



# PHYTOTECH MEDICAL

## ASX RELEASE

3 February 2015

### **PHYTOTECH COMMENCES R&D WITH YISSUM ON BUCCAL AND NEW, ADVANCED ORAL FORMULATION**

#### **Highlights**

- Research and development of safe and efficient therapeutic products containing active cannabinoids compounds for various clinical indications now commenced
- License agreement with Yissum Research Development Company of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Ltd to develop oral capsule and buccal patch products containing a combination of Cannabinoid (CBD) and Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
- In pre-clinical studies, the formulations of CBD and THC developed by the Hebrew University researchers for use in oral capsule prototypes showed significantly enhanced bioavailability. Development of cannabinoid based products will begin in the prestigious research facilities at the Institute for Drug Research of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, located exclusively in Israel



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**PhytoTech Medical Limited (ASX:PYL)**, the Australian owned Medical Grade Cannabis (MGC) company and the first MGC company to list on the Australian Stock Exchange, today announces that the research and development into its delivery systems for administering Medical Grade Cannabis (MGC) based therapeutic products has now commenced.

The oral capsule technology demonstrated in pre-clinical studies enhanced bioavailability of THC or CBD. This is achievable by several mechanisms, including suppressing or inhibiting the first pass metabolism. PYL considers that its in-licensed technology will be able to overcome the effects of first pass metabolism, which markedly decrease the oral absorbance of current oral cannabinoid-commercial products.

The Company intends to test this technology in human clinical trials against Sativex®, an oral spray Cannabinoid (CBD/THC) medicine for the treatment of spasticity due to multiple sclerosis. Sativex® is owned by GW Pharmaceuticals, a company listed on both the NASDAQ Global Market (GWPH) and on AIM, a market of the London Stock Exchange. It has a market capitalisation in excess of \$1bn.

We expect our oral capsule to be easier to administer, while not causing side effects such as mouth ulcerations and pain, and having no adverse taste, both associated with Sativex®. We also believe that our oral product will be low cost, with long room temperature shelf life.



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The buccal product under development consists of a flexible, muco-adhesive patch and will potentially provide continuous delivery of THC and CBD for 4 – 6 hours. The product is anticipated to allow for better dose control, easy application, no adverse taste and cost effectiveness. This technology is included in the exclusive license the Company received from Yisum and is currently the subject of a patent application.

PhytoTech is looking at utilising Yisum's state-of-the-art technologies to develop THC and/or CBD based products for variety of highly potential safe and efficacious therapeutic indications.

Boaz Wachtel, Managing Director of PhytoTech Limited comments:

*"The Medical Cannabis market is growing rapidly and there is significant opportunity and demand in the market for our company to develop and acquire new drug delivery systems. The oral capsule, with its revolutionary formulation, and the buccal device, which will be developed by PhytoTech, are highly innovative - advancing the methods of administering MGC and creating a new mainstream method of treatment for various medical conditions."*

*Israel is considered a world leader in Medical Cannabis research and we are excited to partner with researchers from the prestigious Hebrew University of Jerusalem to help us achieve our goal of commercialising Medical Cannabis delivery systems."*



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The team at the Hebrew University brings significant experience with extensive experience. This team includes Professors Avraham Domb and Amnon Hoffman, both experts in formulation and pre-clinical drug development.

Israel was one of the first countries to launch a National Medical Cannabis Program (NMCP) and expertise and knowledge in the Medical Cannabis industry in Israel makes the country the number one choice for our R&D operations.

***-Ends-***

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### **About PhytoTech Medical Limited**

PhytoTech Medical is a medical cannabis company, which aims to commercialise Medical Grade Cannabis (MGC) and high potential cannabis based therapeutics products to the rapidly growing international market with regulated medical cannabis laws. With research facilities located in Israel, a global leader in medical cannabis research, the Company is strategically positioned to become a key player in the global MGC market.

The Company is focused on the research, development and commercialisation of products for administering MGC, and on new treatments utilising MGC therapeutic components for various medical conditions. In addition, the Company aims to grow proprietary strains of MGC in California, Uruguay and other jurisdictions.

PhytoTech has entered into an exclusive research and licensing agreement with Yisum, the prestigious Research Development and technology transfer Company of Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel. Yisum was founded in 1964 to protect and to commercialise the Hebrew University's intellectual property. Products based on Hebrew University technologies that have been commercialised by Yisum currently generate US\$2 Billion in annual sales. Ranked among the top technology transfer companies in the world, Yisum has registered over 8,500 patents covering 2,400 inventions; has licensed out 750 technologies and has spun out 90 companies. Yisum's partners span



## **ASX RELEASE** CONTINUED

the globe and include names such as Microsoft, Johnson & Johnson, Syngenta, Monsanto, Roche, Novartis, Merck, Teva and many more.

Using proprietary technology, PhytoTech's vision is to administer ground breaking health benefits of cannabinoids in oral preparations, vapor form, and other routes of administration in safe and effective ways.

<http://www.phytotechmed.com/>