

For Immediate Release

Axela Presents Data on Novel Detection of Key Cardiac Troponin Complexes

Supports Leading Position in Development of Enabling Protein Research and Diagnostic Tools

TORONTO, CANADA, March 18, 2008 – [Axela Inc.](#), a recognized innovator in protein interaction technology, and researchers from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, presented initial work illustrating the novel ability of the dotLab™ System to measure Cardiac Troponin Complexes at the [US HUPPO](#) meeting in Bethesda, Maryland. The presentation entitled, *Development of a novel diffraction-based immunoassay for characterizing the primary and ternary structure of the circulating form of cardiac Troponin*, is authored by Dr. Qin Fu and Dr. Jennifer E. Van Eyk, both of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Dr. Yixin Lin of Axela. Dr. Van Eyk, is the Director of the Johns Hopkins [NHLBI Proteomics Center](#) in Baltimore, U.S.A. The JHNBPC uses the latest technologies to search for proteins that are key predictors of heart, lung and blood diseases.

[Troponin](#) is a complex of three proteins (cTnI, cTnC, and cTnT) that is integral to the contraction of cardiac muscle. It is released into the blood upon cardiac muscle necrosis and cell death. This new assay is able to probe the integrity of cTnI and determine if the protein is degraded by looking for the presence of specific epitopes. Most importantly, the assay can directly detect circulating cTnI bound to cTnC and cTnT in the serum of patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI).

“We are very excited about this science and the potential associated with the project,” said Rocky Ganske, Axela CEO. “The [dotLab System](#) has allowed us to measure protein complexes directly in a single test, something researchers have been unable to do previously. This unique capability has the potential to significantly impact rapid clinical diagnosis. The data further validates Axela’s approach to partnering with leading research users of the dotLab System to significantly improve the performance of immunoassays and access novel diagnostic targets.”

The analysis of protein complexes is broadly applicable across many diseases. According to the American Heart Association, AMI alone affects over 8 million Americans per year. Current dotLab products are focused on accelerating the study of biomolecular interactions, optimizing protein expression and the rapid development of quantitative assays for the research markets. Future diagnostic offerings will exploit the demonstrated benefits of real-time measurements that extend the dynamic range of multiplex biomarker analysis and allow direct determination of protein complexes and isoforms.

About Axela, Inc.

Axela has developed a proprietary technology for real time protein detection, characterization and monitoring directly in biological samples. The company’s products provide simple tools and reagents to life science and clinical researchers to study interactions, expand the utility of traditional immunoassays and access novel categories of diagnostic markers. Participating in the research market provides unique access to novel discoveries that form the basis of a growing

content pipeline for future multiplex diagnostic offerings. Axela is a privately-held company with operations in Toronto and California whose major investor is VenGrowth Private Equity Partners Inc., one of Canada's premier private equity managers. For more information, please visit www.axela.com or contact:

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