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HealthLinx achieves improved ovarian cancer diagnostic in Phase II trial

Singapore, November 26, 2007: Melbourne based HealthLinx has completed a Phase II biomarker trial on its OvPlex panel. The results indicate that HealthLinx has delivered a product that operates at better than 90 percent diagnostic efficiency under conditions where the current gold standard (CA125) only delivers 80 percent diagnostic efficiency. Its multi-marker approach increases the likelihood of correctly diagnosing the presence of ovarian cancer and reduces the rate of misdiagnosis of this disease.

The study was conducted in partnership with ARL Pathology and the Women's Cancer Foundation using almost 400 blood samples that were collected over the past 18 months. It is anticipated that ARL Pathology will offer the OvPlex diagnostic in the market in quarter 2, 2008 and discussions are being held with global diagnostic groups for US, Asian and European markets.

Mr Nick Gatsios, Managing Director of HealthLinx said, "The trial results have exceeded our trial design and expectations and as a company we are pleased with these results. It gives women hope by increasing the effectiveness of detection at mid to late stage of the disease and disease recurrence."

He further said, "HealthLinx is now positioned to further develop its OvPlex assay into the world's best ovarian cancer diagnostic. The prospect of a simple blood test providing high diagnostic accuracy for ovarian cancer is a very significant event in oncology. We have a path to market with our partners ARL Pathology for the Australian and New Zealand markets and we are also in discussion with a number of global groups who have the capacity to scale up and distribute into key markets including the US, Asia and Europe."

HealthLinx specializes in ovarian cancer biomarkers and the development of multi-marker diagnostic tests. Biomarkers are specific substances (including, proteins or peptides) that provide information about the presence of disease. HealthLinx focuses on biomarkers that are present in blood and other body fluids that can be used to detect and/or monitor disease or the effects of treatment. .

Ovarian cancer develops without overt symptoms and usually by the time it has been diagnosed the cancer has spread beyond the ovaries and into the abdomen, bladder, bowel and omentum. Because there is no community-based screening test for ovarian cancer, over 75 percent of cases are diagnosed in the advanced stages and over 80 percent of these women will die within 5 years. If ovarian cancer is detected at an early stage and effectively treated, survival rate is more than 80 percent.

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