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**IVGN ABI CRA QGEN IDP**

*In the upcoming Prohost monthly publication and in the Prohost upcoming weekly publication, you will be able to observe how biotechnology companies have been capable of replacing serendipity with knowledge through sophisticated, but easy to use tools. The tools unveil the pathway of diseases from the gene, if it is the case, to the interaction of proteins that makes the disease pathways, to the selection of the treatment target from among the interacting proteins. Today news shed more light on the successes of the biotech firms, especially in the first step, which is the most important and the most difficult in the process of understanding diseases and treating them.*

Today's news about the subject came from **Invitrogen (IVGN)**, **Celera Diagnostic** (part of **Celera Genomics (CRA)**), from and from **Applied Biosystems group –Applera (ABI)** – the last two names are members of one family.

UNVEILING

**DISEASE PATHWAYS**

**INVITROGEN (IVGN-news)**: The firm announced the publication of a study in the journal "Nature" that it applied its **ProtoArray™** technology to map functional interactions among thousands of regulatory proteins **in yeast**. The study evaluated the specific protein targets of over 82 unique **protein kinases** and assembled these relationships into an integrated network. The study validates the firm's ProtoArray™ protein microarray as a **powerful research asset in the illumination of complex pathways critical to drug discovery**.

Is it important news? Indeed, it is. It tackles a fundamental advancement in the process of understanding diseases and developing treatments based on knowledge, not on serendipity.

READ DETAILS: [Publication in "Nature" Uses Invitrogen's ProtoArray Technology to Map Biological Pathways in Yeast](#)

UNVEILING THE GENETIC ORIGIN OF

**ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

**CELERA DIAGNOSTICS**: The firm is a joint venture between the Applied **Biosystems Group (ABI-news)** and Celera Genomics Group (**CRA - news**) of Applera Corporation. The news announced the publication of data showing that **a novel locus on Chromosome 10 correlates strongly with increased risk for late-onset Alzheimer's disease**. These findings will appear in the January 2006 edition of the American Journal of Human Genetics currently available online at:  
[www.journals.uchicago.edu/AJHG/journal/issues/v78n1/42855/42855.html](http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/AJHG/journal/issues/v78n1/42855/42855.html).

READ MORE: [Celera Diagnostics Discovers Group of Genes Strongly Associated with Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease; Research Published in American Journal of Human Genetics Could Lead to New Diagnostics and Targeted Therapeutics](#)

A BETTER POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR)

**QIAGEN (QGEN - news)** : News from the same above mentioned family announced that **Applied Biosystems**



**Group**, a unit of **Applera Corp (ABI)** – a maker of life sciences research equipment entered an agreement to license DNA amplification technology to **Qiagen NV**. Financial details of the agreement were not disclosed. The expanded license covers patents for real-time polymerase chain reaction technology that Applied licensed from Swiss drug maker Roche Holdings Ltd. in May. In a polymerase chain reaction a piece of DNA or RNA is amplified so it can be analyzed easier. A piece can be detected and examined more accurately in real-time compared with when after the reaction is over, the company said.

#### NEWS

**IDERA ([IDP-news](#))** announced the appointment of Robert W. Karr, M.D. as President of the Company. Dr. Karr has served on the Company's Board of Directors since June of this year and will continue in this role as well. Dr. Karr previously served as Senior Vice President of Strategic Management at Pfizer Global Research and Development, where he played a central role in designing Pfizer's R&D strategy. Prior to that, Dr. Karr served as Vice President, Research & Development at Warner-Lambert and at G.D. Searle.

READ MORE: [Idera Pharmaceuticals Appoints Robert W. Karr, M.D. President of the Company; Director Since June 2005, Dr. Karr Adds Significant Pharmaceutical Experience to Management Team](#)

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