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## **TBG Diagnostics, Medigen and National Taiwan University Hospital enter Exclusive Licensing Agreement for the Development and Distribution of Patented Product for Evaluation of Adverse Reaction in Antithyroid Drug.**

**Melbourne, Australia, 13 March 2017.** The Board of TBG Diagnostics Limited (ASX: TDL) (the **Company** or **TBG**) is pleased to announce that in association with Taiwan based biopharmaceutical company, Medigen Corp., it has entered into an Exclusive Licensing Agreement with the National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH) for development and distribution of a patented product that is designed to evaluate adverse reactions to antithyroid drugs. With the signing of the Agreement, the TBG Medigen partnership will obtain the worldwide exclusive right to develop and distribute an invitro diagnostic (IVD) product that can identify and prevent patients suffering Grave's Disease (GD) from developing further life-threatening agranulocytosis after taking Thionamide drugs.

The Patent (Method for assessing the risk of adverse drug reaction and device thereof. Taiwan Patent Appl. No. 105104441) for this diagnostic product has been granted for Taiwan and is currently pending for China and Hong Kong, which will make TBG Diagnostics the first diagnostic company to distribute patented products in Greater China.

Grave's Disease is one of the leading causes of hyperthyroidism and has a prevalence of over 1-1.6% in the general population. The cornerstone treatment for Grave's Disease is the use of Thionamide, an antithyroid drug, which is also known to potentially induce life-threatening agranulocytosis in a percentage of treated patients.

In order to prevent Thionamide induced agranulocytosis (TiA) in GD patients, Professor Chang, Tien-Chun of NTUH, Associate Professor Chen, Pei-Lung of Graduate Institute of Medical Genomics and Proteomics at National Taiwan University and his team at the NTUH were able to identify, publish two Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) alleles and obtain patents that are able to predict increased risk of TiA. The signing of this exclusive licensing agreement will allow TBG, a global supplier of HLA related IVD products and services, to develop HLA IVD products or services that can identify individuals who are at risk for TiA.

Professor Chang of NTUH, the leading researcher on GD in Taiwan stated, "At NTUH we have already begun to screen our patients for the associated HLA genes and in doing so, we have already reduced the number of patients of TiA in the past year. In order to reduce the global incidence of TiA, we have partnered with Medigen and TBG to commercialize this genetic test."

Group Chief Operating Officer of TBG Diagnostics, Eugene Cheng said, "For nearly 10 years, TBG Diagnostics has been focused on the development, manufacturing, and global distribution of HLA/IVD products for the use in transplantation, transfusion, tissue banking and autoimmune disease associations. Adding drug companion tests to TBG's current portfolio is perfectly in line with our company focus. As NTUH is one of the leading medical centres in Asia, we are confident that by working together, we will minimize future incidences of TiA in Asia."

Further to the announcement of 28/06/16, following extensive due diligence by the board and management of TBG Diagnostics, a decision was made by the board to not proceed with the acquisition of RBC Taiwan. TBG continues to investigate business opportunities in the diagnostic sector which are in line with the company's strategy, especially in areas where China is the focused market.

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**About TBG Diagnostics**

TBG Diagnostics is a global molecular diagnostic (MDx) company operating in the IVD (in vitro diagnostics) industry. TBG is focused on the development, manufacture and marketing of molecular diagnostic kits, instruments and services

TBG Diagnostics is an established brand with a strong presence in the Asian market. From its plant in Xiamen, China it develops and manufactures:

- Nucleic Acid Test (NAT) products
- HLA typing reagents based on NAT technologies
- Automation systems for NAT operations
- IVD-related NAT kits and services

Products distributed to more than 22 countries. Major hospital and laboratory clients in USA, Taiwan, Germany, Portugal, China, Hong Kong and Singapore. Operating in the rapidly growing IVD market - US\$53 billion in 2013 and expected to reach US\$74.7 billion by 2020. Targeting further growth in China - fastest growing MDx market at CAGR of 27.9%. Extensive research and development pipeline targeting products for oncology, infectious diseases, transplants, transfusions, pharmacogenetics, autoimmune diseases and genetic diseases

**About National Taiwan University Hospital**

National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH) was founded in 1895. Over the last hundred plus years since its founding, NTUH has nurtured countless professionals in medicine, including medical students, specialists, pharmacists, nurses and technicians. NTUH's diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis and cancer, organ transplantation, and its pioneering research accomplishments in biophotonics and clinical trial have also gained international recognition.

As a national teaching hospital, NTUH is shouldered with three major tasks: teaching, research and service. In terms of teaching, the hospital continues to collaborate with the university's curriculum to nurture talent in medicine and various specialties. In terms of research, resources are being integrated to establish core laboratories, which provide colleagues with the best research facilities and environment. In terms of service, all services are oriented towards and centered on patient safety; personalized care is emphasized, with a focus on medical quality and patient safety management in order to provide high quality and refined medical services. NTUH is also committed to promoting international cooperation, thereby gaining the experience and knowledge from the medical development of advanced countries, and thus enhancing the development of our country's own medical care.