

CSIRO & Rhythm commence development of key reagents

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 work under its research contract with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) to develop the last key reagents required for ColoSTAT™, has commenced.

As outlined in Rhythm's 9 January 2018 announcement, an early objective for Rhythm is to develop its own antibodies and target proteins to give the company control of the supply, quality and cost of these key reagents that will underpin the reliable manufacture of test kits with consistently high diagnostic performance properties.

Rhythm already has its own reagents for most of the ColoSTAT™ targets. Under its contract with CSIRO, researchers will develop antibodies and target protein for the last of these targets and evaluate their performance relative to commercially available reagents. With all the reagents in place, Rhythm will progress ColoSTAT™ to a new production and validation phase.

Delivery of the key reagents and cell lines needed for their scalable long-term production is anticipated in late November 2018.

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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.