

## Biocartis, Fast-track sign strategic collaboration, 9/15

**Biocartis and Fast-track Diagnostics have entered into a strategic collaboration** to develop a range of multiplex infectious disease tests to run on the Biocartis Idylla system. The two companies plan to collaborate on a new approach to infectious disease diagnostics, “syndromic multiplex testing,” which enables the identification of a broad range of disease pathogens in a single test. Most current methods focus on the detection of one or a few pathogens expected to be present in a patient sample. If the sample is negative, a new test will be performed for other pathogens, increasing the time to result. With syndromic multiplex tests, the initial test will not just look for the most likely pathogen but also for a range of less likely pathogens, preventing the need to retest, according to a company statement.

As part of the collaboration, tests from Fast-track’s comprehensive infectious disease menu will be developed for use on Biocartis’ molecular diagnostics (MDx) platform, Idylla. The first assay to be developed under the collaboration is a multiplex respiratory panel for the detection of viral and bacterial targets in upper respiratory tract infections.

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