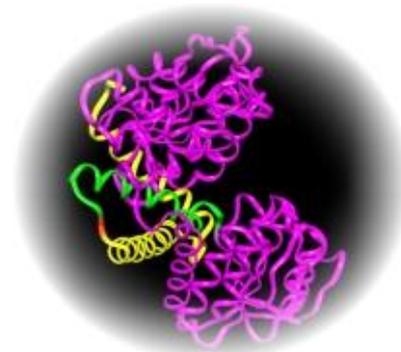


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Some new born infants suffer from an inherited condition which, if untreated, can have catastrophic impact on an infant's quality of life into adulthood. Early detection is crucial to a successful intervention. While standard laboratory-based tests exist, Enzolve, with the support of MiCRA scientists, have developed an innovative test that enables speedier and more reliable results at a relatively low cost. *Read more ...*



Enzolve

The Issue:

Phenylketonuria (PKU) is a genetically acquired condition that affects the metabolism in a large number of people on society. Early detection in infants is crucial so that a clinical response can be implemented rapidly, to mitigate the consequences for the mental health of the child which can be severe if untreated in the first few weeks of life. The condition persists to adulthood, but can be alleviated by a controlled diet. Existing tests are laboratory-based with all the inconvenience and expense that that implies.

What happened next:

Enzolve Technologies Ltd., developed an innovative solution that that was more convenient, by enabling monitoring to take place outside of laboratory conditions. Similar in concept to self-monitoring devices for diabetes, Enzolve invited MiCRA scientists to prove the concept and to invent microsensors capable of detecting the critical combination of the blood components indicative of the disease.

What we did to resolve the issue:

MiCRA, building on its track record of developing a range of assays and sensors, and its expertise with fluidic platforms, especially in self-monitoring settings, produced a device that demonstrated the concentration of the affective chemistry by an electronic display.

The benefits to Industry, Enterprise or the Community:

This is the first in a suite of diagnostic kits for screening metabolic disorders in infants. It is faster, simpler, more reliable and convenient, and more cost effective than laboratory-based tests. The high-quality and relatively low-cost combine to make the product very attractive both at home and abroad, where babies are beginning to be screened on a large scale.

For more information: <http://www.enzolve.com/en/the-company/news/91-screen-your-babys-health.html>

For more information on Fluidic platforms, and the development of assays and biosensors, contact brian.seddon@itdublin.ie



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