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Academy of Medical Sciences to facilitate advice to bioscience investment fund

The Academy of Medical Sciences, through its trading subsidiary, has entered into an agreement to facilitate advice from Fellows to a UK-based regulated asset management company, Park Vale Capital.

A stated strategic goal of the Academy is to promote partnerships between industry and academia to drive the translation of research into health benefits. Adequate investment from a range of sources is essential fuel for this innovation pipeline. Park Vale Capital's experienced biotechnology investment professionals are addressing a particular investment gap through investing in late stage companies with novel medical products and innovations and are actively bringing these companies to commercial success within two years of investments, often more quickly.

Venture capital investment in the biosciences sector is currently under severe constraint exacerbated by the financial crisis of 2008. There has been widespread reduction in new capital available as many traditional fiduciary investors have moved away from this sector due to the long timeframes needed to bring biomedical innovations to market and the uncertainty of outcomes. In the short term there is an urgent need for fresh capital and a more sophisticated approach to complete successful late stage projects to deliver innovations to the patient population. The combining of the strengths of the Fellows of the Academy and the investment expertise and industry network of Park Vale Capital to work together on late stage company deals is very timely.

The Academy will facilitate the provision of scientific advice from its Fellows to the biotechnology and biosciences investment team from Park Vale Capital. The team seeks to provide late stage financing for therapeutics that are in an advanced stage of development. Significant opportunities exist to support companies with innovative products and solutions in reaching commercial success. The Academy's role will be to provide access to its Fellows for advice with respect to the analysis and selection of late stage products that have the most potential to improve health and bring positive medical innovation to patients.

The Academy will be remunerated for this role with an annual retainer and a share of any associated performance fee of Park Vale, which will be used to support the delivery of Academy's mission and strategic objectives.

Academy President, Professor Sir John Tooke PMedSci said, *"This partnership illustrates our role as a progressive, modernising Academy that seeks to catalyse relationships across academic, industry and healthcare sectors. Working with Park Vale Capital in this way means the Academy can use the expertise of interested Fellows to provide scientific and clinical advice that may stimulate investment to take innovations from life science and biotech companies to patients."*

Managing Partner of Park Vale Capital, Katherine Priestley said, *"We are committed to the principle of stronger working and communication links between the excellent UK Academic Science base, global fiduciary investment capital and industry, to drive quicker and better outcomes in the translation of science for the benefit of all our communities. By establishing our partnership with the Academy of Medical Science we are hopeful that this proves to be the first of many successful initiatives in this regard and we very much look forward to beginning."*

– ENDS –

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Notes for Editors

The Academy of Medical Sciences is the independent body in the UK representing the diversity of medical science. Our mission is to promote medical science and its translation into benefits for society. The Academy's elected Fellows are the United Kingdom's leading medical scientists from hospitals, academia, industry and the public service.

The Academy, through its wholly-owned trading subsidiary, The Academy of Medical Sciences Trading Limited ("AMS"), has entered into an Advisory Services Agreement with Park Vale Capital. Under the Advisory Services Agreement, AMS facilitates the provision of scientific advice to Park Vale Capital by the Academy's Fellows in respect of particular investment opportunities.

The resource generated will be ring-fenced for use by the Academy of Medical Sciences to deliver the objectives as stated under its charitable activities.

Neither the Academy, its trading company (AMS), nor any Fellow provides Park Vale or its affiliates with any advice in relation to the viability or otherwise of any investment opportunity and neither the Academy, AMS, nor any Fellow assumes any liability to Park Vale or to any other person in relation to advice given by a Fellow. No investment opportunity is endorsed, promoted, or otherwise encouraged by the Academy, AMS or any Fellow notwithstanding that Park Vale or an affiliate of Park Vale, or any other person has received advice or information from a Fellow relating to such an investment opportunity.

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Park Vale Capital

Park Vale Capital is an investment firm registered and regulated by the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority which is dedicated to developing and managing fiduciary capital in a number of specific, unusual and focused investment strategies. The Directors and Partners are experienced professionals with expertise in private equity, biotechnology, cyber-technology, China special situations, and bespoke risk and portfolio management. We operate from offices in London and New York to ensure we are able to source and manage our networks, information and deal flow.

Park Vale Capital has an investment team with deep expertise and a strong track record investing in biotechnology and biosciences both in the public and private markets. The team is led by Dr. Morana Jovan Embiricos and the current strategy focuses on managing investments in late stage biotechnology transactions.

www.parkvale.com