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ValiRx PLC
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ValiRx plc

("**ValiRx**" or the "**Company**")

Inaphaea award of HEIF Funding and PhD sponsorship

London, UK - ValiRx Plc (AIM: VAL), a life science company focusing on early-stage cancer therapeutics and women's health, provides the following update from its wholly owned subsidiary Inaphaea BioLabs Limited ("Inaphaea").

Inaphaea is pleased to confirm ithas agreed to collaborate on a project using funds from The Open University's Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) to characterise the subtype and drug sensitivity of up to 12 Prostate Cancer lines from Inaphaea's Patient Derived Cell ("PDC") bank. The project will utilise The Open University's expertise in characterisation of Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer ("NEPC"), an incurable subtype of prostate cancer, to look for characteristic markers of NEPC in Inaphaea's PDC models under normal and low oxygen conditions, known to promote an NEPC like state.

In addition ValiRx will be co-sponsoring a PhD Studentship over the course of four years at The Open University titled '**Deciphering the epigenetic vulnerabilities of neuroendocrine prostate cancer through novel patient-derived models'.** The four-year programme includes further characterisation and drug responsiveness of up to 12 of Inaphaea's Patient Derived Prostate Cancer Cell systems as well as screening for novel epigenetic targets as potential novel treatment opportunities.

Mark Eccleston, CEO of ValiRx commented*"Inaphaea has over 30 Patient Derived Cell models from prostate cancer patients, several with RNA-Seq data available. These cells have been stabilised for in vitro passage, but they are not characterised in terms of cancer subtype and drug sensitivity. Collecting and publishing this information is essential to enable the use of these cell lines by the scientific community. Hence, characterisation of the Inaphaea prostate PDCs could add significant value to this collection and generate an invaluable research tool for the NEPC community. However, this type of work requires specialised expertise in preclinical cancer research that is beyond the capabilities of Inaphaea."*

Francesco Crea,Professor of Cancer Pharmacology at the Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, The Open University commented*"Neuroendocrine prostate cancer is a newly recognised disease with no effective therapy and median survival time shorter than one year. It is estimated that a fifth of advanced prostate cancer patients will develop NEPC. Hence it is of paramount importance to study the biology of this aggressive disease and to identify viable therapeutic targets. This is hampered by the lack of preclinical NEPC models. In particular, only one patient derived NEPC cell line has been fully characterised and is available for experiments. Since*

NEPC is a highly heterogeneous disease, more cell lines are needed to recapitulate the full clinical spectrum of this deadly disease and to validate findings."

The Directors of the Company take responsibility for this announcement.

*** ENDS ***

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Notes for Editors

About ValiRx

ValiRx is a life science company focused on early-stage cancer therapeutics and women's health, accelerating the translation of innovative science into impactful medicines to improve patient lives.

ValiRx provides the scientific, financial, and commercial framework for enabling rapid translation of innovative science into clinical development.

Using its extensive and proven experience in research and drug development, the team at ValiRx selects and incubates promising novel drug candidates and guides them through an optimised process of development, from pre-clinical studies to clinic and investor-ready assets.

ValiRx connects diverse disciplines across scientific, technical, and commercial domains, with the aim of achieving a more streamlined, less costly, drug development process. The team works closely with carefully selected collaborators and leverages the combined expertise required for science to advance.

Lead candidates from ValiRx's portfolio are outlicensed or partnered with investors through ValiRx subsidiary companies for further clinical development and commercialisation.

ValiRx listed on the AIM Market of the London Stock Exchange in October 2006 and trades under the ticker symbol: VAL.

For further information, visit: www.valirx.com

Cautionary statement

Certain statements made in this announcement are forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on current expectations and assumptions and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from any expected future events or results expressed or implied in these forward-looking statements. Persons receiving this announcement should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Unless otherwise required by applicable law, regulation or accounting standard, the Company does not undertake to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

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