



## Epichem gains prestigious international ISO accreditation

**2 July 2018 – Perth, Australia:** PharmAust Limited (ASX:PAA), a clinical-stage oncology company, is pleased to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary Epichem Pty Ltd has gained accreditation from NATA (The National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia) to ISO17034:2016, an internationally recognised standard of competence and capability for the production of Reference Materials.

ISO17034 sets an exacting benchmark for reference material producers. Epichem is thrilled to be one of the first companies in Australia to achieve this internationally regarded standard of quality assurance for reference material production to support pharmaceutical drug manufacturing.

A Reference Material is used to check the quality of products to validate analytical measurement methods, or for the calibration of instruments and is a critical need for drug manufacturers. ISO17034 provides the highest level of quality assurance for the production and supply of these materials.

Accreditation by NATA is highly regarded both locally and internationally and will elevate Epichem's status, global market access and competitiveness in a growing world market.

Epichem already holds ISO 9001:2015, the most widely used quality standard for quality management systems applicable to manufacturing and service organisations. This standard provides a framework for system development focusing on the customer, quality system performance and ongoing improvement to ensure provision of quality products and services to clients.

Epichem's CEO Dr Martine Keenan said, "We are delighted that Epichem has gained accreditation to ISO17034:2016. This will strengthen alliances with our existing customers, expand our client base and distinguish our products from competitors by placing us in a more exclusive tier of reference standard manufacturers. Epichem is looking forward to capitalising on these opportunities."

PharmAust's Executive Chairman Dr Roger Aston said, "This is an outstanding achievement by Epichem signifying the high standards to which the company operates."

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**About PharmAust (PAA):**

PAA is a clinical-stage company developing targeted cancer therapeutics for both humans and animals. The company specialises in repurposing marketed drugs lowering the risks and costs of development. These efforts are supported by PAA's subsidiary, Epichem, a highly successful contract synthetic drug manufacturer which generated Aus\$3.05m in revenues in the 2017 FY

PAA's lead drug candidate is monepantel (MPL), a novel, potent and safe inhibitor of the mTOR pathway - a key driver of cancer. MPL has been evaluated in Phase 1 clinical trials in humans and dogs. MPL treatment was well-tolerated and produced a significant reduction in key prognostic biomarkers. PAA is uniquely positioned to commercialise MPL for treatment of human and veterinary cancers as it advances the drug into Phase 2 clinical trial.

**About ISO and NATA:**

The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) is a globally recognised independent body providing world-class specifications for products, services and systems, to ensure quality, safety and efficiency.

The National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) is Australia's national accreditation body. As NATA is a signatory to Mutual Recognition Arrangements, reports from NATA accredited facilities are recognised overseas, thus providing opportunities for organisations supporting trade of Australian goods and services.