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Welcome to the June 2009 PreventionGenetics Newsletter. In this issue we will introduce our President and Founder, James L. Weber, Ph.D.

**Introducing James L. Weber,
PhD**

Dr. Weber earned his doctorate at the University of California-Berkeley and did a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After a four year appointment as an Investigator at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research where he studied the molecular biology of malaria parasites, he began a distinguished tenure as a Senior Research Scientist and Director of the Center for Medical Genetics at the Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation (MCRF). Highlights of Dr. Weber's career at MCRF include discovery of microsatellite DNA polymorphisms, construction of human linkage maps, and advocacy of shotgun sequencing for the human genome. For 12 years, he directed the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Mammalian Genotyping Service. This Service contributed to hundreds of disease gene discoveries. Dr. Weber has authored or co-authored over 200 peer reviewed journal articles, and has had a profound impact on the human genetic community.

Dr. Weber founded PreventionGenetics in 2004 with the goal of providing high quality, low cost DNA testing to health care providers and genetic researchers. Like the other human geneticists at PreventionGenetics, Dr. Weber supervises a portfolio of clinical genetic tests. Dr. Weber's portfolio currently includes tests for Malignant Hyperthermia Susceptibility (RYR1

genes).

Brief Interview with Dr. Weber

Question: Why did you start PreventionGenetics?

Dr. Weber: Beyond building a strong business, I also wanted to try to speed progress in clinical genetics. Although there is probably nothing that we will do at PreventionGenetics that may not eventually be done in other labs, we want to make it happen faster. So for example, I have supported bans on genetic discrimination (and especially the federal GINA legislation) for many years. We are currently pushing hard for an end to patenting of human DNA sequences for purposes of clinical testing and for the inclusion of clinical DNA test results in the patients' electronic medical records. Without inclusion of these results, I don't think clinical genetics will ever really take off. My positions are certainly not favored by everyone, and are not even always popular, but I think they are in the patients' best interests.

Question: What's unique about PreventionGenetics?

Dr. Weber: Most of the technology that we use at PreventionGenetics is not particularly novel. However, we pride ourselves on lab organization and efficiency, and we are quite good at that. As a result of this organization and efficiency, we are able to offer tests at lower prices than many other labs. I think we also do an especially good job of being thorough in our clinical testing. Our lab procedures involve many checks and redundancies which reduce the opportunity for errors. Our clinical test reports are particularly complete. For example, our sequencing tests include careful analysis and reporting of all differences from the reference sequences. We are also trying to be good citizens in the clinical genetics community. We post summaries of our

sequencing tests on our web site so that other labs can use this information.

Question: Where is PreventionGenetics heading?

Dr. Weber: I feel that PreventionGenetics is already a quality CLIA lab, but there are still many ways in which we can improve. We literally try to get at least a little better each working day. I am passionately dedicated to relentless quality improvement. In the coming months and years, PreventionGenetics will continue to add many new gene sequencing tests. We will also prioritize enhancement of our software and databases for sequence analysis. Like many other labs, we hope to soon employ new DNA sequencing technologies.

Coming on the August PreventionGenetics Newsletter

Our next Newsletter will focus on DNA Banking and our Director of DNA Banking, Ann Solatycki. A new simple and low cost approach to combining Clinical Testing and DNA Banking will be described.

Provide the very best care for your patients. Quality, low prices, and excellent service. You get all three with PreventionGenetics.

In addition to our industry leading low pricing for clinical DNA testing, we offer volume based discounts. For more information, contact Chuck Dokken by phone at 715-387-0484 x 107 or email at chuck.dokken@preventiongenetics.com.