



Cardiac Marker Tests Available

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doing what is recommended: calling for help immediately. Calling the emergency services quickly can prevent sustained damage to the heart. As time passes, the risk of damage to the heart muscle increases; hence the phrase that in heart attacks, "time is muscle," and time wasted is muscle lost.

Once medical help is engaged, a variety of tests are employed to positively identify a heart attack and initiate appropriate treatment. Cardiac marker tests are a relatively new addition, offering rapid results from a small serum or blood sample. Of these cardiac marker tests, the most well-established is troponin I.

Cardiac troponin is a regulatory protein that is released into the bloodstream when

heart muscle is damaged. Two subtypes, troponin T (cTnT) and troponin I (cTnI) have been identified as effective markers for heart attacks. Although patent issues restrict manufacturers from developing new cTnT assays, cTnI tests have become widespread to the point where immunoassays are considered the gold standard biochemical test for diagnosis of myocardial damage.

Compared to other cardiac markers, troponin I offers the advantages of earlier release and a long detection window for positive results. Often, victims fail to notice the symptoms, and are not even aware that they have experienced a heart attack. Studies have shown that troponin I serves as a marker for mortality and future coronary heart disease in patients without his-

tories of cardiovascular disease.

To serve this critical market, Alfa Scientific offers the Instant-View® Troponin I cassette test for serum and whole blood specimens, cleared by the FDA for sale in the United States [510(k) #K042227]. Calibrated to a cut-off cTnI concentration of 1.5 ng/mL, the test produces results in 15-20 minutes, and has been shown to be 96.7% accurate compared to ELISA using clinical specimens. This test is targeted towards professional markets such as hospitals and clinical markets, where it can aid in the early diagnosis of myocardial infarction.

As with all of Alfa's products, all components are made in the USA. For more information, please contact your sales representative.

Revising Our Opiate Labels

To date, Alfa Scientific Designs has manufactured all of its opiate testing products (i.e. dip strip, cassette, multi-panel, and cup formats) using a "MOR" or "MOR300" label for its 2000 ng/mL and 300 ng/mL cut offs. As "MOR" can lead one to assume that the test is

specific to morphine only, Alfa will be converting its labeling to "MOR/OPI".

As you already know, Alfa's opiate test incorporates a number of drugs that are derived from the opium poppy (e.g. morphine, codeine, heroin) and this labeling change will

make the test more marketable for you as it will better represent the opiate family.

We are sorry if this change causes you any initial inconvenience. If you have any questions, please contact your Alfa sales or customer service representative.



Sister Plant Opens In Chongqing

By JESSICA VALDIVIA

Located in Poway, CA USA, Alfa has been manufacturing precision, high quality, rapid diagnostic tests for over 12 years. Alfa has been in the IVD business since 1996 and has manufactured over 50 products that are sold worldwide. With strong OEM manufacturing capabilities, and a management team of individuals with over 20 years of extensive industry experience, Alfa has filed over 28 patents, 9 of which have been granted. Its facilities are FDA registered, ISO certified and fully GMP compliant.

In August 2008, Alfa formally announced the opening of its long-awaited sister company, Altrun. A ribbon cutting ceremony

prominently marked Alfa's achievements through their new company, Chongqing Altrun Biotechnology Development Co., in Chongqing, China. By expanding its services with a second facility, Alfa gives its customers the opportunity to acquire the quality products that they've come to expect at a much lower cost. Simultaneously, Alfa is continuing to develop and manufacture leading edge products here in the USA.

Altrun is located near the Chongqing International Airport and is housed in a 40,030 square feet facility that features advanced manufacturing equipment. It will have the ability to produce millions of rapid tests per year. This new production facility will enable the company to keep hospitals, clinical laboratories, blood banks, distributors and home consumers worldwide

satisfied and well supplied. Altrun will manufacture both Instant-View™ branded products and large-scale OEM custom projects.

Altrun's manufacturing process is designed to meet the requirements of the US FDA, ISO and SFDA. In fact, on November 27, 2008 Altrun successfully completed its first ISO audit. With a sophisticated research and development laboratory and close relationships with the clinical laboratory of Chongqing Medical University, Altrun and its highly technical team will soon be a leader in the rapid diagnostic industry. To ensure Altrun's quality meets Alfa's high standards of quality the principal manufacturing managers and researchers of Altrun are from Alfa Scientific Designs, Inc.

Alfa, along with its sister company Altrun, will continue to develop advanced medical technology that will leave a mark on the industry with unique, innovative products.

To learn more about Alfa Scientific Designs, Inc. and/or its sister company Altrun Biotechnology Development Co. Ltd., please visit our website at www.alfascientific.com or call toll free at 877-204-5071.

