

MEDIA RELEASE

International approval for Australian pharmaceutical testing

Tuesday, July 10, 2007

University of Queensland (UQ) based contract research organisation, TetraQ, is now recognised to provide internationally accredited testing services to the Australian biopharmaceutical industry.

TetraQ, an integrated preclinical drug development service provider, has attained official Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) recognition from the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) for one of its key laboratories.

With GLP status, TetraQ's ADME laboratory's bioanalytical work will be accepted internationally for regulatory review, providing their clients in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries with a high degree of assurance.

TetraQ compliance with the strict international GLP code will allow new pharmaceuticals being developed to be analysed in Australia rather than being sent off-shore, according to TetraQ Executive Director, Professor Maree Smith.

"TetraQ is providing yet another platform whereby the Australian biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries can progress their drug development programs locally to extremely high standards," said Professor Smith.

"I'm delighted that TetraQ has been able to further enhance our already strong track record of contract research and development services excellence," she said.

TetraQ is the commercial arm of the Centre for Integrated Preclinical Drug Development at UQ. The TetraQ ADME laboratory uses state-of-the-art equipment and methods, which meet stringent quality and testing levels, to measure drugs and their breakdown products in biological samples to high levels of accuracy and precision.

Attaining GLP recognition for TetraQ's ADME laboratory has increased its credibility with clients.

Neuprotect Pty Ltd CEO, Dr Nicole Fowler said she was extremely delighted with TetraQ-ADME's GLP compliance and the implications for her Melbourne-based biotechnology company.

"TetraQ has consistently offered us high quality bioanalytical services, which I seriously doubt we could have sourced elsewhere in Australia or globally. We know through interaction and first hand observation that the integrity of TetraQ's data is sound, and knowing that the ADME laboratory has GLP recognition will allow our critical data to have more credibility in the eyes of international regulatory agencies," said Dr Fowler.

UQ's main commercialisation company, UniQuest Pty Ltd, played a key role in establishing TetraQ's commercial business systems.

UniQuest Managing Director David Henderson, said the GLP recognition was a great achievement for TetraQ-ADME, which demonstrated the excellence of UQ science and entrepreneurship as well as providing enormous value to the broader Australian pharmaceutical industry.

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