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## SEQUENOM INC, BRINGING JOBS TO NORTH CAROLINA

### SEQUENOM

Sequenom Inc, has been brewing something new for a new test dedicated to Down syndrome. The test is a prenatal blood test that can be ran while the mother is still pregnancy. The lab will be placed in the Research Triangle Park. Although this is a new test, marketers are curious to see how it will do. North Carolina is bound to see a huge increase in jobs thanks to this new endeavor. Sequenom now only has a new test that can change the market but also will bring 242 jobs that will help to change the economy. The Down syndrome test is known as MaterniT21 is supposed to happen later this year when the facility opens in Wake County. North Carolina has given the facility a huge amount of funding to help make this endeavor a reality. The grant was as a result of Sequenom bringing the large cooperation into North Carolina to help sustain the slow job market. Of course, the facility has to meet certain requirements to receive the funding over time. *"The grant that we are announcing today is really important to the future of our bio industry,"* Sequenom is not new to the test market and has actually been around since 1994. They have also consistently housed over 280 employees throughout their facility. They do not only concentrate on genetic tests but also focus on *"molecular diagnostic testing."* *"The company already has several diagnostic tests on the market, said Paul Maier, Sequenom's chief financial officer, including two prenatal tests, one of them for cystic fibrosis, as well as a genetic test for macular degeneration."* However, the MaterniT21 genetic test is supposed to leave the biggest impression on the genetic testing market. *"The test is meant to detect pregnancies at high risk for Trisomy 21, a genetic variation associated with Down syndrome, in unborn children's DNA using pregnant women's blood samples, Maier said."* This test is noted to be very accurate and highly successful. Although this is not the first test to be on the market; it is expected to be one of the most accurate. One employee of Sequenom states that the technology is significantly different for the MaterniT21 genetic test. The company has also noted that this is a completely different test that was under investigation by the government in 2009. Unfortunately, information was misconstrued and misunderstood that led to this investigation that prohibited the out coming of the 2009 Trisomy 21 genetic test. Those employees are no longer part of Sequenom and the company has moved forward in a more positive direction. MaterniT21 is noted as a "much better option" for pregnant women in detecting genetic issues. One of the main reasons in why the company is waiting for a release is because of a public review of the product. This company is not only bringing jobs into North Carolina but is significantly increasing the average pay of the workers. North Carolina also holds the work force necessary to accomplish a great task force to create the MaterniT21.

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