

Rhythm granted biomarker patent in Europe

Highlights

- **Rhythm receives biomarker patent from European Patent Office, covering 13 countries**
- **Rhythm has previously been granted patents in Australia, China and Japan**

Rhythm Biosciences ("Rhythm", ASX:RHY), developer of the ColoSTAT™ antibody-based blood test targeting the accurate and early detection of colorectal cancer, is pleased to advise that coverage of its granted European patent (EP 2829881) has now been confirmed in 13 jurisdictions: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland & Liechtenstein and the United Kingdom.

Rhythm has also previously been granted patents directed towards the diagnosis of colorectal cancer in Australia, China and Japan, has patent applications pending in the US, Brazil and India and a divisional patent application pending in China.

The European patent claims are geared towards the diagnosis or detection of colorectal cancer with a method comprising assessing the presence and/or level of selected combinations of up to 31 biomarkers. It also relates to diagnostic kits comprising reagents for determining the presence and/or level of selected biomarkers and methods of detecting or diagnosing colorectal cancer.

The European patent's expiry is July 14, 2031.

"In balancing coverage against costs, Rhythm elected to file this pivotal patent family in countries with both significant populations and health care systems that are supportive of cancer preventive strategies," Rhythm's Managing Director Dr Trevor Lockett said.

"This is an important milestone for the company. With patent rights secured, Rhythm will now begin developing its commercialisation strategy for ColoSTAT™ in the UK and on the continent," added Rhythm's Chairman Mr Shane Tanner.

The culmination of Rhythm's two-year R&D program, the focus for its first round of funding, will be the lodgement of applications to the European authorities for a CE mark for ColoSTAT™, as well as in Australia to the TGA for listing of ColoSTAT™ on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods. Success with these regulatory approvals will allow the company to sell the product in Europe, the UK and Australia via the activation of regionally tailored commercialisation plans.

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About Rhythm Biosciences

Rhythm Biosciences is developing and commercialising Australian medical diagnostics technology for sale across national and international markets.

Rhythm's lead product, ColoSTAT[™], is intended to provide the accurate and early detection of colorectal cancer, acting as either a 'first-step' screening test or within the triage of persons with a positive faecal immunochemical test (FIT) or colonoscopy. As well as being of value to those with risk factors associated with colorectal cancer, ColoSTAT[™] provides an alternative for those who choose not to or are unable to be assessed using standard screening programs.

Being developed to be an affordable and effective diagnostic, ColoSTAT[™] has the potential to play an important role in reducing morbidity, mortality and healthcare costs associated with colorectal cancer.