

## **CMS grants New Technology Add-on Payment (NTAP) for ASTar®**

**Q-linea AB (publ) (OMX:QLINEA) announces that ASTar has been approved for NTAP funding**

The US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that Q-linea's ASTar® System has been awarded NTAP funding. The NTAP reimbursement will be available to US hospitals for Medicare patients in the amount of USD 97.50 per eligible patient.

Funding will be effective for three years, from October 2024 through September 2027. Cases involving the use of the ASTar system that are eligible for new technology add-on payments will be identified by ICD-10-PCS procedure code XXE5X2A.

NTAP funding was awarded based on three criteria, including substantial clinical improvement, in addition to newness and cost. Rapid antibiotic susceptibility test results provided by ASTar for patients with bacteremia are expected to reduce time to optimal antibiotic therapy for these seriously ill patients.

Stuart Gander, CEO of Q-linea, stated, "We are grateful to CMS for this funding for US hospitals seeking to improve the quality of care and antimicrobial stewardship efforts for sepsis patients, who are some of the most critically ill patients they treat. We anticipate this designation will reduce time to adoption among innovative hospitals at the forefront of medical advancements."

### **For more information, please contact:**

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### **About Q-linea**

Q-linea's rapid AST system, ASTar®, accelerates and simplifies the time-sensitive workflows faced during the treatment of patients with bloodstream infections and sepsis. Hospitals use ASTar to vastly reduce the time to optimal antimicrobial therapies and ensure that patients receive the correct treatments sooner — when time matters most. We are helping to create sustainable healthcare, now and in the future, and safeguard the effectiveness of antibiotics for generations to come.

Q-linea is headquartered in Uppsala, Sweden and has regional offices in Italy and the USA, with partnerships worldwide.

ASTar Instrument and ASTar BC G- Consumable kit are CE-IVD marked and FDA 510(k) cleared. For more information, please visit [www.qlinea.com](http://www.qlinea.com)

**Attachments**

CMS grants New Technology Add-on Payment (NTAP) for AStar®