



## ASX Announcement

### **Dia-B welcomes NHMRC grant for treatment for diabetes complications**

**2 October 2007:** Dia-B Tech Limited (ASX:DIA) has welcomed a National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grant for its work on finding a treatment for adverse complications caused by diabetes.

The CDA1 project is based on tackling kidney and vascular complications in people suffering from type 2 diabetes.

Dia-B is working to develop a drug to prevent complications caused by CDA1. The project is based on further evaluation of how a protein, recently discovered by the Dia-B development team, interacts with CDA1. The original work on normal cell lines has now progressed to experiments in kidney cells and cells from blood vessels. This work has confirmed that CDA1 is still the main target.

The CDA1 project was awarded \$464,250 through the Baker Heart Research Institute. The 3-year grant commences in 2008 and will be used to further understand the role of CDA1 in downstream complications resulting from type 2 diabetes.

The intellectual property resulting from the CDA1 project is owned 70% by Dia-B Tech and 30% by the Baker Institute. Dia-B Tech has an exclusive world-wide license to commercialise the research outcomes from this project.

Dia-B chairman Dr Michael Wooldridge said, "this grant is recognition of Dia-B's strategy in partnering with world-class research teams to investigate type 2 diabetes and the complications arising from diabetes."

Dr Wooldridge congratulated Professor Cooper and his team for taking the CDA1 project from discovery to a position of recognition and winning competitive funding from the NHMRC.

Dia-B has funded the founding technologists and chief investigators Professor Mark Cooper, Dr Zhonglin Chai and Dr Zemin Cao to investigate the role of the protein CDA1 in producing disease via its pro-fibrotic action in diabetic nephropathy.

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About Dia-B Tech

Dia-B is an Australian publicly listed biotechnology company (ASX:DIA) focused on the development of therapeutics for the treatment of diabetes and its associated complications. Dia-B has three compounds in development:

- ISF402 in Phase Ia/Ib clinical trial in Australia as an orally administered diabetes treatment
- IMO14 in preclinical development as an insulin sensitizer
- CDA1 in preclinical development for diabetic nephropathy and atherosclerosis

Diabetes is a major metabolic disease reaching epidemic proportions in the developed world. Australia has more than 1 million diabetics and this number is growing by 100,000 per year. Fears about the social and economic burden of a looming epidemic have led the federal, state and territory governments to agree recently to a \$200 million program to tackle the disease. In the US over 20 million people (7% of the population) have diabetes.