

University Health Network Microarray Centre announces scanning service using high- resolution Agilent scanner

Friday, March 6, 2009

Toronto, ON: The University Health Network Microarray Centre (UHNMAC) is pleased to announce the launch of its scanning service using a high-resolution Agilent scanner.

The Agilent DNA scanner features [SureScan High-Resolution Technology](#). This scanner is capable of scanning any 1 x 3" glass slide with 2, 3, 5, or 10 micron resolution. By offering several resolution settings, this instrument can scan ultra high density commercial microarrays as well as arrays printed at low density. With the introduction of this scanner, Agilent improved upon its Extended Dynamic Range (XDR) technology by increasing the dynamic range of a single scan from 16-bit (saturation at 65,535 counts) to 20-bit (saturation value is over 780,000 counts). Since this scanner is equipped with a 48-slide autoloader, users are able to drop off their slides (Agilent and non-Agilent) in the afternoon and have the slides scanned overnight, space permitting. The images and data files are available the following day through the secure UHNMAC User Data Portal.

The cost for this scanning service is \$20 per array. In addition, Feature Extraction (image quantification) is available for Agilent arrays for an additional \$10 per array. Please contact agilent@microarrays.ca to obtain the appropriate paperwork and book scanner time. The high-resolution Agilent DNA scanner is located on the 9th floor of the Toronto Medical Discovery Tower. The GenePix® 4000B microarray scanner is still available on the 10th floor of PMH.

The UHNMAC (www.microarrays.ca) was established in 1998 and worked with a local engineering company to develop the arrayer robot that is now sold commercially as the BioRad VersArray ChipWriter Pro. Since 2000, the UHNMAC has provided arrays, training and support to over 700 labs in 27 different countries and over 100,000 arrays have been printed and distributed. UHNMAC offers Human, Mouse, and Yeast cDNA microarrays, Human and Mouse CpG Island microarrays, and, due to the recent collaboration with SLRIMF, now prints Mouse, Zebrafish, *C. elegans*, focused Human and Yeast oligonucleotide microarrays. Genomic Services (including Expression Profiling, ChIP-on-Chip, Differential Methylation, Array CGH) on Affymetrix, Agilent, Illumina, and cDNA microarray platforms, data analysis, and custom microarray and clone production are also available. Neil Winegarden is the Head of Operations at the UHNMAC, located on the 9th floor of the Toronto Medical Discovery Tower (9-301), MaRS, 101 College Street in Toronto.