College of Medicine
Division of Infectious Disease & International Medicine
PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA'S DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE COMMITS TO SAFETY WITH ADVANCE IN GERM RESISTANT TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY

New high-tech lab coats help advance barrier of infection control

(TAMPA, Fl.) – As an innovator in infectious disease prevention and patient safety, The University of South Florida College of Medicine's Division of Infectious Disease and International Medicine is instituting high-tech, fluid repellant Vestex™ lab coats for its physicians and advanced clinical staff. Engineered as a first line of defense against blood and other bodily fluids, Vestex will help prevent contamination of clothing in health care textiles.

"We are committed to excellence in health care and that begins with safety for our patients and our employees. As the latest advance in textile technology, Vestex will be another instrument in our quest for innovation," said John Sinnott, MD, FACP, FISDA, Associate Dean and Division Director. "This is the next step in our mission to be an internationally outstanding academic center and resource for infectious disease identification, prevention and treatment issues."

As the principal infectious disease organization in Florida, the division conducts research, analyzes infectious disease policies, and provides clinical care and training to health care workers both locally and throughout the world. Dr. Sinnott is a leader in his field, accredited as a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the Infectious Disease Society of America.

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Developed by Orlando-based Vestagen Technical Textiles, Vestex uses exclusively licensed and patented technology to repel blood and bodily fluids, wick away perspiration, guard against degradation from microorganisms, and control odors. The innovative, nanotechnology-based textile helps prevent contamination of the clothing while keeping the wearer clean, cool and dry.

"Frequent exposure of health care workers to contaminants is predictable in high patient contact areas like infectious disease units," said Ben Favret, president and CEO of Vestagen. "Vestex will help keep physicians safe from unpredictable spills or splatters that may occur and introduce a new level of protection."

To learn more about Vestex technology, visit www.vestexprotects.com.

USF Infectious Disease Faculty from left to right: Linda Lennerth, MSN,RN, Dr. Somboonwit, Dr. Heinzel, Gina Taylor, LPN, Dr. Oehler, Dr. Sinnott, Dr. Casanas, Dr. Haight, Dr. Amuso, Dr. Alrabaa, Dr. Hannah, Dr. Velez, Dr. Montero, and Dr. Holt.

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About USF Health

USF Health (www.health.usf.edu) is dedicated to creating a model of health care based on understanding the full spectrum of health. It includes the University of South Florida's colleges of medicine, nursing, and public health; the schools of biomedical sciences as well as physical therapy & rehabilitation sciences; and the USF Physicians Group. With more than $380.4 million in research grants and contracts last year, the University of South Florida is one of the nation's top 63 public research universities and one of only 25 public research universities nationwide with very high research activity that is designated as community engaged by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

About Vestagen Technical Textiles LLC

Vestagen Technical Textiles is an Orlando-based marketer and manufacturer of advanced performance textiles. Vestagen is led by a skilled management team with nearly a century of combined experience in the health care textile and apparel industries. Backed by V-Ten Capital Partners, Vestagen is committed to creating innovative textile solutions. For more information, visit www.vestagen.com.