



Proteomics International

LABORATORIES LTD

ASX Release
21 June 2022

ASX code: PIQ

Proteomics International secures exclusive licence to oesophageal cancer biomarkers

- **Agreement with QIMR Berghofer gives Proteomics International worldwide licence to commercialise biomarkers for the most common form of oesophageal cancer**
- **Proteomics International to develop simple blood test for oesophageal adenocarcinoma, building on experience commercialising PromarkerD test for diabetic kidney disease**
- **Biomarkers already validated in 300 patient study earlier this year**
- **Test to be targeted at patients with pre-malignant condition Barrett's oesophagus**

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (Proteomics International; ASX: PIQ) has secured an exclusive worldwide licence to commercialise biomarkers that can test for oesophageal adenocarcinoma, the most common form of oesophageal cancer. The licence agreement between Proteomics International and the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute (QIMR Berghofer) was signed yesterday, following a partnership between the two organisations to improve detection of the disease [ASX: 9 October 2020].

The QIMR Berghofer intellectual property in the biomarkers is licensed exclusively to Proteomics International and will allow the Company to use the biomarkers discovered by QIMR Berghofer researchers to develop and commercialise a simple blood test for oesophageal adenocarcinoma.

Proteomics International managing director Dr Richard Lipscombe said the test would be targeted at patients with Barrett's oesophagus, a pre-malignant condition associated with an increased risk of oesophageal cancer. Barrett's oesophagus is asymptomatic and affects about two per cent of the population in the United States, Europe and Australia¹, and occurs when the oesophagus is damaged by acid reflux².

"These at-risk patients are currently screened with invasive and costly endoscopy procedures. Instead, this panel of biomarkers—or protein 'fingerprints' in the blood—can detect the early stages of oesophageal adenocarcinoma which we hope to do using a simple blood test," said Dr Lipscombe.

Oesophageal cancer is an area of significant unmet medical need, with current screening requiring specialist medical expertise and costing US\$2,750 per patient in the United States³.

The licence agreement comes after Proteomics International and QIMR Berghofer validated the biomarkers in a joint study of more than 300 patients earlier this year [ASX: 4 February]. The patent family, titled "Glycoprotein Biomarkers for Esophageal Adenocarcinoma and Barrett's Esophagus and Uses Thereof", covers patents already granted in Australia, China, Hong Kong, and Europe (France,

¹ Barrett's oesophagus: epidemiology, diagnosis and clinical management (2016); doi.org/10.5694/mja16.00796

² American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, www.asge.org

³ www.newchoicehealth.com/endoscopy

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd

ABN 78 169 979 971

Box 3008, Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009, Australia

T: +61 8 9389 1992 | E: enquiries@proteomicsinternational.com | W: www.proteomicsinternational.com

Germany, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom) (with expiry November 2035), with further patents pending in the United States and Canada.

The exclusive licence is for the later of 20 years, or the life of the patents. Under the licence agreement, using the intellectual property of QIMR Berghofer, Proteomics International has agreed to various milestones to complete the development and commercialisation of licensed products. QIMR Berghofer will be entitled to royalty payments from the sale or license of these licensed products, which will vary on a percentage basis based on the type of licensed product developed and the sales proceeds received for those products. The licence agreement is also subject to standard terms and conditions (including confidentiality) and warranties typical for a contract of this type.

Proteomics International will now undertake additional studies to confirm the diagnostic performance of the potential new blood test, which will take approximately six months.

Proteomics International is currently rolling-out PromarkerD, the world's first predictive diagnostic test for diabetic kidney disease. The Company also has advanced research programs targeting endometriosis, asthma and COPD.

Authorised by the Board of Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (ASX.PIQ).

ENDS

About QIMR Berghofer (www.qimrberghofer.edu.au)

For 77 years, the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, now known as QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute has worked to improve the lives of Queenslanders and people across the globe, by delivering on its purpose of better health and wellbeing through impactful medical research. The Institute's priorities are to advance medical science and drive significant innovation in health nationally and globally. QIMR Berghofer is home to 1,000 scientists, students, and support staff who are focused on research programs including cancer, infectious diseases, inflammation, genetics of diseases, mental health and neuroscience, population health, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. It supports ground breaking research discoveries and promotes a world-class, collaborative and sustainable research environment dedicated to developing new diagnostics and better treatments and prevention strategies. QIMR Berghofer has an active program for the commercialisation of technologies, including those developed in conjunction with academic or commercial collaborators.

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

Proteomics International (Perth, Western Australia) is a wholly owned subsidiary and trading name of PILL (ASX: PIQ), a medical technology company at the forefront of predictive diagnostics and bio-analytical services. The Company specialises in the area of proteomics – the industrial scale study of the structure and function of proteins. Proteomics International's mission is to improve the quality of lives by the creation and application of innovative tools that enable the improved treatment of disease.

For further information please contact:

Dr Richard Lipscombe
Managing Director
Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd
T: +61 8 9389 1992
E: enquiries@proteomicsinternational.com

Dirk van Dissel
Investor Relations & Corporate Advisor
Candour Advisory
T: +61 408 326 367
E: dirk@candouradvisory.com.au

Kyle Moss
Corporate Advisor
Euroz Hartleys
T: +61 8 9488 1400
E: kmoss@eurozhartleys.com

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd

ABN 78 169 979 971

Box 3008, Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009, Australia

T: +61 8 9389 1992 | E: enquiries@proteomicsinternational.com | W: www.proteomicsinternational.com