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## Molecular Diagnostics in Cancer Therapeutic Development: Maximizing Opportunities for Personalized Treatment

**September 17 - 20, 2007**

**Atlanta Hilton  
Atlanta, GA**

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### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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David Sidransky, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

#### CO-CHAIRPERSONS:

- David Paul Carbone, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Nashville, TN
- Nicholas C. Dracopoli, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Princeton, NJ
- Patricia M. Price, Christie Hospital NHS Trust, Manchester, England

Recent advances in genomics, proteomics, molecular imaging, and other new technologies are leading to a molecularly based reclassification of malignancy. These same approaches also afford an opportunity to view the relevance of individual therapeutic targets in a broader biological context. This emerging understanding, together with the enhanced ability to characterize tumors from individual patients, creates many opportunities for improved treatment of malignancy and accelerated development of new therapeutics. Potential benefits include enhanced detection and classification of tumors, greater accuracy to establish target validation and proof of concept, improved patient selection to test therapeutic hypotheses most efficiently, better accuracy in dose and schedule determination, and elucidation of mechanisms of drug resistance. Despite these

extraordinary opportunities, significant hurdles—scientific, technological, organizational, and economic—stand in the way of rapid and broad adoption of this approach. This conference will explore the promise of this biologically based approach to therapeutic development and clinical investigations, review the current state of accomplishments in these areas, and discuss solutions to some of the major hurdles. It will appeal to a wide range of professionals in the cancer field, from academia, industry, government, and the patient and survivor advocacy community, who are involved in and committed to advancing cancer diagnostics and therapeutics development—from bench to bedside—and will foster the increasingly close link between these two areas of science and cancer medicine.



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