



Proteomics International

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US PromarkerD patent expanded to all kidney disease

Medical technology company Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd (Proteomics International; ASX: PIQ), a leader in providing predictive diagnostics and analytical services, is pleased to announce that the United States patent for its PromarkerD diagnostic test has been expanded to include all kidney disease.

- **Patent for Proteomics International's diagnostic test for diabetic kidney disease expanded to cover all kidney disease in the world's largest healthcare market**
- **Kidney disease is the ninth leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for 48,000 deaths a year, with related healthcare spending exceeding US\$50 billion annually**
- **Expanded patent complements a European patent acquired by Proteomics International in 2016**

Proteomics International's existing US patent was restricted to diabetic kidney disease only. However the broader patent will now provide protection for the use of the PromarkerD panel for all nephropathy.

Kidney disease is the ninth leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for 48,000 deaths in 2014. About 44% of all new cases of kidney disease are caused by diabetes. The other major culprit is high blood pressure, which accounts for 29% of new cases of kidney disease. Other risk factors include heart disease, obesity and a family history of chronic kidney disease.

Proteomics International managing director Dr Richard Lipscombe said he was delighted to secure the expanded patent in the United States. "The US is the world's largest healthcare market, and this patent covers more than 320 million people," he said. "While more research is needed into whether PromarkerD can be used to effectively diagnose all forms of kidney disease, this expanded patent represents an exciting opportunity to increase our addressable market."

It is estimated that 30 million people in the United States, or 15% of the adult population, suffer from chronic kidney disease. The condition is referred to as a 'silent disease' because it often has no symptoms in its early stages and can go undetected until it is very advanced.

The PromarkerD test has already been proven to correctly predict 86% of otherwise healthy diabetics who went on to develop chronic kidney disease within four years. Earlier this year it was rated the world's leading diagnostic test for diabetic kidney disease by global market research firm Frost & Sullivan.

A diagnostic or predictive test for kidney disease has the potential to save the healthcare system billions each year. Medicare spending for patients with chronic kidney disease aged 65 and older exceeded US\$50 billion in 2013, and represented 20% of all Medicare spending in this age group.

Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd

ABN 78 169 979 971

Box 3008, Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009, Australia

T: +61 8 9389 1992 | E: enquiries@proteomicsinternational.com | W: www.proteomicsinternational.com

Dr Lipscombe said the broader US patent complemented a European patent Proteomics International acquired from the University of Innsbruck in December 2016. This patent protects a method for predicting the progression of chronic kidney disease by measuring the protein Apolipoprotein A-IV.

The expanded US patent was granted on the 15th August 2017 and is titled 'Method of Assessing a Subject for Abnormal Kidney Function' (patent number: US 9,733,259, and is valid until September 20, 2031.

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For further information please contact:

Dr Richard Lipscombe
Managing Director
Proteomics International Laboratories Ltd
T: +61 8 9389 1992
E: enquiries@proteomicsinternational.com
www.proteomicsinternational.com

Paul Hart [Investor Relations]
Director
Canary Capital
T: +61 421 051 474
E: phart@canarycapital.com.au

Susan Fitzpatrick-Napier [Media Contact]
Digital Mantra Group
T: +61 2 8218 2144
E: team@dmgpr.com

About Proteomics International Laboratories (PILL) (www.proteomicsinternational.com)

Proteomics International is a wholly owned subsidiary and trading name of PILL (ASX: PIQ), a medical technology company focused on proteomics – the industrial scale study of the structure and function of proteins. In the last few years, proteins have become the drug class of choice for the pharmaceutical industry because of their intimate role in biological systems. Thus proteomics technology is now playing a key role in understanding disease, from finding new diagnostic biomarkers to determining drug targets, and discovering new biopharmaceutical drugs.

PILL is recognised as a global leader in the field of proteomics. It received the world's first ISO 17025 laboratory accreditation for proteomics services, and operates from state-of-the art facilities at the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research in Perth, Western Australia. The company's business model harnesses its proprietary technology platform to work across three integrated areas, each massive growth markets:

- 1. Diagnostics:** Biomarkers of disease and personalised medicine - focus on diabetic kidney disease.
By 2020 the biomarkers market is estimated to double in size to \$45.6 billion, and the personalised medicine market is forecast to be worth over \$149 billion.
- 2. Analytical services:** Specialist contract research – focus on biosimilars QC and pharmacokinetic testing for clinical trials.
The global biosimilars market is expected to reach \$10.5 billion by 2022, having surpassed \$3.3 billion in 2016 as it seeks to replicate the multiple billion dollar blockbuster drugs that are coming off patent.
- 3. Drug discovery:** Therapeutic peptide drug discovery - focus on painkillers and antibiotics.
The global peptide therapeutics market is currently estimated to be worth \$18 billion with a chronic need to find new drugs to combat bacterial infections.

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