

En Carta Diagnostics secures €1.5M in pre-seed funding to advance diagnostic kit platform for early Lyme disease detection

Groundbreaking patented molecular diagnostic kit poised to provide game-changing autonomous Lyme detection in minutes

Paris, France, May 22, 2024 – En Carta Diagnostics, a deeptech start-up developing rapid Point-of-Care (POC) molecular diagnostics kits, today announces €1.5M (\$1.63M) in pre-seed funding. This investment will enable En Carta to make a substantial leap forward in achieving preclinical data on a prototype diagnostic kit for its flagship indication, the debilitating Lyme disease, while ensuring its ability to scale industrially.

CentraleSupélec Venture led the round with participation from a handful of high-profile business angels. Additional funding may be forthcoming to finance other diagnostic platform derivatives.

En Carta's technology is a rapid Point-of-Care diagnostic platform, in a frugal cassette format, exhibiting high precision through a technology underpinned by more than ten years of intensive research. It uses aptamers, capable of binding with high affinity and specificity to a predetermined target. This 'signature' can be programmed to detect any genetic, pathogenic or veterinary indication, opening up an extensive range of applications.

The company is addressing Lyme disease as its first application, due to this disorder's escalation as the most prevalent vector-borne disease in the Northern Hemisphere - with 1.2M cases recorded annually. The rate is increasing alarmingly at 22.5% per year from 2000 to 2018 according to the [CDC](#) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

"En Carta is absolutely thrilled to have secured financial backing from CentraleSupélec Venture and business angels, who have deep expertise in healthcare and a solid understanding of Point-of-Care market needs," said Guillaume Horreard, CEO at En Carta. "Today, we have a very robust platform technology leveraged for accuracy, speed and cost, which are key in the Point-of-Care space. As a first step, we are focusing on Lyme disease, where the sizeable patient population, accelerated growth of the problem and need for rapid diagnosis following a tick bite make our product indispensable."

En Carta will use the proceeds to develop a diagnostic kit, with the purpose of autonomously detecting Lyme disease within minutes. The funding will also enable it to build a robust ecosystem and implement its go-to-market strategy.

"CentraleSupélec Venture is delighted to support this first phase of development in the Point-of-Care diagnostics sector, which meets the expectations of both patients and healthcare systems," said Cédric Curtil, executive director of CS Venture.

The platform enables the long-awaited early diagnosis of Lyme disease, a critical capability that has been lacking in the standard testing for the disease. Current Lyme disease tests are designed to detect antibodies made by the body in response to infection. As antibodies can take several weeks to develop, tests conducted on recently infected patients may produce a negative result. En Carta's molecular diagnostic platform



is the first to overcome this shortcoming, paving the way for more accurate and rapid diagnosis. The company expects to present preclinical data in early 2025.

"En Carta Diagnostics' technology, product and team are very promising. Their go-to-market approach for POC diagnostics could fulfill an unmet need in the US retail environment, as practitioners struggle with early diagnosis of Lyme Disease and co-infections," said Jean-Pierre Millon, board member of CVS Health and advisor to En Carta.

Strong market growth in the Point-of-Care (POC) molecular diagnostics, ([\\$27bn market with 24% CAGR in 2019-2024](#)) and telemedicine ([+24% CAGR in 2024-2030](#)) sectors, attracted investors to the company, alongside the demonstrable robustness of En Carta's technology, originally developed by researchers from Harvard Wyss Institute, the Pasteur Institute and the engineering school Centrale Paris.

Legal advisor for En Carta Diagnostics: Jade Ruscev, Stamina Law

About CentraleSupélec Venture

Launched in May 2023, with CentraleSupélec Alumni and the CentraleSupélec Foundation, CentraleSupélec Venture is the school's alumni venture capital fund. With an initial closing of €12 million and a final target of €25 million, the fund's strategy is to invest initial amounts ranging from €150,000 to €500,000 in start-ups from its ecosystem, in the seed phase, with a focus on deeptech projects related to healthcare or industrial and environmental transitions. CS Venture is managed by TyGrow, an AMF-accredited asset management company, assisted by CS Venture Partners, which is partially owned by Centrale and sponsored pro bono by two leading figures in the private equity industry: Jean-Marc Patouillaud (Supélec 81) and Pierre Martini (Centrale Paris 98). CS Venture is operated by a team led by Cédric Curtil, who has a wealth of experience with funds, major corporations and start-ups.

www.centralesupelec.fr

About En Carta

En Carta Diagnostics is a deeptech start-up developing rapid Point-of-Care molecular diagnostics kits. It focuses on the early diagnosis of Lyme disease as a first application. The company operates a patented molecular diagnostics platform with an exclusive worldwide license. Founded in 2022, En Carta has built five prototypes, published ten papers in scientific journals on the proof of concept on pathogens including Zika, chikungunya, malaria, Ebola and typhoid, and secured a commercial contract with a digital healthcare leader.

Located in Paris, France, En Carta Diagnostics is incubated at Paris Biotech Santé, PC'UP and 50 Partners Santé.

Its scientific team members also received a \$17.7M DARPA project award in 2023 and collaborate with an extensive network of research institutes in Latin America.

www.encarta.bio

Media and analyst contact
Andrew Lloyd & Associates

Carol Leslie - Juliette Schmitt

carol@ala.associates / juliette@ala.associates

UK : + 44 1273 952 481

US: + 1 203 724 5950
