



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:

Hardy Diagnostics' Strep B Carrot Broth™ Kit Receives Patent

Carrot Broth is a superior detection kit for Group B Streptococcus (GBS) in pregnant women.



**Carrot Broth showing negative and positive results.
Photo by Teresa Rodil.**

Santa Maria, California, August 1, 2012 – Hardy Diagnostics received a Notice of Allowance for its US Patent Application 13/272,112 titled “Culture Medium for Cultivation of Microorganisms.” The patent covers Hardy Diagnostics’ Strep B Carrot Broth™ kit. The Carrot Broth invention solves the problem in the prior art of the need for a ready-to-use, low cost, low labor, low risk, longer shelf-life, superior detection kit for the detection in pregnant women of Group B Streptococcus (GBS). Although approximately 25% of women are carriers for GBS without causing symptoms, this bacteria can cause illness and death in their newborn babies. The Carrot Broth invention solves this problem by a unique modification of the “Granada” prior art reaction. As a result of the superior recovery of GBS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expanded GBS detection options to include the Hardy Diagnostics’ Strep B Carrot Broth™ kit.

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ABOUT HARDY DIAGNOSTICS

Hardy Diagnostics is an FDA registered and ISO 13485 certified manufacturer of medical devices for microbiological procedures in both clinical and industrial laboratories. The company produces over 3,500 products for the culture and identification of bacteria and fungi from its two manufacturing facilities in California and Ohio. Currently over 8,000 laboratories are serviced by Hardy Diagnostics throughout the nation.

The company was founded in 1980 by Jay Hardy, a Clinical Laboratory Scientist from Santa Barbara, CA. Today, Hardy Diagnostics maintains eight distribution centers throughout the U.S. and exports products to over 40 foreign distributors.

The company's mission is to partner with its laboratory customers to prevent and diagnose disease. For more information, visit www.HardyDiagnostics.com.

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