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## **EXAGEN DIAGNOSTICS LAUNCHES A HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE MONITORING TOOL**

**Albuquerque, New Mexico and San Diego, California – September 15, 2014** – Exagen Diagnostics, a commercial-stage diagnostics company committed to addressing the significant unmet need for the accurate diagnosis and monitoring of patients affected by autoimmune rheumatic disease, today announced the addition of the Avise HCQ therapeutic drug monitoring tool to their line of testing services.

Avise HCQ is an innovative drug monitoring tool to help physicians objectively monitor blood levels of hydroxychloroquine (HCQ), which is typically prescribed daily to patients to control autoimmune rheumatic disease activity and prevent flares associated with such diseases. We believe Avise HCQ will help physicians optimize HCQ therapy, identify patients that are not adequately absorbing HCQ and identify noncompliant patients.

By identifying patients with low HCQ levels, Avise HCQ can be helpful to:

- prevent incorrect interpretation of disease manifestations as a lack of response;
- avoid unnecessary treatment escalation;
- evaluate a patient's risk of disease flares; and
- optimize HCQ therapy.

Avise HCQ is the second offering in Exagen's therapeutic drug monitoring line, which also includes Avise MTX. We believe this suite of products will help to fill an unmet need for rheumatologists when treating patients on mono- or combination therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and other autoimmune rheumatic diseases.

"We are excited to add Avise HCQ as the second product in our therapeutic drug monitoring line," stated Dr. Thierry Dervieux, Exagen's Chief Medical Officer. "Since studies suggest that patients are more likely to develop flares if HCQ levels are low, having an accurate measurement tool should help physicians to better manage patients on HCQ therapy."

### **About Exagen**

Exagen Diagnostics, Inc. is a commercial-stage diagnostics company committed to addressing the significant unmet need for the accurate diagnosis and monitoring of patients affected by autoimmune rheumatic disease. We currently market four products under our Avise brand to provide an accurate, timely and differential diagnosis and to optimize the treatment of autoimmune rheumatic diseases. For more information, please visit [www.exagen.com](http://www.exagen.com).

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