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Proteomics International wins major analytical services contract in new biosimilars area

- Proteomics International signs long-term agreement with BiosanaPharma to test a new asthma drug
- The partnership marks the start of a new service in release testing and long-term and accelerated stability testing for biosimilars, backed by ISO 17025 accreditation and Proteomics International's GLP system
- Agreement is Proteomics International's largest biosimilars contract to date with a value in excess of \$200,000.

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (ASX: PIQ), a leader in providing predictive diagnostics and biosimilars analytical services, has entered into a long-term partnership with Dutch/Australian company BiosanaPharma to test a new treatment for allergic asthma.

Proteomics International will conduct characterisation analysis of BiosanaPharma's product over a period of 12 months, including what is known as long-term and accelerated stability testing. This process sees new drugs stored for long periods under different temperature conditions and taken out at pre-determined times for testing. It aims to verify a drug's safety and effectiveness over time.

Proteomics International managing director Dr Richard Lipscombe said it was exciting to be working together with a quality focused company like BiosanaPharma to bring a new drug to market. "The treatment we will be testing is an antibody drug that controls moderate to severe allergic asthma," he said. "It's a great example of the new breed of biosimilars, complex generic drugs that copy existing biological medicines."

The agreement marks Proteomics International's largest biosimilars contract to date, and is worth in excess of AU\$200,000. The global biosimilars drug market surpassed US\$ 3.3billion in 2016 and is expected to triple in size to reach US\$10.5 billion by 2022 as pharmaceutical companies seek to replicate a host of blockbuster drugs coming off patent.

Dr Lipscombe said stability and accelerated testing for biosimilars was a new area of importance for Proteomics International, with the long-term service attracting long-term clients. "Only specialist laboratories are able to take on this work because if a fridge or freezer fails, due to a power cut for instance, you could lose six months of testing data," he said. Our extensive ISO 17025 laboratory certifications set us apart as the most accredited protein testing laboratory in the world.

BiosanaPharma's Chief Operating and Chief Scientific Officer Jaap Wieling remarked that the quality and reliability of service was key to choosing Proteomics International as a partner for their exciting new drug. "Australia's advanced R&D environment supports our desire to make antibody biosimilars efficiently and affordably," he said.

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About Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (PILL) (www.proteomicsinternational.com)

Proteomics International is a wholly owned subsidiary and trading name of PILL (ASX: PIQ), a medical technology company focused on the area of proteomics – the industrial scale study of the structure and function of proteins. PILL is recognised as a global leader in the field of proteomics, and operates from state-of-the art facilities located on the QEII Medical Campus in Perth, Western Australia. The company received the world's first ISO 17025 laboratory accreditation for proteomics services, now broadened to R&D in accordance with the principles of GLP (Good Laboratory Practice). PILL's business model uses its proprietary technology platform across three integrated areas of diagnostics, drug discovery and analytical services.

About BiosanaPharma (www.biosanapharma.com)

BiosanaPharma is a Dutch/Australian privately owned early-stage biotechnology company, founded on an innovative process for the production of monoclonal antibodies (MAbs), by which cost of goods can be reduced by 90-95%. With this GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) validated process, BiosanaPharma manufactures the products in its MAb biosimilars pipeline, that will be brought to the market in collaboration with international marketing and sales partners.

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