

MetaPanel Diagnostic Test Launched with Sonic Healthcare

- In 2023, Microba and Sonic Healthcare entered a commercial agreement to deliver Microba's advanced gastrointestinal pathogen test, MetaPanel, into Australia
- MetaPanel is a world-first accredited metagenomic diagnostic test for diagnosing common and difficult-to-identify gastrointestinal pathogens causing infection
- The test is available now, exclusively through Sonic Healthcare in Australia
- Nationwide clinician launch events are scheduled over the next 6 weeks, starting with the premier launch event in Sydney tonight, Wednesday 13 March 2024.
- A video presentation of this announcement by Microba CEO Dr Luke Reid can be viewed here <https://ir.microba.com/presentations/>

Microba Life Sciences Limited (ASX: MAP) ("Microba") is pleased to announce that the MetaPanel product is officially launching to healthcare professionals today, Wednesday 13 March 2024. This launch delivers on the agreement signed with Sonic Healthcare Limited (ASX: SHL) through a wholly owned subsidiary Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology Pty Ltd, to distribute Microba's advanced gastrointestinal pathogen test MetaPanel[™] in Australia. This agreement was announced to the ASX on 5 July 2023 and a further MetaPanel update was provided in the Q2 FY24 Quarterly Report released to the ASX on 30 January 2024.

Key points

- Gut discomfort is experienced at least once a year by much of the population. A common cause is infection with a gastrointestinal pathogen
- Existing tests are only able to diagnose 10-22 pathogens, often leading to misdiagnosis or underdiagnosis
- There has not been a major disruption to this diagnostic category since PCR began clinical use in 1990s
- MetaPanel is a world-first NATA accredited metagenomic diagnostic test for diagnosing common and difficult-to-identify gastrointestinal pathogens that cause infection, covering 175 pathogen targets in a single test
- The product has been developed over 5 years by Microba using the Company's advanced metagenomic technology together with Infectious Disease experts and Sonic Healthcare's leading molecular biology & microbiology team
- The test is now exclusively available through the network of Sonic Healthcare pathology practices across Australia
- Nationwide launch activities have commenced today
 - Premier launch event being hosted tonight for clinicians in Sydney with key opinion leading gastroenterologist Prof. Nick Talley as keynote speaker
 - Further national launch events are scheduled to occur across the next 6 weeks covering each major city.

Microba's Chief Executive Officer, Dr Luke Reid said, *"The launch of this world-first accredited metagenomic diagnostic test with Sonic Healthcare, one of the largest and most trusted medical diagnostic companies, is a significant milestone for the company. From the foundations of Microba's world leading metagenomic technology, the Company has been investing in diagnostic product development at the forefront of the medical application of microbial genomics and microbiome analysis information for many years. The launch of MetaPanel, taken together with the launch of MetaXplore last year, has now solidified the Company's strategic advancement into a medical diagnostics company. Australia, through the Sonic Healthcare network, is the first region to distribute Microba's technology, with plans to deliver our testing products into additional markets across the globe. With this significant advancement in the standard of care, I am excited by the impact we can deliver to patients over the years ahead".*

Launch events

- NSW – Douglass Hanly Moir **13th March**
- VIC – Melbourne Path. **21st March**
- SA – Clinpath Path. **26th March**
- TAS – Hobart Path. **26th March**
- TAS – Launceston Path. **27th March**
- QLD – Sullivan Nicolaides Path. **16th April**
- WA – Clinipath/Bunbury Path. **17th April**



About the Gastrointestinal Pathogen diagnostic market

Infection from a gastrointestinal pathogen is highly prevalent. It is estimated that there are over 17 million cases of gastrointestinal pathogen illness in Australia alone, every year. People get infected from food, water, person-to-person, and the environment. Standard diagnostic tests, including microscopy, culture and polymerase chain reaction (PCR), can only detect <20% of clinically relevant pathogens. Misdiagnosis or underdiagnosis has significant consequences on patient quality of life, risk of mortality, and adds significant costs to the healthcare system. There has not been a major disruption to this diagnostic category since PCR began clinical use in the 1990s. In Australia alone, it is estimated that there are ~1m stool multiplex PCR tests ordered to diagnose gastrointestinal pathogens each year.

About the MetaPanel™ Test

MetaPanel™ is the most comprehensive pathogen test available for diagnosing common and difficult-to-identify gastrointestinal pathogens that cause infection. The test is accredited by NATA and is classified as a Class 2 In-house IVD. Using a single faecal sample, MetaPanel can detect 175 specific targets, including 100 pathogens, 15 toxins (which increase the chance a bacteria will cause disease), and 60 antibiotic resistance genes (to enable the doctor to use the most targeted antibiotic treatment available). Every result is reviewed by expert pathologists with personalised interpretation and treatment recommendations.

The test was developed intimately over many years together with clinical microbiologists and infectious disease experts to design the target list and support clinical validation, including the Sonic Healthcare Douglass Hanly Moir team – one of the most highly respected and high-quality pathology service teams in Australia; and leading clinician Professor Paul Griffin, Director of Infectious Diseases at the Mater Hospital Brisbane.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Directors.

For further information, please contact:

Dr Luke Reid

Chief Executive Officer
E: Luke.Reid@microba.com

Investor / Media Relations

E: investor@microba.com
W: <https://ir.microba.com/>
[Join our Investor Mailing List](#)

About Sonic Healthcare

Sonic Healthcare is one of the world's leading healthcare providers, with a reputation for excellence in laboratory medicine /pathology, radiology and primary care medical services, across operations in Australasia, Europe and North America. The group provides highly specialised pathology/clinical laboratory and radiology services to clinicians (GPs and specialists), hospitals, community health services, and their patients. Sonic is the world's third-largest provider of pathology/clinical laboratory services (referred to in some markets as 'laboratory medicine').

Employing over 41,000 people globally, Sonic is the largest private pathology operator in Australia, Germany, Switzerland and the UK, the second-largest in Belgium and New Zealand and the third-largest in the USA.

About Microba Life Sciences Limited

Microba Life Sciences is a precision microbiome company driven to improve human health. With world-leading technology for measuring the human gut microbiome, Microba is driving the discovery and development of novel therapeutics for major chronic diseases and delivering gut microbiome testing services globally to researchers, clinicians, and consumers. Through partnerships with leading organisations, Microba is powering the discovery of new relationships between the microbiome, health and disease for the development of new health solutions.

For more information visit: www.microba.com

Microba encourages all current investors to go paperless by registering their details with the designated registry service provider, Automic Group.