**Draft Template Press Release – footnotes can be removed**

**[Institution] First in [Region] to Offer Patients New Lung Nodule Diagnostic Tool;**

**May Reduce Patient Anxiety and Invasive Procedures**

*Physicians Introduce New Blood Test to Help Rule Out Lung Cancer*

**City, State. Month XX, 2019 –** [Institution] today announced that pulmonologists at [hospital/facility/center] are the first in [region] to offer patients a new diagnostic blood test for incidentally discovered lung nodules. Impactful tools are needed to support lung nodule management, with more than 1.6 million nodules detected incidentally each year in the U.S.1, and only 1 in 3 patients receiving a follow-up clinical evaluation2.

With less than five percent of pulmonary nodules being diagnosed as lung cancer1,2, physicians must weigh the benefit of avoiding invasive procedures with the risk of delaying intervention. As a result, clinical risk assessment prior to intervention has become a critical component of managing patients with newly discovered nodules. Recent technological advances have led to the development of a blood test that helps physicians rule out cancer for patients with low to moderate risk nodules. Supporting clinical validation data showed that the test may reduce invasive procedures on non-cancerous nodules by up to 40 percent. With accurate results to support clinical decision making, the blood-based test may reduce patient anxiety and helps physicians confidently recommend the most appropriate care path for each patient.

“When a patient comes into [Institution] they can be confident that they are receiving the very best care from physicians equipped with the latest technology,” said [local physician]. “[Insert local statistic on regional or state lung cancer]. Using the Nodify XL2 blood test helps our team give peace of mind and avoid unnecessary invasive procedures for patients who are less likely to have cancer. This new diagnostic tool provides us with a non-invasive method to assist clinical decision-making for patients with low to moderate risk nodules.”

While most incidental lung nodules will be non-cancerous, the fear associated with their discovery creates a need to expedite the ability to rule-out cancer. Lung cancer is the second-most common cancer in the U.S. and the leading cause of cancer-related death[[1]](#footnote-2); yet, 75 percent of patients with nodules wait an average of eight months for a diagnosis. The blood test, called the Nodify XL2™ lung nodule test, helps physicians expedite treatment decisions and reduce unnecessary procedures. Physicians at [Institution] do warn that not all patients can benefit from the test, as an individual patient’s cancer risk may be too high, and the traditional tissue biopsy may still be needed.

The Nodify XL2 lung nodule test was introduced by Biodesix, a lung cancer diagnostic solutions company, to help physicians quickly and accurately rule out cancer prior to a surgical procedure with a simple blood draw. Backed by a [rigorous clinical study](https://journal.chestnet.org/article/S0012-3692(18)30307-6/fulltext), the test is associated with high sensitivity (97 percent). Nodify XL2 is covered for Medicare beneficiaries under the Local Coverage Determination (LCD) L37602 MolDX BDX-XL2[[2]](#footnote-3) based on the current supporting clinical data.

[Insert local patient story of a patient whose incidental lung nodule was discovered and Nodify was able to help physicians move the patient quickly to appropriate management.]

**About [Institution]**

**Contact:**

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1. Siegel R, Miller K, Jemal A. Cancer Statistics 2018. *CA Cancer J Clin* 2018;68:7‐30. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Local Coverage Determination (LCD): MolDX: BDX-XL2 (L37062). Washington, DC, 2019. https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=37062&ver=10&DocID=L37062&bc=gAAAABAAAAAA& [↑](#footnote-ref-3)