

OraSure Technologies Receives FDA Clearance for Ninth Intercept Oral Fluid Drug Test

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BETHLEHEM, Pa., Apr 19, 2002 (BW HealthWire) -- OraSure Technologies, Inc. (Nasdaq:OSUR), the market leader in oral fluid diagnostics, today announced that it has received 510(k) clearance from the FDA for a test for detecting benzodiazepines in oral fluid specimens, which will be available as part of the Company's Intercept(R) laboratory-based drug testing service.

Benzodiazepines are a commonly prescribed class of tranquilizers and one of the most frequently abused prescription drugs.

The Company previously received FDA clearance of its Intercept(R) drug tests for screening oral fluid to detect opiates, cocaine, PCP, marijuana, methamphetamine, amphetamine, barbiturates and methadone. This new test is an important addition to the testing menu for Intercept(R), and is commonly requested by the Company's drug rehabilitation and criminal justice customers.

With the addition of the benzodiazepines test, the Company can now offer an oral fluid laboratory-based test panel that is broad enough to fully compete with most urine tests.

"This latest FDA clearance further strengthens our Intercept(R) product," said Mike Gausling, President and Chief Executive Officer of OraSure Technologies. "With our expanded menu of oral fluid tests, we have enhanced our position as the leading oral fluid diagnostics company, and are well positioned to further penetrate the workplace, drug rehabilitation and criminal justice markets with our laboratory-based Intercept(R) oral fluid drug testing service."

OraSure Technologies currently manufactures and markets Intercept(R), the only FDA-cleared, laboratory-based oral fluid drug test, and is in the process of commercializing its UPlink(TM) point-of-care, oral fluid drug testing system.

The Company believes that its Intercept(R) and UPlink(TM) products will provide a wide variety of oral fluid drug testing solutions for its customers in both the workplace and criminal justice testing markets. The size of the domestic market for drugs of abuse testing is estimated at approximately \$1.5 billion, involving more than 42 million specimens per year.

About OraSure Technologies

OraSure Technologies, Inc. is the market leader in oral fluid diagnostics. The Company develops, manufactures and markets medical devices and diagnostic products for use by insurance companies, public health agencies, clinical laboratories, physicians' offices, and workplace sites. For more information on the Company and its products, please visit www.orasure.com.

Important Information

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements, including with respect to products, regulatory filings and clearances, markets and product sales. Actual results could be significantly different. Factors that could affect results include the ability to market products; impact of competitors, competing products and technology changes; ability to develop, commercialize and market new products; market acceptance of oral fluid testing products and up-converting phosphor technology products; ability to fund research and development and other projects and operations; ability to obtain and timing of obtaining necessary regulatory approvals; ability to develop product distribution channels; uncertainty relating to patent protection and potential patent infringement claims; ability to enter into international manufacturing agreements; obstacles to international marketing and manufacturing of products; ability to sell products internationally; loss or impairment of sources of capital; exposure to product liability and other types of litigation; changes in international, federal or state laws and regulations; changes in relationships with strategic partners and reliance on strategic partners for the performance of critical activities under collaborative arrangements; changes in accounting practices or interpretation of accounting requirements; customer inventory practices and consolidations; equipment failures and ability to obtain needed raw materials and components; the impact of terrorist attacks and civil unrest; and general business, political and economic conditions. These and other factors are discussed more fully in the Securities and Exchange Commission filings of OraSure Technologies, including its registration statements and its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001. Although forward-looking statements help to provide complete information about future prospects, readers should keep in mind that forward-looking statements may not be reliable. The forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this press release and OraSure Technologies undertakes no duty to update these statements.

www.orasure.com

CONTACT: OraSure Technologies, Inc., Bethlehem

Ronald H. Spair, 610/882-1820

Investorinfo@orasure.com