

18th September 2019

Eye Co Investigates the Use of Hemp Seed Oil as A Revolutionary Carrier to Deliver Ophthalmic Steroids.

Eye Co is pleased to announce the commencement of a second series of studies involving the Australian National University (ANU) Mouse Model. These studies are designed to demonstrate safety, efficacy, enhanced bioavailability and dosage accuracy when ophthalmic steroids such as **triamcinolone acetonide** and **fludrocortisone acetate** are delivered intravitreally in hemp seed oil as a carrier.

Ophthalmic steroids such as **triamcinolone acetonide** and **fludrocortisone acetate** are highly water insoluble. These therapeutics, currently only available in an aqueous suspension, have proved notoriously difficult to deliver intravitreally.

The **ANU Mouse Model** involves the development of lesions that mimic **dry Age-Related Macular Degeneration (d-AMD)** resulting from exposure to bright light.

Eye Co has filed patents relating to the composition and treatment of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) with hemp seed oil or a pharmaceutical active extract thereof. The patent application is directed to the use of compositions comprising oils such as hemp seed oil as a carrier of pharmaceutical actives intended for intravitreal administration.

Eye Co's Chief Scientist, **Professor Philip Penfold** said: "These studies support the use of hemp seed oil as carrier for intravitreal steroids and other pharmaceutical actives."

Head of Clear Vision Research, **Dr Riccardo Natoli**, commented: "We are very excited to be involved in this research. The scientific and clinical experience of Eye Co combined with the access to world class facilities and researchers at the ANU make for a likely long-term partnership. Combined we have the necessary team to find treatments for the currently untreatable d-AMD."

Eye Co is an early stage developer of innovative therapeutics for the treatment of retinal diseases. These studies and associated patent rights are consistent with its strategy of initiating early stage development of innovative treatments with the intention of licensing the associated intellectual property to a global pharmaceutical group with the necessary resources to commercialise such innovations.

Your sincerely



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Chairman