

MEDIA RELEASE

Athletic Doping Gets 1,000 Times Harder to Hide with New Highly Sensitive Testing

Chimera Biotec and German Sports University Introduce Imperacer™ for Increased Detection of Substance Abuse

DORTMUND, Germany (August, 2006) – Steroids and other forms of illegal substance abuse are 1,000 times easier to detect in athletes thanks to a new highly sensitive technology created by Chimera Biotec and German Sports University. Sponsored by the World Anti-Doping Agency in Montreal, the Imperacer™ technology produces a 1,000-fold increase in sensitivity for detecting specific proteins or other substances.

The introduction of Imperacer™ comes at crucial time – not only for professional sports such as baseball and cycling, but also for high school athletic programs. According to a survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, steroid use among high school students more than doubled between 1991 and 2003. In fact, more than 6 percent of the 15,000 students surveyed admitted to trying steroid injections or pills.

“Imperacer™ is an extremely powerful tool for doping tests in that it can trace even small samples of drugs within the myostatin protein,” said Dr. Michael Adler, director of research and development at Chimera Biotec.

The myostatin protein belongs to the family of growth hormones and has significant influence on the skeletal muscles. Blocking signal transductions of myostatins causes an immense growth of muscles. Myostatin levels can be altered by using drugs, which influence the signal transduction of myostatins directly, and by influencing genes, which regulate the myostatin level (referred to as gene doping).

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Along with Adler, researchers at Chimera develop ultra sensitive tests for the detection of myostatin doping alongside the German Sports University of Cologne, Germany and its director of endocrinology and molecular muscle physiology, Dr. Patrick Diel.

“Drug tracing concentrates on certain metabolism and myostatin is certainly the direct focus,” said Diel. “Regulation mechanisms of this hormone must be analyzed in detail. Chimera’s Imperacer™ allows testers to determine the metabolism in athletes in correlation to physiological exposure to drugs.”

For more information on Chimera Biotec and Imperacer™, please visit www.chimera-biotec.com.

About Chimera Biotec GmbH

Chimera Biotec GmbH develops and markets ultra sensitive immunoassays based on the company’s proprietary Imperacer™ technology.

Founded in 2000, Chimera Biotec supplies ultra sensitive assays to biopharmaceutical companies in Europe and the U.S. Additionally, the company customizes assays for a variety of applications such as biomarker analytics, human and veterinarian diagnostics and agriculture, and cosmetics industries. Being the only provider of immunoassays that are 100-10,000 fold higher in sensitivity than conventional ELISA, Chimera Biotec focuses on ambitious analytics like pharmacokinetics, virus detection, quality assurance, doping testing and ultra sensitive detection of CNS markers. In addition to its services, Chimera Biotec offers standard detection reagents and secondary assays compatible to commercially available ELISA kits.

About German Sports University, Cologne

For more than 80 years, the German Sports University in Cologne operates as the only sports university in Germany. The university comprises 21 institutes, all of them are focused on research and education. Furthermore, German Sports University has numerous national and international collaborations and an important partner of sports.

Dr. Patrick Diel is director of German Sports University's Endocrinology and Molecular Muscle Physiology Group at the ZePreDo-Institute. This group focuses on the impact of male and female sexual steroids and the research of molecular adaptation of skeleton muscles.

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