RNS Number : 5580V
EKF Diagnostics Holdings PLC
24 July 2018

This announcement contains inside information for the purposes of Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 (MAR).

EKF Diagnostics Holdings plc
("EKF", the "Company")

EKF signs US distribution agreement for diabetes assay kit

EKF Diagnostics Holdings plc (AIM: EKF), the AIM listed point-of-care business, announces that it has entered into an exclusive distribution agreement with Japanese pharmaceutical and diagnostic reagents firm, Asahi Kasei Pharma Corp. ("Asahi Kasei"), to market in the US Asahi Kasei's 510(k) cleared liquid reagent kits for the measurement of glycated albumin, Lucica® Glycated Albumin-L ("Lucica GA").

Glycated albumin is a marker used to determine blood glucose control for patients with diabetes. Its measurement gives an average level of glycemia over the previous three weeks and is used at the start or change of patient therapy to determine more accurate medication regimens and doses, as well as allowing clinicians to assess overall therapy efficacy, compared to the snap-shot reading provided by simple blood glucose testing. Glycated albumin provides a more rapid indication of treatment efficacy or disease state deterioration, than glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c), which indicates glycemic levels over the preceding two or three months. This enables better control of diabetes, which could ultimately reduce overall costs associated with treating the effects of diabetes for health insurers.

Glycated albumin measurement is furthermore regarded as useful in the case of pregnant women, patients with dialysis, patients with diseases that reduce the lifespan of erythrocytes (such as hemolytic anemia and renal anemia) and hemoglobin variants, for whom HbA1c may provide insufficient indication of glycemic level. The clinical utility of Lucica GA has been corroborated by various research reports.

Developed by Asahi Kasei Pharma, Lucica GA is an in vitro diagnostic assay kit for glycated albumin for use with biochemical auto-analyzers. Lucica GA has been approved and launched in Japan (2002), China (2005), Korea (2013), Indonesia (2013), Taiwan (2015) and Europe (2015), and Asahi Kasei Pharma has received 510(k) clearance for Lucica GA from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on October 12, 2017. Under the distribution agreement EKF will undertake marketing, promotion and distribution of the product which will be manufactured by Asahi Kasei. Lucica GA will be sold through EKF's established reagent sales network in the US and sold alongside EKF's clinical

chemistry products such as Beta-Hydroxybutyrate (BhB) which is currently used in over 1,100 hospitals in the US.

The number of people with diabetes continues to increase, and diabetes is known to raise the risks of heart disease, cancer, and dementia. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are 30.3 million people in the US (9% of the population) with diabetes and 84.1 million (34% of the adult population aged 18 years or older) who are considered to have prediabetes. There is wide recognition of the urgent necessity of effective preventive measures.

Commenting, Julian Baines, CEO of EKF, said:
"*This US distribution deal is an exciting and original addition to our diabetes portfolio and will work really well alongside BhB. In addition the agreement will create an additional revenue line in our Clinical Chemistry portfolio and will utilise our already established US reagent sales channel. We look forward to working with Asahi Kasei to promote a new option of glycemic control to diabetes patients and to healthcare professionals.*"

Enquiries:

EKF Diagnostics Holdings plc
Christopher Mills, Non-Executive Chairman
Julian Baines, CEO

Richard Evans, FD & COO

www.ekfdiagnostics.com
Tel: 029 2071 0570

N+1 Singer (Nomad & Broker)
Aubrey Powell

Tel: 020 7496 3000

Walbrook PR Limited

Paul McManus / Lianne Cawthorne

Tel: 020 7933 8780
or ekf@walbrookpr.com
Mob: 07980 541 893 / 07584 391 303

This information is provided by RNS, the news service of the London Stock Exchange. RNS is approved by the Financial Conduct Authority to act as a Primary Information Provider in the United Kingdom. Terms and conditions relating to the use and distribution of this information may apply. For further information, please contact rns@lseg.com or visit www.rns.com.

END

MSCPGUAWMUPRUMC admin US distribution agreement for diabetes assay kit 27770565 A Tue, 07/24/2018 - 08:45 LSE RNS Company Announcement - General EKF