**6 March 2024**

## **Colonoscopy Clinic Pty Ltd and Sangui Bio Pty Ltd announce research and trials partnership to fast-track strategies to detect colorectal cancer.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sangui Bio Pty Ltd** and **Colonoscopy Clinic Pty Ltd** are pleased to announce their collaborative research and trials partnership. This partnership will see Colonoscopy Clinic inform patients about the Sangui Bio Bio-ECON (Biomarkers of Early Colorectal Neoplasia) trial across its patient base and referral relationships in Queensland.

Speaking in Brisbane, **A/Prof Dan Worthley** said “At Colonoscopy Clinic we are working towards a future where no Australian dies of colorectal cancer. Part of this journey is developing new strategies to detect, prevent and treat colorectal cancer. At Colonoscopy Clinic we coordinate a high volume of quality community colonoscopy, we curate a detailed clinical database, and we are committed to colorectal cancer research. These three factors, together, help to deliver real research and clinical value to our patients, our partners, and our community.”

**Dr Ben Herbert**, the Sangui Bio Chief Scientist said “We are incredibly pleased to be working with the Colonoscopy Clinic to fast-track the next stage of our Colorectal Neoplasia study. Sangui Bio has generated promising preliminary data with our academic collaborator, Prof. Mark Molloy at the University of Sydney. The next stage of the study requires a significant increase in recruitment and the Colonoscopy Clinic are the ideal partners to enable that through their engagement with a large number of potential study participants.”

**Prof. Mark Molloy**, the Lawrence Penn Chair of Bowel Cancer Research at the University of Sydney said, “Patient self-sampling of blood is an innovative area of diagnostics that may encourage greater participation in screening to prevent diseases such as bowel cancer. It is exciting that the **Bio-ECON study** can now move forward at pace to evaluate our initial findings.”

**About the Bio-ECON trial**

The Bio-ECON study is sponsored by the Sydney-based life sciences company, Sangui Bio Pty Ltd. Sangui Bio focuses their research on biomarker discovery in whole blood obtained by patient-centric at-home microsampling. They use blood analysis to gain a deep understanding into inflammatory and immune regulatory functions. They are currently developing biomarkers for early-stage detection, with a focus on cancer.

Bowel cancers start as benign or harmless growths called polyps. Polyps are small bumps on the lining of the bowel, and some will grow into a cancerous tumours if undetected and unresected. Bowel cancer, otherwise known as colorectal cancer, is the second most common cause of cancer death in Australia, and it is estimated that one in 19 people will be diagnosed by the time they are 85. Regular screening is vital because it can prevent colorectal cancer. A polyp can take many years to develop into cancer. With screening, doctors can find and remove polyps before they have the chance to turn into cancer. The current study will investigate if there are any markers in blood that can predict the presence of a colorectal polyp or cancer. To complete these analyses, researchers will utilise the remote collection of blood and stool samples. Collecting a finger prick sample of blood at home is much less invasive than attending a pathology clinic for venous blood sampling. If Bio-ECON finds that colorectal polyps may be detected in this way, it would lead to new ways of screening for colorectal polyps and cancer.

The Bio-ECON trial was approved by the Northern Sydney Local Health District human research ethics committee; reference number 2023/ETH00330.

For more information visit: https://www.sanguibio.com/trials

**About Sangui Bio**

Founded in 2015, Sangui Bio is a Sydney-based life sciences company aiming to revolutionise how blood is analysed and used in medicine by shifting the focus to whole blood analysis and patient-centric blood microsampling. We are creating powerful investigatory tools for a range of inflammatory conditions with an initial focus on cancer. Since its foundation, Sangui Bio has worked in collaboration with the Kolling Institute and Neoteryx.

**About Colonoscopy Clinic**

Colonoscopy Clinic began over 35 years ago, as Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. GIE started at the Wesley Hospital, Brisbane in 1985. It was one of the first open-access endoscopy and colonoscopy services in Australia. Today, Colonoscopy Clinic offers experienced, efficient, and accessible colonoscopy and endoscopy services, in partnership with nine hospitals in Brisbane. We are committed to helping realise a future where no Australian dies from bowel cancer.

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