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# PAVmed Subsidiary Lucid Diagnostics Launches EsoGuard Telemedicine Program in Partnership with UpScriptHealth

*Chronic heartburn patients in Phoenix, Denver, Salt Lake City, and Las Vegas can now request video telemedicine physician evaluation and referral for rapid, office-based EsoGuard testing to detect esophageal precancer before it progresses to deadly cancer*

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **Lucid Diagnostics Inc. (Nasdaq: LUCD)** (“Lucid”) a commercial-stage, cancer prevention medical diagnostics company, and majority-owned subsidiary of **PAVmed Inc. (Nasdaq: PAVM, PAVMZ)** (“PAVmed”), today announced it has launched its EsoGuard Telemedicine Program in partnership with UpScriptHealth, a leading, nationwide, direct-to-consumer telemedicine company.

Chronic heartburn patients in four metropolitan areas—Phoenix, Denver, Salt Lake City, and Las Vegas—can now access a Lucid-branded web-based telemedicine platform to request video evaluation of their condition by an independent UpScriptHealth-managed telemedicine physician. If clinically indicated, the patient will be referred to a local Lucid Test Center or other clinical facility offering rapid, office-based testing to detect esophageal precancer using Lucid’s EsoGuard<sup>®</sup> DNA Esophageal Test (“EsoGuard”). A direct-to-consumer marketing campaign utilizing radio, television, billboards and digital media, will be launched, tested and refined in the Phoenix market before proceeding to other Lucid Test Center cities.

“Many, if not most, chronic heartburn sufferers treat their symptoms without physician supervision using widely available, heavily advertised, over-the-counter heartburn medications—entirely unaware they may be at risk for esophageal precancer and cancer,” said Lishan Aklog M.D., Lucid’s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. “An important pillar of our growth strategy is to educate consumers on the link between chronic heartburn and esophageal cancer, and the availability of a rapid, office-based test to detect esophageal precancer before it progresses to cancer.”

“The launch of Lucid’s EsoGuard Telemedicine Program is a very important milestone which completes the foundation for our multi-channel EsoGuard commercialization strategy directly targeting primary care physicians (PCPs), gastroenterologists and now consumers. We believe, based on the experience of other successful early cancer detection companies, that telemedicine programs with direct-to-consumer engagement can have broad reach, accelerate commercialization, and drive long-term growth. We are fortunate to have an ideal partner in UpScriptHealth, a pioneer in online healthcare prescribing with a nationwide network of telemedicine physicians, as we look to expand the EsoGuard Telemedicine Program and Lucid Test Center network regionally and nationally.”

Lucid Test Centers currently operate in leased medical office suites located in three locations in Phoenix and one each in Denver, Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. Lucid plans to add upcoming test centers in the Pacific Northwest and then steadily expand nationwide. Each test center is staffed with Lucid-employed clinical personnel who use Lucid's EsoCheck<sup>®</sup> Cell Collection Device ("EsoCheck") to collect esophageal cells which are sent for EsoGuard testing. Lucid estimates that a single nurse practitioner can perform up to twenty EsoCheck procedures per day and expects each center to cover its personnel and medical office leases costs with only a few tests per week.

Since their launch, the test centers have been seeing patients referred for EsoGuard testing by their PCPs. Now, patients who respond to direct-to-consumer engagements can request video telemedicine evaluation through the EsoGuard Telemedicine Program by contacting 1-888-FOODTUBE or registering at [www.EsoGuardConsultation.com](http://www.EsoGuardConsultation.com). If clinically indicated, the telemedicine physician will refer the patient to a Lucid Test Center or other clinical facility for EsoGuard testing. The EsoGuard test result will be reported to this physician who will refer the patient for gastroenterology evaluation if indicated.

Millions of patients with GERD are at risk of developing esophageal precancer and a highly lethal form of esophageal cancer (EAC). Over 80% of EAC patients die within five years of diagnosis, making it the second most lethal cancer in the U.S. The mortality rate is high even in those diagnosed with early stage EAC. The U.S. incidence of EAC has increased 500% over the past four decades, while the incidences of other common cancers have declined or remained flat. In nearly all cases, EAC silently progresses until it manifests itself with new symptoms of advanced disease. All EAC is believed to arise from esophageal precancer which occurs in approximately 5% to 15% of at-risk GERD patients. Early esophageal precancer can be monitored for progression to late esophageal precancer which can be cured with endoscopic esophageal ablation, reliably halting progression to cancer.

Esophageal precancer screening is already recommended by clinical practice guidelines in millions of GERD patients with multiple risk factors, including age over 50 years, male gender, White race, obesity, smoking history, and a family history of esophageal precancer or cancer. Unfortunately, fewer than 10% of those recommended for screening undergo traditional invasive endoscopic screening. The profound tragedy of an EAC diagnosis is that likely death could have been prevented if the at-risk GERD patient had been screened and then undergone surveillance and curative treatment. The only missing element for a viable esophageal cancer prevention program has been the lack of a widespread screening tool that can detect esophageal precancer. Lucid believes EsoGuard and EsoCheck are the missing element and constitute the first and only commercially available test capable of serving as a widespread screening tool to prevent esophageal cancer deaths, through the early detection of esophageal precancer in at-risk GERD patients.

EsoGuard is a bisulfite-converted next-generation sequencing (NGS) DNA assay performed on surface esophageal cells collected with EsoCheck. It quantifies methylation at 31 sites on two genes, Vimentin (VIM) and Cyclin A1 (CCNA1). The assay was evaluated in a 408-patient, multicenter, case-control study published in *Science Translational Medicine* and showed greater than 90% sensitivity and specificity at detecting esophageal precancer and cancer. EsoGuard is commercially available in the U.S. as a Laboratory Developed Test (LDT) performed at a CLIA/CAP-certified laboratory.

EsoCheck is an FDA 510(k) and CE Mark cleared noninvasive swallowable balloon capsule catheter device capable of sampling surface esophageal cells in a less than five-minute office procedure. It consists of a vitamin pill-sized rigid plastic capsule tethered to a thin silicone catheter from which a soft silicone balloon with textured ridges emerges to gently swab surface esophageal cells. When vacuum suction is applied, the balloon and sampled cells are pulled into the capsule, protecting them from contamination and dilution by cells outside of the targeted region during device withdrawal. Lucid believes this proprietary Collect+Protect™ technology makes EsoCheck the only noninvasive esophageal cell collection device capable of such anatomically targeted and protected sampling. The sample is sent by overnight express mail to Lucid's third-party CLIA-certified laboratory partner for EsoGuard testing.

## **About Lucid Diagnostics**

Lucid Diagnostics Inc. (Nasdaq: LUCD) is a commercial-stage, cancer prevention medical diagnostics company, and subsidiary of PAVmed Inc. (Nasdaq: PAVM). Lucid is focused on the millions of patients with gastroesophageal disease (GERD), also known as chronic heartburn, who are at risk of developing esophageal precancer and cancer. Lucid's EsoGuard® Esophageal DNA Test, performed on samples collected in a brief, noninvasive office procedure with its EsoCheck® Esophageal Cell Collection Device, is the first and only commercially available diagnostic test capable of serving as a widespread screening tool to prevent cancer and cancer deaths through early detection of esophageal precancer in at-risk GERD patients. EsoGuard is commercialized in the U.S. as a Laboratory Developed Test (LDT). EsoCheck is commercialized in the U.S. as a 510(k)-cleared esophageal cell collection device. EsoGuard, used with EsoCheck, was granted FDA Breakthrough Device designation and is the subject of two large, actively enrolling, international multicenter clinical trials to support FDA PMA approval. Lucid is building a network of Lucid Test Centers where at-risk GERD patients can undergo the EsoCheck procedure for EsoGuard testing.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release includes forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are any statements that are not historical facts. Such forward-looking statements, which are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of Lucid's management, are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from the forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that may cause such differences include, among other things, volatility in the price of Lucid's common stock; general economic and market conditions; the uncertainties inherent in research and development, including the cost and time required to advance Lucid's products to regulatory submission; whether regulatory authorities will be satisfied with the design of and results from Lucid's clinical and preclinical studies; whether and when Lucid's products are cleared by regulatory authorities; market acceptance of Lucid's products once cleared and commercialized; Lucid's ability to raise additional funding as needed; and other competitive developments. In addition, Lucid has been monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and the pandemic's impact on Lucid's businesses. Lucid expects the significance of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the extent of its effect on its financial and operational results, to be dictated by, among other things, the success of efforts to contain the pandemic and the impact of such efforts on Lucid's businesses. These factors are difficult or impossible to predict accurately and many of them are beyond Lucid's control. In addition, new risks and uncertainties may arise from time to time and are difficult to predict.

For a further list and description of these and other important risks and uncertainties that may affect Lucid's future operations, see Lucid's Registration Statement No. 333-259721 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Lucid disclaims any intention or obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in its expectations or in events, conditions, or circumstances on which those expectations may be based, or that may affect the likelihood that actual results will differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements.

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