

## **Novalis participates in financing round of FERTIGA for further expansion of the Corona Test**

Ghent, Belgium, 09 Oct 2019

The Belgian female fertility company Fertiga announces the closure of its first financing round together with Novalis Biotech Incubation and international private investors.

Fertiga is a spin-off from Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Its product, the Corona Test was initially developed by the research team of Prof. Dr. Johan Smits at VUB together with the pioneering fertility clinic UZBrussel. The Corona Test is an analysis of the cells surround the egg cell during an IVF treatment. The test result is used to select the best embryo and helps the patient to become pregnant faster.

The funding will be used to further increase testing capacity at Fertiga and grow international access.

CEO Prof. André Rosenthal (serial biotech entrepreneur) from Fertiga commented: "Infertility is an underestimated disease and still many improvements can be done. The Corona Test is the first non-invasive test to determine the quality of egg cells. We are very pleased to welcome Novalis among Fertiga's investors. Their support, demonstrated by this fundraising, will allow us to speed up our development of the Corona Test."

Prof Wim Van Criekinge from Novalis added: The Corona Test has shown to be a major breakthrough in fertility treatment. It will help couples to increase pregnancy success rates and reduce their overall burden. It fits perfectly the types of innovative concepts in healthcare we are looking for. We are delighted to support Fertiga in reaching its goals.

About Fertiga ([www.fertiga.com](http://www.fertiga.com))

Fertiga nv is a spin-off from Vrije Universiteit Brussel(VUB) on the basis of research carried out over the past 10 years within the VUB and University hospital of Brussels (UZ Brussels). Our objective is to become a major player in improving fertility treatment outcomes. We improve efficiency of IVF by analysis of gene expressions in cells surrounding the egg cell. Our goal is to reach 'one child with one try'.

About Novalis ([www.noval.is](http://www.noval.is))

Novalis Biotech Incubation seeds biotechnology and life sciences related companies. Novalis incubates own ideas or supports innovative start-ups in life-sciences. Our core competence lies in the interaction between bioinformatics, genomics and digitalization in life sciences. We strongly believe in applying innovative information technology to advance prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of a disease.