Rhythm secures ethics approval for ColoSTAT® colorectal cancer clinical trial



• 1,000-patient pivotal Study 7 clinical trial approved by Central Adelaide Local Health Network

8 February 2019, Melbourne: Medical diagnostics company Rhythm Biosciences Limited (ASX: RHY) has received ethics approval for a 1,000-patient prospective clinical trial of its blood test ColoSTAT® for the early detection of colorectal cancer.

ColoSTAT® is designed to be a simple, low cost blood test for the early detection of bowel cancer for the global mass market for the world's third most common cancer.

The study protocol approved by the Central Adelaide Local Health Network's (CALHN) Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) is a key first step and allows for inclusion of additional trial sites in Adelaide and Melbourne as needed.

"This is an exciting development as we take our first steps for clinical trial commencement. We are expecting to sign the first clinical trial site in the coming months as planned and other Melbourne sites to come on board soon thereafter," said Rhythm CEO Glenn Gilbert.

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About Rhythm Biosciences

ASX-listed Rhythm Biosciences is developing and commercialising a screening and diagnostic tool for the early detection of colorectal cancer, the third biggest cause of cancer-related deaths globally.

Rhythm's lead product, ColoSTAT®, is intended to be a simple, affordable, minimally invasive and effective blood test for the early detection of bowel cancer for the global mass market. It is expected to be comparable to, if not better than the current standard of care, the faecal immunochemical test (FIT), at a lower cost. ColoSTAT® also provides an alternative for those who choose not to or are unable to be assessed using standard screening programs.

ColoSTAT® is designed to be used easily by laboratories without the need for additional operator training or additional infrastructure.

ColoSTAT® has the potential to play an important role in reducing the morbidity and mortality rates and healthcare costs associated with colorectal cancer. Over 850,000 people die from colorectal cancer each year.