



QUIDEL Joins Merck-Medco in Peptic Ulcer Disease Pilot Program

May 12, 1999

SAN DIEGO, May 12 /PRNewswire/ -- QUIDEL Corporation (Nasdaq: QDEL) announced it has entered into an agreement with Merck-Medco Managed Care, L.L.C. to provide QUIDEL's QuickVue(R) H. pylori tests for use in Merck-Medco's health management program marketed under the name Digestive Health Solutions(TM). Merck-Medco is the nation's leading provider of high-quality, affordable prescription drug care. Over 80% of peptic ulcer disease cases are believed to be associated with Helicobacter pylori infection.

The agreement includes patient testing with QUIDEL's QuickVue(R) H. pylori test by licensed providers at participating retail pharmacies and clinics, with the overall goal of directing appropriate prescription drug therapy for peptic ulcer disease. An immediate QuickVue(R) diagnosis in the pharmacy or clinic will allow for improved therapy regimens and increased patient education in order to better manage the disease.

"We are pleased Merck-Medco has selected QUIDEL as their preferred partner in this pilot program. It further validates QUIDEL's leadership in H. pylori rapid diagnostics," said Andre de Bruin, vice chairman, president and chief executive officer of QUIDEL.

Quidel Corporation discovers, develops, manufactures, and markets rapid immunodiagnostic products for point-of-care detection of human medical conditions and illnesses. These products provide simple, accurate, and cost-effective diagnoses for acute and chronic conditions in the areas of women's health and infectious diseases. QUIDEL's products are sold to professionals in the physician's office and clinical laboratories, and to consumers through store brand private labeling organizations. QUIDEL is based in San Diego, California. For more information on QUIDEL, visit <http://www.quidel.com>.

This press release contains forward-looking statements regarding QUIDEL and its future sales-related activities. Actual results could differ materially from those described or implied in this press release as a result of a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the future growth of the waived-only markets, any adverse actions by the Company's distribution partners, competitive products, other economic factors affecting the Company's markets, the degree of acceptance that new products achieve, and seasonality, as certain of these items have been discussed in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K and subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. For more information on QUIDEL, go to <http://www.quidel.com>

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