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Precision diagnostics facility receives \$2m funding boost

- Cutting-edge WA Proteomics Facility operated by Proteomics International and The University of Western Australia (UWA) receives new funding to expand precision diagnostics capability
- Proteomics International and UWA in partnership with Bioplatforms Australia will invest A\$2m over the next three years with Proteomics International's contribution being \$150,000
- Funding to help create a state-of-the-art analysis pipeline for industrial-scale screening to explore biological markers across medicine, agriculture and the environment

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (Proteomics International; ASX: PIQ) is pleased to announce a \$2 million expansion of the WA Proteomics Facility to accelerate the development of precision diagnostic tests in partnership with The University of Western Australia (UWA) and Bioplatforms Australia.

The WA Proteomics Facility is a Public Private Partnership between Proteomics International, UWA and Bioplatforms Australia, which is jointly managed by Proteomics International and UWA, and combines their respective expertise to explore biological protein markers that affect medicine, agriculture, and the environment [ASX: 26 November 2019].

The partners will co-invest \$2 million over the next three years to increase capacity and throughput at the cutting-edge facility with new equipment for automated sample handling and analytical quantitation, coupled with the development of advanced data processing tools. Under the management agreement, Bioplatforms Australia (through the Commonwealth Government National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS)) will contribute \$1.7m to the Facility for capital and operational purposes, of which half the funds will be paid to Proteomics International to expand its laboratory capacity. Proteomics International and UWA will each invest a further \$150,000 in cash

Proteomics International managing director Dr Richard Lipscombe said we are building on our recent successes in diagnostics development to create a state-of-the-art high-throughput analysis pipeline to address more real-world challenges in clinical and agricultural diagnostics.

"There are clinical samples sitting in biobanks and sample repositories all over Australia that can be used to help combat chronic diseases. Similarly, analysing seeds in national and international seed stores could help make breeding decisions that boost the world's agricultural output. All these biological samples are a precious and limited resource. By analysing them faster and at greater scale we can accelerate the development of new precision diagnostic tests that could improve patient care or transform agriculture production."

The expanded facility is expected to be fully-operational in 2023.

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

Why are proteins important?

Genomes are static - the genes we are born with are the genes we die with, but the protein make up in our bodies differs from cell to cell and changes considerably over time. Cells use the instructions in our genes to make proteins. Proteins are the operational molecules of life and carry out the

functions of living organisms. The caterpillar and the butterfly have exactly the same genome. The proteins that their cells make are why they are different. Looking at the differences in protein composition can tell us about the state of life, and health, of any organism.



About Bioplatforms Australia (www.bioplatforms.com)

Bioplatforms Australia addresses significant national biomedical, agri-food and environmental research challenges and deliver long term social and economic returns to the nation through provision of genomics, proteomics, metabolomics and bioinformatics research infrastructure and the development of strategic partnerships. Bioplatforms Australia invests in state-of-the-art infrastructure through the Commonwealth Government National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS).

About The University of Western Australia

UWA is a globally connected university with an extensive network of local and international partners. UWA is a member of the Group of Eight (Go8). As a leading research university, UWA is proud of its global standing being ranked 99th in the Academic Ranking of World Universities and 93th on the broader QS rank. UWA's vision is to play a leading role in education, scholarship and discovery of global significance by creating the next generation of global leaders through experience-rich education and world-leading, trustworthy research. The link between world-class research and outstanding student education forms a central component of UWA's strategic plan to 2025.

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.

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