



Intermountain Healthcare and deCODE genetics Launch DNA Study of 500k People to Find Links Between Genetics and Disease

Study Represents Largest DNA Mapping Effort Undertaken in U.S. From a Single Population

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, UNITED STATES, June 13, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- – [Intermountain Healthcare](#) and [deCODE genetics](#) have announced a major global collaboration and study focused on discovering new connections between genetics and human disease that will involve the collection of half a million DNA samples.

The initiative, called the HerediGene: Population Study, represents the largest and most comprehensive DNA mapping effort to date in the United States from a single population. For the study, which is voluntary and free to participants, Intermountain teams will work with deCODE to analyze the genomes of 500,000 people from Intermountain's patient population, primarily in Utah and Idaho.

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based not-for-profit integrated healthcare delivery network, and deCODE genetics is a wholly owned subsidiary of Amgen based in Reykjavik, Iceland. The collaborative effort combines Intermountain's internationally-recognized expertise in precision medicine and clinical care with deCODE's world-class expertise in human population genetics.

"While the 500,000 samples will be collected primarily from patients in Utah, the research is expected to have a global impact as medications, treatments, and healthcare innovations that can benefit patients universally are developed from the findings," said Lincoln Nadauld, MD, PhD, Intermountain's chief of precision health. "The collaboration is noteworthy and unique in its size, scope, and immediate application to patient care."

Participants in the study will consent to the testing and have the option to receive their genetic results report, if a clinically significant gene mutation is identified. The data will be de-identified to ensure anonymity before it is utilized in research to help medical professionals better understand the human genome, which will enhance their ability to predict and prevent diseases such as breast cancer, colon cancer, and heart disease.

"This unique collaboration is expected to uncover new insights into some of society's most debilitating diseases," noted Kári Stefánsson, MD, Dr. Med., founder and chief executive officer of deCODE genetics. "Our partnership with Intermountain Healthcare is important as we continue to identify and validate human disease targets. These potential discoveries will allow deCODE and Amgen to rapidly develop new medicines that reach the right disease targets."

Intermountain will leverage its renowned precision genomics efforts to improve patient outcomes and transform medicine. Intermountain's precision medicine team analyzes individual differences in genetics, environments, and lifestyles and helps medical professionals specifically target the illnesses of each patient and identify the treatments that will best help them.

"Better health and being able to cure common diseases is the promise of precision medicine, but it's not happening fast enough," said Marc Harrison, MD, president and chief executive officer at Intermountain Healthcare. "For too long, the genetic code to better health has been locked. This

collaboration with deCODE unlocks that insight so we can rapidly advance well-being – not only for ourselves and our families, but for generations to come.”

Insights from the collaboration may power fundamental changes to better understand the human genome, improve health, and prevent common diseases.

For more information on the study, please go to <https://intermountainhealthcare.org/services/cancer-care/precision-genomics/translational-science-center/heredigene-population-study>.

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About deCODE genetics

Based in Reykjavik, Iceland, deCODE is a global leader in analyzing and understanding the human genome. Using its unique expertise and population resources, deCODE has discovered genetic risk factors for dozens of common diseases. Understanding the genetics of disease can create new means of diagnosing, treating and preventing disease. deCODE is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Amgen.

About Intermountain Healthcare

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based not-for-profit system of 24 hospitals, 160 clinics, a Medical Group with some 2,300 employed physicians and advanced care practitioners, a health insurance company called SelectHealth, and other health services. Intermountain is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare through evidence-based best practices, high quality, and sustainable costs. For more information about Intermountain, visit <http://intermountainhealthcare.org>.

Amgen Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements that are based on the current expectations and beliefs of Amgen. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including estimates of revenues, operating margins, capital expenditures, cash, other financial metrics, expected legal, arbitration, political, regulatory or clinical results or practices, customer and prescriber patterns or practices, reimbursement activities and outcomes and other such estimates and results. Forward-looking statements involve significant risks and uncertainties, including those discussed below and more fully described in the Securities and Exchange Commission reports filed by Amgen, including its most recent annual report on Form 10-K and any subsequent periodic reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K. Unless otherwise noted, Amgen is providing this information as of the date of this news release and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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The scientific information discussed in this news release related to Amgen's product candidates is preliminary and investigative. Such product candidates are not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and no conclusions can or should be drawn regarding the safety or effectiveness of the product candidates. Further, the scientific information discussed in this news release relating to new indications for Amgen's products is preliminary and investigative and is not part of the labeling approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the products. The products are not approved for the investigational use(s) discussed in this news release, and no conclusions can or should be drawn regarding the safety or effectiveness of the products for these uses.

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