



# PainChek® receives funding for 12-month pilot in Welsh care homes

PainChek® Ltd (ASX: PCK) ("PainChek®" or "the Company"), developer of the world's first smart phone-based pain assessment and monitoring application, is pleased to announce that it has received funding from the Gwent Regional Partnership Board in Wales that will support a 12-month pilot in care environments across Gwent, Wales.

As part of Phase 1 of the pilot, an initial deployment of PainChek will encompass 1,000 beds in the residential aged care sector, before Phase 2 sees deployment expanded to hospices, hospitals and palliative care facilities. Each of these phases is expected to have a duration of approximately six months.

The pilot is a key step for PainChek in Wales as it moves to gain share of a market containing approximately 30,000 aged care beds and approximately 20,000 hospital beds. Funding for the pilot will be provided on standard PainChek commercial terms with indicative licence price per bed as disclosed to the ASX in the AGM Investor Update on November 20 2021<sup>1</sup>

The joint announcement is provided as follows:

# Gwent Care Providers Collaborate on a fully funded PainChek Pilot

PainChek, the world's first artificial intelligence (AI)-powered pain assessment tool, has been supported by Life Sciences Hub Wales in receiving funding from the Gwent Regional Partnership Board via its Technology Enabled Care Programme. Funding will support a 12-month pilot in care environments such as residential, nursing, and palliative care homes, across Gwent.

Care homes providing dementia, palliative, complex and learning disabilities care can apply to take part in the programme.

The programme is headed up by Life Sciences Hub Wales, which is an arm's length body of Welsh Government and acts as a catalyst for innovation and collaboration between industry, health, social care, and academia, with the aim of making a positive difference to people, families, and businesses across the country.

PainChek's Tandeep Gill explains the aims of pilot include gathering a 12-month evaluation of the use and impacts of the app-based medical device: "From our discussions with care homes, it is abundantly clear they place pain management as a high priority, however, the tools currently used are sub-optimal.

"Using PainChek in a range of residential and nursing care homes across Gwent means we will be able to support them in improving management of pain for their residents. This will deliver immediate benefits including an increase in the number and accuracy of assessments conducted at the point of care. This can lead to better decision making from MDTs that is shown to reduce the prescribing of anti-psychotic medication, support one-to-one care requirements and hospital admissions, and inform improvements to dietary and nutritional strategies.

"The agreement to fund the pilot is excellent news for the local and regional care sector, as well as great recognition of the significant role that PainChek can play in achieving effective management of pain in numerous care and nursing settings. We see this programme as the first step in rolling-out PainChek across Wales," he adds. "Life Sciences Hub Wales helps to accelerate the development and adoption of innovative solutions that support the health and social care needs of Wales, and we are delighted to be working with them."

Aimee Twinberrow is Project Lead within Life Sciences Hub Wales and focuses on healthier ageing and the use of Al, digital and robotics to support innovation in Health and Social Care. Of Life Sciences Hub Wales' role in the programme and how it could help improve quality of care, she explains:

"Life Science Hub Wales is delighted to be partnering with PainChek to help support nurses and care staff with making decisions about pain medication, with this project providing an initial evaluation to support its wider roll out and adoption across Health and social care in Wales. Technology like this can help to better manage pain levels and therefore play an important role in improving the overall quality of life and outcomes for people."

On average, 70% of residential and care home residents have a form of cognitive impairment such as dementia, with on average 50% of these experiencing chronic or acute pain at any given time.

"This is a problem that is currently not well addressed, and yet dementia prevalence is on the increase and set to double in 20 years," comments Tandeep. "The benefits of good pain management within health and social care, are numerous, but the sector currently relies on historic tools. These are cumbersome to use, particularly with people unable to communicate their needs, and pain assessments are subjective, and may be inaccurate and inconsistent.

"PainChek and its Al-driven data, results, reporting and information is the key to identifying and accurately measuring the 'pain burden' to ensure improved quality of life for residents."

This release has been authorized for release by CEO Philip Daffas.

## For more information:

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<sup>1</sup>https://cdn-api.markitdigital.com/apiman-gateway/ASX/asx-research/1.0/file/2924-02459605-2A1342279?access\_token=83ff96335c2d45a094df02a206a39ff4\_(slide 15)

### **About PainChek®**

PainChek® Ltd is an Australian based company that develops pain assessment technologies.

Pain often goes unrecognised and under-treated in people with communication difficulties. PainChek Universal is a clinically validated smartdevice-based medical device that enables best practice pain assessment for all people, everywhere.

PainChek Universal is a complete point-of-care solution that combines the existing PainChek® App with the Numerical Rating Scale (NRS). This enables best-practice pain management for all residents living with pain in any environment — from those who cannot verbalise pain to those who can, and those who fluctuate between the two.

The PainChek® App uses artificial intelligence and facial recognition to detect pain in those who cannot self-report. This gives a voice to those who cannot verbalise pain, whilst also driving objectivity and consistency in all assessments. For those who can self-report, PainChek Universal also includes access to the Numerical Rating Scale,

a well-established standard used to document pain levels amongst these individuals. PainChek Universal also supports pain assessment using both tools at the point of care, for those people whose ability to communicate fluctuates.

PainChek® is being rolled out globally in two phases: first, PainChek® for adults who are unable to effectively verbalise their pain such as people with dementia, and second, PainChek® for infants who have not yet learnt to speak. Both the adult and infant products have received regulatory clearance in numerous markets including Australia, Europe, UK, NZ, Singapore and Canada.

To date PainChek has been contracted for approximately 126,000 beds across 1,500 facilities globally and has now reached a cumulative 1,300,000 pain assessment performed. It has 60% market share in Australia while continuing to accelerate its presence in international markets.

To find out more, visit www.painchek.com

### About Life Sciences Hub Wales:

Life Sciences Hub Wales aims to make Wales the place of choice for health, care and wellbeing innovation. We help to advance innovation and create meaningful collaboration between industry, health, social care, government, and research organisations.

We want to help transform both the health and economic wellbeing of the nation:

- accelerating the development and adoption of innovative solutions that support the health and social care needs of Wales, and;
- partnering with industry to advance economic improvement across the life sciences sector and drive business growth and jobs in Wales.

We do this by working closely with health and social care colleagues to understand the challenges and pressures an organisation may face. Once identified, we then work with industry to help source and support the development of innovative solutions to respond to these challenges with agility.

Our team provides bespoke advice, signposting and support to accelerate all innovation journeys, whether supporting a clinician with a bright idea or a multinational life sciences organisation.

Life Sciences Hub Wales helps to catalyse system-wide change by convening and orchestrating a cross-sector innovation ecosystem. These connections enable us to create valuable networking and matchmaking opportunities.

To find out more, visit: www.lshubwales.com

# **About the Gwent Regional Partnership Board**

The Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership Board is a key partnership body; established to lead and guide the implementation of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014 in the Greater Gwent area (covering the areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, and Torfaen), sitting within the footprint of the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area. The priorities of the RPB are:

- To improve health and wellbeing outcomes and reduce inequalities in the region.
- To improve care, treatment, and support, ensuring people have more say and greater control.
- To provide information and advice, to help people sustain good health & well-being.

W: painchek.com

- To provide co-ordinated, person-centred care, treatment, and support.
- To make more effective use of resources, skills, and expertise.
- To align or integrate functions and resources, where integration adds value to citizens.

To find out more, visit: www.gwentrpb.wales

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