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#### Disease Areas

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#### Professional Products

Progress in medicine today is not just about scientific innovation. Huge advances have been made as a result of disease prevention, risk assessment and therapy monitoring - as well as in the basic requirements of diagnosis. Nowhere have these advances been more effective than in heart disease, cancer, and chronic diseases, including blood-borne pathogens like HIV. And medicine has individual diagnostic needs too in women's health, respiratory tract infections and sexually transmitted disease. These are the fields in which Inverness Medical is active, where global as well as individual diagnostic needs are met with the broadest range of point-of-care products available.

### Cardiology

Cardiovascular disease encompasses a spectrum of conditions and illnesses including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, metabolic syndrome, coronary artery disease, heart attack, heart failure, and stroke. It is estimated that 40 percent of all deaths in industrialized countries can be attributed to cardiovascular disease.

### Drugs of Abuse

Despite advances in medical, social, and economic sciences, substance abuse continues to be a significant problem in the United States and other countries worldwide. The ability to obtain a differential diagnosis of drug use in a timely manner greatly aids the course of medical treatment, including the prevention of contraindicated medicinal interventions. In addition to the diagnostic applications, drugs of abuse screening programs are extensively utilized in occupational and law enforcement settings.

### Infectious Disease

Despite widespread immunization for many childhood illnesses and the use of effective antibiotics, infectious diseases impose a massive public health burden. Most, even newly emerging diseases, can be detected by simple diagnostic testing.

The detection of some blood-borne diseases such as HIV and hepatitis B, especially in the developing world, can improve prognosis and help prevent mother-to-child transmission.

Upper respiratory tract infections such as tonsillitis and sinusitis are at best uncomfortable; lower respiratory tract infections like bronchitis and pneumonia may be life-threatening. Their effective - and careful - treatment with antibiotics depends on a precise identification of the infecting pathogen.

### Oncology

As with all cancers, the early detection of bladder cancer improves prognosis. Screening for this common cancer and

monitoring its progress during therapy are critical to its successful treatment.

## **Women's Health**

For many women, the confirmation of a pregnancy is a happy event, but human reproduction can have its problems too. Cycle irregularities, osteoporosis, and sexually transmitted infections may all have a pronounced effect on some women.

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