

Proteomics International

LABORATORIES LTD

ASX/Media Release

26 November 2019

ASX code: PIQ

Cutting-edge Protein Biomarker Analysis Facility for Western Australia

Highlights

- Proteomics International has formed a partnership with Bioplatforms Australia and the University of Western Australia to launch a world leading facility in Western Australia.
- The partners will co-invest A\$4.4m over the next four years with Proteomics International's contribution being \$1.25m in Capex and Opex, representing outstanding value for the enhanced capabilities the facility will offer.
- The cutting-edge facility provides Proteomics International with increased ability to explore for and identify biological markers across a broad range of sectors, including medicine, agriculture, the environment and marine world.
- This enhanced capability could lead to identifying new drug targets and the creation of diagnostic tests across both medicine and agriculture, boosting both Proteomics International's analytical services and R&D activities.

26 November, Perth: Bioplatforms Australia, The University of Western Australia and Proteomics International have combined forces to launch a cutting-edge facility to explore biological markers affecting medicine, agriculture, the environment and marine world.

The partners will co-invest over \$4 million over the next four years in a newly expanded Western Australian Proteomics Facility which launched last week and will be managed by Proteomics International and The University of Western Australia (UWA). Under the management agreement, Bioplatforms Australia (through the Commonwealth Government National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS)) will contribute \$1.9m to the Facility for capital and operational purposes, of which half the funds will go to Proteomics International and the company will match this funding dollar for dollar. The expanded facility is also supported by the Western Australian Government through its co-investment in new NCRIS capital research infrastructure.

This facility brings new technology to WA and combines the expertise of Proteomics International and UWA to determine how proteins change in abundance and type in response to disease and harsh environments.

Dr Richard Lipscombe, Managing Director of Proteomics International said, *"This investment is a substantial development for Proteomics International and the State. It will materially expand our capability to undertake cutting-edge biomarker research which could lead to identifying new drug targets or the creation of diagnostic tests across medicine and agriculture. It will significantly boost both our analytical services and R&D activities"*.

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Proteomics International specialises in proteomics in an applied and industry-focused setting and is at the forefront of clinical proteomics, companion diagnostics, and diagnostics for quality control in the food industry. Working in collaboration with the UWA Medical School, Proteomics International has recently launched a ground-breaking blood test, PromarkerD, that can predict the onset of diabetic kidney disease before clinical symptoms appear. The Company is based within the Harry Perkins Institute for Medical Research, where the two organisations first established the WA Proteomics Facility in 2006.

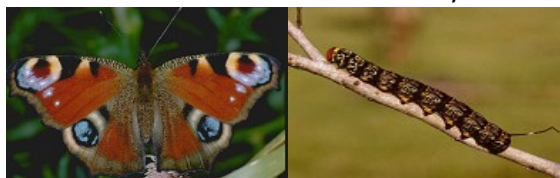
UWA has a focus on proteomics in an academic setting and training of researchers and postgraduate students in biological mass spectrometry. UWA proteomic researchers bring additional strategic focus in medical, agriculture, environmental and marine sciences and a vision for translational science. UWA's analysis of crop plant proteomes underpin new protein biomarker analysis of wheat yield and response to harsh environments like salinity, drought and extreme temperature.

The combined partnership will focus on emerging opportunities in clinical and agricultural proteomics. These are targeted quantitation of proteins across large sample sets and proteome flux measurements to assess the speed of protein synthesis and degradation processes in biological samples. Together Proteomics International and UWA will engage with WA-based users to provide expertise in biomedical and non-biomedical uses of proteomics across the public and private sector, and develop specialised services from WA that will make a national and international contribution to Bioplatforms Australia.

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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 (www.uwa.edu.au)

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) and, as a leading research university, is proudly ranked 99th globally in the Academic Ranking of World Universities and 86th 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.

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-

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analytical services. The company specialises in the area of proteomics – the industrial scale study of the structure and function of proteins. It received the world’s first ISO 17025 laboratory accreditation for proteomics services, and operates from state-of-the-art facilities located on Perth’s QEII Medical Campus. The Company’s business model uses its proprietary technology platform across three integrated areas of diagnostics, drug discovery and analytical services.

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