

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## IX BIOPHARMA SECURES CHINA PATENT FOR WAFERIX DRUG DELIVERY TECHNOLOGY

- Intellectual property rights now secured in key Asian markets
- First out-licensing agreement for WaferiX entered into with Bod Australia

**Singapore**, **8 February 2018** – iX Biopharma Ltd. ("iX Biopharma" or, together with its subsidiaries, "the Group") is pleased to announce that it has been granted a patent for its **WaferiX** drug delivery technology by the People's Republic of China (Patent No. ZL 2013800602813). The patent, which expires on 11 October 2033, allows iX Biopharma to exclusively use and obtain protection for its WaferiX drug delivery technology in China.

WaferiX is a fast-dissolving, proprietary wafer formulation that allows pharmacologically active compounds, such as ketamine and sildenafil, to be administered sublingually (i.e., placed under the tongue) and delivered safely, conveniently and rapidly into the blood stream. The technology offers a non-invasive, pain-free alternative to traditional routes of drug administration such as intravenous drips and injections. Key advantages of WaferiX include the reduction of the effect of first-pass metabolism, rapid onset of action, better side effect profile, easy administration, improved patient compliance and a better storage profile.

The Group leverages WaferiX to develop innovative pharmaceutical and nutraceutical products, including:

Product	Indications and Remarks
Wafermine (ketamine)	<ul> <li>For moderate to severe pain</li> <li>Effective alternative to opioids; has opioid-sparing effect</li> <li>Currently undergoing Phase 2 multi-dose efficacy study</li> </ul>
BnoX (buprenorphine)	<ul> <li>For moderate to severe pain</li> <li>Drug substitution therapy of choice for opioid addiction</li> <li>Successfully completed Phase 1 pharmacokinetic study</li> </ul>
PheoniX (sildenafil)	<ul> <li>For male erectile dysfunction</li> <li>Completed pivotal study confirming bioequivalence and good oral tolerability compared with reference drug.</li> <li>Product submitted for registration and currently under review by the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration</li> </ul>



WafeRest (melatonin)	<ul> <li>Alleviates effects of jet lag and promotes sleep quality</li> <li>Available for sale at <a href="www.entity-health.com">www.entity-health.com</a> since end-November 2017</li> </ul>
<b>LumeniX</b> (glutathione)	<ul> <li>Inhibits dark melanin formation to brighten and beautify the skin</li> <li>Available for sale at <a href="www.entity-health.com">www.entity-health.com</a> since end-November 2017</li> </ul>

With the receipt of this China patent, iX Biopharma's intellectual property rights for its sublingual technology is now secured in key Asian markets, including Singapore, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and Japan.

Apart from Asia, iX Biopharma has also been awarded patents in 20 other countries, namely Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and countries in the European Union such as Germany, France, United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Turkey, Switzerland, Sweden, Poland, Belgium, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Ireland, as well as Finland.

The protection accorded by the patents in the European Union and major Asian markets gives iX Biopharma greater confidence to partner healthcare and skincare companies through out-licensing arrangements. On 4 January 2018, the Group entered into its first out-licensing agreement with ASX-listed Bod Australia Limited, under which the Group licensed its WaferiX technology for the development of medicinal cannabis products incorporating cannabis extracts provided by Bod, for use in Bod's Phase 1 clinical trials this year.

The Group will retain all manufacturing rights and intellectual property developed under the agreement apart from the name and rights to the packaging of the finished product. This arrangement timeously coincides with the Australian government's announcement in January 2018 to legalise the export of medicinal cannabis products, subject to approval by the federal parliament in February 2018.

The agreement is a stepping stone for iX Biopharma to capitalise on the largely untapped and expanding medicinal cannabis market that is set to reach US\$55 billion by 2025, according to a report by US-based Grand View Research. The demand is driven by growing recognition among academic researchers and healthcare providers of the numerous therapeutic uses of cannabis, which include pain management and the treatment of epilepsy and multiple sclerosis.

Meanwhile, iX Biopharma will continue to leverage the WaferiX technology to develop its own portfolio of innovative therapies, as well as seek out opportunities to work with other potential partners on out-licensing of the sublingual technology.

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## About iX Biopharma Ltd

iX Biopharma Ltd is a Singapore public-listed specialty pharmaceutical and nutraceutical company, operating a fully integrated business model from drug development to laboratory testing, manufacturing and supply, with facilities in Australia. The Group is focused on the development and commercialisation of innovative therapies for improving the quality of life of those suffering from pain and other health conditions. The Company leverages its patented sublingual drug delivery technology, **WaferiX**, to develop proprietary products that incorporate pharmacologically active compounds that have been approved by regulatory bodies. The Company's pipeline of products under development includes **Wafermine** and **BnoX** for pain management, and **PheoniX** for erectile dysfunction. The Group's nutraceuticals division, Entity Health Limited, recently launched its **Entity** line of nutraceutical products and is engaged in the development and commercialisation of nutraceutical products that address specific conditions and improve quality of life.

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