PRODUCT Update

PRENATAL SCREENING FOR SINGLE-GENE DISORDERS

Vistara®, a non-invasive pre-natal test (NIPT) from **Natera, Inc**, screens for single-gene disorders after 9 weeks' gesta-tion. Complementing the **Panorama**® NIPT, **Vistara** tests for major anatomic abnormalities and chromosome imbalances that have a combined incidence rate of 1 in 600 (higher than Down syndrome). These mutations can cause severe conditions affecting skeletal, cardiac, and neuro-logic systems, such as Noonan syndrome, osteogenesis imperfecta, craniosynostosis syndromes, achondropla-sia, and Rett syndrome. Standard NIPT commonly can-not detect these *de novo* (not inherited) mutations. Ultrasound exams may either completely miss the disorders or identify nonspecific findings later in pregnancy.

Natera says that **Vistara** has a combined analyti-cal sensitivity of >99% and a combined analytical spec-ificity of >99% in validation studies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
https://www.natera.com/vistara

ELECTROSTATIC SURGICAL SMOKE REMOVAL

The **Ultravision**™ **Trocar device** from **Alesi Surgical Technologies** uses a low-energy electrostatic charge to eliminate the surgical smoke generated by cutting instru-ments during laparoscopic surgery. Electrostatic precipi-tation accelerates the natural process of sedimentation; **Ultravision** creates negatively charged gas ions that draw water vapor and particulate matter away from the surgical site toward "positive" patient tissue.

Alesi says that bench studies comparing **Ultravision** with a vacuum-system when using mono-polar, bipolar, and ultrasonic instruments show that its device is faster and more efficient than smoke evacu-ation. When switched on before cutting, **Ultravision** precipitates 99% of particles within 30 seconds. After 1 minute of continuous use, **Ultravision** precipitates 99.9% of particles, independent of particle size, from 7 nm to 10 μm. Smoke evacuation removes 30.2% of particles after 1 minute, according to **Alesi**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
http://www.alesi-surgical.com

PRESSURE-SENSING TECHNOLOGY FOR EPIDURALS

The **CompuFlo**® **Epidural** from **Milestone Scientific** uses pressure-sensing tech-nology to identify the epidural space, and provides a com-puter-controlled drug delivery system.

Knowing the precise needle location during an epidural injection procedure provides a measure of safety not available to physicians who use conventional syringes. **Milestone** says that its **CompuFlo Epidural** allows anesthesiologists to use both hands to advance and direct the needle, and to confirm the epidural space with 99% accuracy on the first attempt.

CompuFlo Epidural differentiates tissue types for the medical professional via visual and audio feedback, leading to precise location guidance as the needle advances toward the intended area. It also allows for controlled needle exit pressure, precise flow rate and drug volumes, and patient treatment documentation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
https://www.milestonescientific.com/products
/compuflo-epidural

OBGYN ULTRASOUND INNOVATIONS

Philips recently announced enhancements to its EPIQ 7 and 5 and Affiniti 70 ultra-sound systems. According to **Philips**, the **eL18-4 trans-ducer** provides high-detail resolution and image unifor-mity with penetration for enhanced diagnostic quality in 1st- and 2nd-trimester obstetric exams. **aBiometry Assist**[AI], with anatomical intelligence of fetal anatomy, streamlines fetal measurement by preplacing measure-ment cursors on selected structures. The new **TouchVue** control-panel interface on **TrueVue** allows practitioners to interact with finger gestures and to direct 3D-volume rotation and internal light-source position. The 2D **Tilt** feature offered on the 3D9-v3 transducer provides lat-eral scanning of anatomic structures that are off-axis without having to manually angle the transducer.

These new features complement the existing suite of **Philips** ObGyn ultrasound visualization tools: **TrueVue**, **GlassVue**, **aReveal**[AI], and **MaxVue**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/resources
/feature-detail/ultrasound-truevue-imaging