

## **InvitroCue secures grant from Northern Ireland to commercialize Onco-PDO**

**February 26, 2018** – Invitrocue (ASX:IVQ), a leading healthcare bio-analytic solutions provider, is pleased to announce that it has secured an initial grant to support efforts in commercializing its Onco-PDO or Personalized Cancer Testing, and in finding relevant partnerships.

The project looks to use patient's own cancer cells or tumors to build living models or organoids in Invitrocue's laboratories that will be screened against cancer drugs to help guide treatments for clinicians. With the assistance from Invest Northern Ireland, the company is currently evaluating a number of possible Scientific and Commercialization partnerships.

Commenting on the grant, Dr. Steven Fang, CEO of Invitrocue, said, "This project is an important first step in our commercial translation of our Onco-PDO technology in the UK and European market. Personalized Precision oncology is attracting increased attention from clinicians and healthcare institutions as the new norm in cancer treatment; helping to deliver the right drug, to the right patient at the right time. Northern Ireland's oncology expertise is world-renowned so it seemed the natural place for this project."

Steve Harper, Executive Director of International Business, Invest Northern Ireland said, "InvitroCue technology has the potential to significantly improve patient outcomes for those affected by cancer. We're delighted they are choosing to base this important work in Northern Ireland. This is another endorsement of the expertise in precision medicine we have here."

Invest NI has offered grant support towards the project.

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### **For more information, please contact:**

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**About Invitrocue**

Invitrocue is a leading healthcare bio-analytic solutions provider including *in vitro* cell-based testing technologies and image analytics software for use in digital pathology. Invitrocue has developed a unique 3D cell-based scaffolding technology that mimics human organ samples for using in the field of infectious diseases. In 2016, the company expanded its work in liver disease to the field of oncology. The technology enables patient-derived cancer cells (organoids) to be cultured in laboratories for testing against a panel of drugs to support clinical decision making for individual patients (personalised medicine).

Invitrocue's technology originated in Singapore's Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR). Invitrocue has been developed and validated in partnerships with leading biopharmaceutical companies and scientific collaborators.

Invitrocue currently operates in Singapore and China and is listed on Australian Securities Exchange under the ticker IVQ. Website: [www.invitrocue.com](http://www.invitrocue.com)

**About Onco-PDO**

Onco-PDO™, which stands for oncology patient-derived organoid, enables Invitrocue to grow patient-derived tumour cells (an organoid) in its laboratories initially for biopharmaceutical companies, medical researchers and academic institutions to understand the impact of cancer treatments prior to conducting time consuming and expensive clinical trials. Subsequently, Onco-PDO™ may also create a new market for personalised drug testing using FDA approved drugs to improve individual treatment outcomes in selected solid tumours.