Medtech startup Perspectum raises £28.7M

Headquartered in Oxford, Perspectum, a medical software company that provides seamless technology for identifying and monitoring multiple diseases, received a \$36M investment from Blue Venture Fund, HealthQuest Capital, Oxford Science Innovation, Puhua Capital, and the University of Oxford.

Liver Multi Scan, the company's first diagnostic product uses software to extract quantitative data from MRI scans to aid with the detection of chronic liver disease. Perspectum also has an imaging-focused Contract Research Organization (CRO) solution that supports biopharmaceutical companies developing assets in the liver and metabolic diseases.

Perspectum's diagnostic product is the only FDA-approved technology that has proven accuracy and precision in the assessment of liver tissue. This enables improved diagnostic pathways for liver disorders such as Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) and Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH), conditions that currently affect over 100M people in the US, with an annual cost to the US healthcare system of \$32B. NASH is a global condition, with increasing prevalence in China, where the technology is already being tested.

The FDA will likely approve Ocaliva by Intercept Pharmaceuticals as the first medication for NASH later this year. There are more than 70 active clinical

trials to address this unmet need, the majority of which are in Phase II or later. Effective use of non-invasive technology will be instrumental for drug development efforts and to ensure the appropriate use of drug therapy as these drugs come online.

"We are excited to have Blue Venture Fund and HealthQuest Capital as lead investors in this financing. Blue Venture Fund's invaluable insight in navigating reimbursement and coverage decisions, and HealthQuest's experience ramping growth stage healthcare companies and specific experience in clinical diagnostics and clinical trial services will be enormously beneficial to our business." – Dr Rajarshi Banerjee, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Perspectum LiverMultiScan® patented solution for clinical use, expand its CRO business as well as develop additional products for biliary disease, diabetes and cancer for both clinical and CRO applications.

"Perspectum offers an innovative imaging technology which will help curb the staggering morbidity and mortality associated with Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease. Perspectum is uniquely positioned to advance pharmaceutical development, inform clinical care, and improve the patient experience. We believe Perspectum has the opportunity to become a market leader in imaging biomarkers and hepatic disease. We are thrilled to partner with Perspectum's outstanding management team and HealthQuest Capital." – Thomas Hawes, Managing Director of the Blue Venture Fund

Article by MADDYNESS