less expensive to the healthcare system.”

PhageTech is developing the VBR system for bladder cancer as its first product. Beyond this, the VBR system is widely adaptable to other point-of-care diagnostics applications in a variety of medical specialties and sample fluids. The VBR sensors can be engineered to identify endless different biomarkers for fast and easy disease detection. The VBR sensors are placed in a small handheld Reader for analysis and outputs data wirelessly to a phone or computer. This simple compact system makes future use in clinics, homes or remote areas highly practical. With the growing need for out of hospital care, the PhageTech VBR system represents a new class of diagnostics.

About PhageTech, Inc.,

PhageTech® is developing a novel diagnostic system based on technology licensed from the University of California. The heart of the system is the PhageTech Virus BioResistor. The PhageTech system is for investigation use only and has not been approved for commercial use in the U.S. This study is registered on [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov).