



## **Provia Laboratories Expands its Offering to the Biobanking Industry by Launching Proviasette™, the Next Generation Biospecimen Storage Cassette**

*Tissue biobanking and biorepository best practices will benefit from the new design, to be introduced at the ISBER 2011 annual meeting in Washington D.C.*

Lexington, MA ([PRWEB](#)) May 13, 2011 -- Provia Laboratories, LLC announced today the introduction of its next generation [biospecimen storage container](#), the Proviasette™. The Proviasette builds on an already proven design to efficiently store frozen biospecimens, and offers enhancements to ensure that valuable biospecimens are stored in compliance with best practices. This type of container has been used for over 10 years by academic, pharmaceutical and government [biorepositories](#) to store hundreds of thousands of frozen biospecimens.

By using a Proviasette, the biorepository can reduce the risk of altering the morphology of the tissue, which can often occur when storing tissue in foil, bags, or [cryovials](#). Originally designed for snap frozen and OCT embedded tissue, the Proviasette has been optimized for storage in liquid nitrogen (vapor phase) and -80°C mechanical freezers. The new design consists of a base and cap unit manufactured from two different polymers to eliminate component seizing at low temperatures. The Proviasette offers advantages to storing tissue samples in glass vials; these can prove dangerous since the glass can become unstable when removed from low temperature storage.

Provia Labs' improved design helps take the guesswork out of sample logistics. Industry standard barcode labels can be affixed to the edge of the Proviasette and there is space on the rear of the container for a human readable label. In addition, the new modular design allows for additional "components" to be plugged into Proviasettes as the needs of the [biobanking industry](#) evolve. For example, new modules can be optionally attached to existing specimens without the complex process of re-labeling or re-embedding. These modules will include RFID tags and/or data tracking capabilities for temperature and clinical data so that data stays with the sample. Proviasettes will be available in a wide array of colors to complement proprietary tissue collection/procurement kits.

"At Provia, we believe the use of properly collected, processed and preserved [biospecimens](#) is a critical component to the discovery and delivery of new therapies," said Howard Greenman, CEO of Provia Laboratories. "There are many millions of biospecimens collected every year; however, biospecimen tracking and storage methods are not standardized. The Proviasette offers an optimal way to maintain the integrity and tracking of stored biospecimens. In addition, with the continued adoption of Provia's storage cassettes by biopharma, medical center and government biorepositories, it is becoming a standard."

[Proviasettes](#) are now available from Provia Labs and can be purchased online. Also available are custom 3 x 7 box inserts specifically designed for use with standard 5"x5"x2" cryoboxes. The Proviasette will debut at next week's annual meeting of the [International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories](#) (ISBER) to be held in Washington, D.C. May 15-18.

For more information about Proviasette™ biospecimen storage containers, please call 1-781-862-0700 or visit [www.proviasette.com](http://www.proviasette.com).

About Provia Laboratories, LLC



Provia Laboratories, LLC ([www.provialabs.com](http://www.provialabs.com)) is a healthcare services company headquartered in Lexington, Massachusetts which specializes in high quality biobanking. Provia offers a variety of products for use in complex biobanking environments to improve sample logistics, security, and quality. In addition, the company advises industrial, academic, and governmental clients on matters related to the preservation of biological specimens for research and clinical use. The company's Store-A-Tooth™ service platform enables the collection, transport, processing, and storage of dental stem cells for potential use in future stem-cell therapies. Provia Labs is a member of ISBER, the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories and ESBB, the European, Middle Eastern & African Society for Biopreservation & Biobanking.

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