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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health



National Institutes of Health Commercialization Assistance Program
(NIH-CAP)

Company Profile

Industry Sectors: Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Nanomedicine, Contrast Agents, Cancer Imaging and Cancer Therapy

Company Overview: Nanoprobes is an imaging reagents company with applications in research and diagnostics. The company was a pioneer in the use of nanogold particles as tags and detection agents, and our core expertise is in synthesizing and chemically modifying nanogold. Along with serving the research market with products for electron microscopy, immunodetection, and cell *in situ* imaging, Nanoprobes is developing nanogold compounds with biomedical applications, including a silver-enhanced protein detection technology licensed to Ventana-Roche. With NIH SBIR support, we are preparing novel contrast agents to enhance the performance of computed tomographic (CT)-based virtual colonoscopy.

Target Market(s): Research products, biomedical diagnostics and imaging.

Key Value Drivers

Technology*: We are developing nanogold particles with low toxicity and rapid clearance for use as contrast agents that will highlight colon tissue and areas in the colon wall that may be pre-cancerous, particularly smaller tissue projections (peduncular polyps) and growth extending into the wall (sessile polyps).

Competitive Advantage: The Nanoprobes contrast agent in the blood should make it unnecessary to clear the colon for virtual colonoscopy, since the colon tissue will "light up", whereas fecal material will not, thus eliminating bowel cleansing. The patient will also not require anesthesia and can return to work or other activities without delay. These factors should significantly increase the screening compliance of patients in high risk groups and reduce the cost for the procedure. Colon cancer that is detected early can be readily cured, so more effective screening will reduce overall treatment costs.

Plan & Strategy: Nanoprobes is conducting pre-clinical testing and intends to work with a strategic partner or licensee for clinical trials.

Management

- **James F. Hainfeld, Ph.D., Founder and CEO**
Chief Scientist with over 30 years of biomedical R&D and management experience
- **Frederic Furuya, Ph.D., Co-Founder and Vice President**
Ph.D. chemist with business training
- **Richard D. Powell, Ph.D., Research Director**
Chemist with over 20 years of bioengineering R&D and management experience
- **Robert Hausner, CFO**
Chief Financial Officer & Controller with over 30 years of experience
- **Daniel N. Slatkin, M.D. Chief Medical Officer**
Pathologist with over 25 years experience; previously planned and conducted an FDA-sanctioned clinical trial

Product Timeline

