

# Physicians Overwhelmingly Support AirSonea™ Asthma Monitoring Technology in Research Survey

- Physician support evident for flagship iSonea technology
- 100 Australian doctors surveyed to validate data conclusions
- 80% of GP's would recommend new asthma monitoring system to patients

**Melbourne, Australia and Severna Park MD – 11 June 2013 –** Medical technology company iSonea Limited (ASX: ISN) has released comprehensive results of a major survey of Australian doctors, revealing overwhelming support for the Company's AirSonea technology to be launched in Australia during September 2013.

The study, conducted by independent US based research specialists Dectiva LLC, focused on 100 Australian physicians involved in asthma treatment and included 50 paediatricians.

Researchers found 80% of GPs and 62% of pediatricians involved in the study would recommend this new mobile monitoring system - which will enable wheeze rate monitoring via smartphone for the first time - to all asthma patients. Additional scientific data on the technology would increase recommendations.

Further, they regarded this kind of mobile wheeze monitoring device as suitable for 3 out of every 4 asthma patients with unstable condition who required daily monitoring. The product was perceived as an important management tool.

iSonea CEO Michael Thomas said the findings provided further critical support for the company's innovative acoustic monitoring technology.

"This enlightening survey data from asthma clinicians further validates our global efforts to commercialise AirSonea, an important mobile wheeze monitoring technology," he said. "This device will change the way millions of asthma sufferers around the world manage and monitor their conditions. Data from this latest study demonstrates that medical professionals are supportive of our endeavour and plan to recommend it to appropriate patients for daily monitoring and management of their asthma."

Both the company and product identities were blinded to survey participants, to guarantee impartiality, which was conducted online during April and May this year.

Prior to being offered to physicians, the survey was reviewed by two leading Australian pulmonary specialists whose insights were factored into the final version of the survey instrument.



### **Key Study Objectives:**

- To understand physician perceptions of the importance of home asthma monitoring
- To understand benefits and limitations of currently available monitoring techniques
- To discover the desired attributes for an ideal home monitoring system
- To test the AirSonea product concept (product was blinded to the survey participants)
- To understand patient types for whom AirSonea/AsthmaSense would be appropriate
- To understand the likelihood of physicians recommending this product to their patients
- To uncover any barriers to recommending the product

The study also found that most physicians diagnose asthma from patient medical history and auscultation (listening to breathing sounds with a stethoscope), so the approach of monitoring breathing sounds with a device is consistent with clinical practice.

Further, the presence of wheeze is significantly higher in patients with unstable asthma (vs. stable asthma), which typically accounts for 60% or more of asthma patients.

Physicians surveyed considered home monitoring of asthma "very important", chiefly to assist managing patient asthma action plans and to ensure medication adherence. They noted that historically, asthma has been monitored by peak flow meters or diaries, but these systems suffer from low compliance and poor reliability. Paediatricians specifically were concerned about low compliance with peak flow usage in younger patients.

Michael Thomas added: "Most physicians indicate that asthma monitoring data is only reviewed during office visits with approximately half of their patients. Both GPs and pediatricians indicated that the availability of more real time data on symptoms, asthma events, and breathing sounds would be valuable for their patient management."

"This system will record asthma events, environmental context, and response to treatment, reaching beyond the doctor's office to capture data in people's daily settings. We intend to make AirSonea and the AsthmaSense app the most reliable asthma monitoring tools available to patients and physicians."

#### Ends.

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#### **About iSonea Limited**

iSonea Limited (ASX:ISN) is an emerging medical technology company developing innovative, non-invasive devices and mobile health apps to improve the management of chronic, costly respiratory disorders such as asthma and COPD. By leveraging iSonea's proprietary Acoustic Respiratory Monitoring™ (ARM) technology with its AsthmaSense™ mobile applications, iSonea is turning smart phones into medical devices—enabling anyone, anywhere, at any time to monitor breathing distress symptoms, in order to take action. iSonea's ARM devices have been cleared for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Australian TGA and the European Union CE.

For more information, please visit <a href="www.iSoneaMed.com">www.SoundAsthma.com</a>

# **About Dectiva LLC**

Dectiva is a leading primary research firm that specialises in delivering quantitative and qualitative market research data and analysis to top investment and business decision makers. With offices in Santa Monica, San Francisco, and New York, Dectiva is uniquely positioned to serve top hedge funds, private equity firms, and corporate entities in the healthcare, technology and consumer products industries. With access to a global responder panel of more than 100,000 verified practicing physicians, 1 million patients in a wide range of disease categories, and more than 8 million consumers, Dectiva provides clients with full-service quantitative and qualitative market research, with extensive experience in methodological study design and data analysis. For more information, please visit: www.dectiva.com

# About AirSonea™

AirSonea is a portable monitoring device, operated by a smartphone application, which enables people to detect and objectively measure wheezing, a principal sign or symptom of asthma that results from the narrowing of the airways. AirSonea utilizes the Company's proprietary Acoustic Respiratory Monitoring (ARM) technology, including sensor, detection algorithms and software, to record breathing sounds and to calculate a WheezeRATE. The device is pocket-sized and can be used by anyone, anywhere, at any time to determine whether their WheezeRATE is increasing, decreasing, or stable. The device can also be used after medication to record response to treatment. Data recorded by the AirSonea can be easily shared with family members and physicians. The AirSonea device is currently in late stage development and has not yet been reviewed or cleared for marketing by regulatory authorities.

# **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 iSonea's current expectations, estimates and projections about the industry in which iSonea 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 iSonea, are difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements. iSonea cautions shareholders and prospective shareholders not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect the view of iSonea 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. iSonea 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.