

## WHEEZO CLINICAL STUDY TO COMMENCE

Respiri Limited (ASX:RSH) today announced receipt of ethics approval for commencement of the first clinical study to demonstrate the clinical relevance of the company's world-first digital wheeze detection technology ahead of the launch of wheezo<sup>TM</sup> in 2019. A joint study between Respiri, Eastern Health and Swinburne University, the principal investigator, Professor Francis Thien, Director of the Department of Respiratory Medicine at Eastern Health will recruit patients admitted to Box Hill Hospital in Melbourne with an exacerbation of airway disease (asthma or COPD) causing wheeze.

A successful launch is dependent on clinical acceptance of Respiri's technology. The leading UK asthma experts who joined Respiri director, Professor Bruce Thompson at the Medical and Scientific Advisory Board Meeting in London last October, agreed on the evidence requirements and studies for wheezo to be accepted and endorsed by healthcare professionals and asthma bodies, such as Asthma Australia and Asthma UK.

#### Aim

The aim of this first short study is to compare and correlate wheezo's acoustic respiratory monitoring (ARM) measurement of wheeze severity in patients with clinician assessment of wheeze severity.

### **Protocol**

Patients admitted to hospital with an exacerbation of airway disease will have wheezo held to their trachea and their breath sounds recorded to return a 'wheeze rate'. Wheeze rate is calculated as the duration of breathing containing wheeze over the entire 30 second recording of breath sounds. The clinician will then perform their usual clinical assessments (clinical examination and chest auscultation using a stethoscope) and record their findings, including severity of wheeze with a visual analogue score. The assessment will be repeated at the end of admission, prior to patient discharge.

### Data collection and analysis

The wheeze severity by wheezo and clinician assessment will be compared and correlated. The degree of correlation will be evaluated using the Kappa coefficient<sup>1</sup>. The correlation analysis will be repeated for different threshold values of wheeze rate.

The study is expected to take 6 weeks and will provide understanding of the meaning of wheeze rate to assist GPs in consultations with asthma patients who present at their practices with wheezo data. Furthermore, the study evidence is an important component of the wheezo healthcare professional education and awareness campaign now underway.



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# TSANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting 29 March - 2 April, Gold Coast

wheezo was introduced at the premier respiratory medicine scientific meeting in Australasia. The technology impressed delegates from hospitals and universities with a number of researchers expressing interest in collaboration. We look forward to providing an update as opportunities progress. Respiri director, Professor Bruce Thompson opened the meeting in his capacity as President of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand.

Prof Francis Thien, Respiri CRO, Dr Samaneh Sarraf & Prof Bruce Thompson discuss the study protocol at the TSANZSRS conference.

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1. Cohen's kappa coefficient ( $\kappa$ ) is a statistic which measures inter-rater agreement for qualitative (categorical) items. It is generally thought to be a more robust measure than simple percent agreement calculation, as  $\kappa$  takes into account the possibility of the agreement occurring by chance.

### **About Respiri Limited**

Respiri's mission is to help improve quality of life for millions of children and adults around the world and dramatically reduce hospital admissions and the economic burden of asthma. The Company offers sensors, mobile apps and analytics to support respiratory health management. Its world first technology detects wheeze, a typical symptom of asthma, COPD and respiratory disease to provide an objective measure of airway limitation. Respiri's innovative platform provides personalised feedback and education based on the user's data and enables the sharing of that data with caregivers and health care providers. Respiri Limited's operations are based in Melbourne, Australia.

### **Forward Looking Statements**

Certain statements made in this announcement are forward-looking statements. These forward looking statements are not historical facts but rather are based on Respiri's current expectations, estimates and projections about the industry in which Respiri operates, and its beliefs and assumptions. Words such as "anticipates," "expects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," "guidance" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward looking statements and should be considered an at-risk statement. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, particularly those risks or uncertainties inherent in the process of developing technology and in the endeavour of building a business around such products and services. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond the control of Respiri, are difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward looking statements. Respiri cautions shareholders and prospective shareholders not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements, which reflect the view of Respiri only as of the date of this release. The forward looking statements made in this announcement relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made. Respiri will not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions or updates to these forward looking statements to reflect events, circumstances or unanticipated events occurring after the date of this announcement except as required by law or by any appropriate regulatory authority.