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## **Optiscan deploys its latest endomicroscope system for gastroenterology at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney.**

Optiscan is pleased to announce the successful commencement of a clinical study being undertaken by gastroenterologists and scientists from the Garvan Institute of Medical research and St Vincent's Hospital (Sydney Australia) in affiliation with the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

The study marks the introduction of Optiscan's second generation endomicroscopy platform into the field gastroenterology. This market is now well established as a result of extensive use of Optiscan's previous generation platform via a product marketed by Pentax Medical Corporation.

The study, funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC), the Cancer Institute of NSW and the University of NSW, has enabled the incorporation of the latest advances in Optiscan's technology into an advanced high definition (HD) Olympus endoscope. The resultant system combines the highly advanced features of the Olympus endoscope with Optiscan's very latest developments in microscopic imaging during endoscopy. The result is an endoscope with a level of performance never before trialed in humans. It incorporates the many desirable features discovered using the first generation product during tens of thousands of endoscopy procedures with other advances in endoscopic imaging that have been introduced since release of the first generation product.

This study will apply these novel features in the study of dynamic events relating to the permeability, or "leakiness" of the gut lining and how it is altered by inflammatory diseases.

"Endomicroscopy has been used extensively in observations of cellular details of inflammation and gut permeability, where it has opened our eyes to rapidly occurring events otherwise impossible to observe in our patients during endoscopy' said Dr Mark Danta, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, UNSW and staff specialist at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. "We think this new system will greatly enhance these observations and enable us to develop new diagnostic paradigms and treatment strategies".

"Endomicroscopy in recent years has provided us with remarkable images of the intestinal mucosa and is of proven clinical utility. However, endomicroscopy can do so much more and this latest iteration of the technology will allow us to unlock many further potential uses of the technique," said Dr Tri Giang Phan, Garvan Institute of Medical Research and Conjoint Senior Lecturer, UNSW.

"The features brought together in this system represent an absolute powerhouse of endoscopic imaging technologies and procedural efficiencies" said Peter Delaney, Optiscan's Director of technology and pioneer in the field of endomicroscopy, "nothing like this has been possible before".



For Optiscan, the commencement of patient recruitment in this study is a key milestone in the company's strategy to advance its second generation platform into key commercially viable markets. The same platform is currently the subject of product development for neurosurgery under a commercialisation partnership with Carl Zeiss of Germany (global leaders in neurosurgical visualisation equipment), as well as an OEM supply agreement recently secured with UK based MR Solutions for global supply into the pre-clinical imaging market.

Initiation of patient recruitment in the present study affirms the readiness of Optiscan's recent developments to move into key markets such as gastrointestinal endoscopy, a key pillar of the company's commercialisation strategy.

## **About Optiscan**

Optiscan is a global leader in microscopic imaging technologies for medical markets. Optiscan's unique and patented technologies enable high-powered microscopes to be miniaturised and used inside the body. The technology enables microscopic imaging of up to 1000 times magnification to be achieved. Doctors can use the technology to instantly see cellular level details of tissue without the requirement to surgically remove tissue (biopsy).

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