

Veritas Health Innovation Receives Significant Grant to Increase the Impact of Health Research

Melbourne, Australia (29 May, 2018): Veritas Health Innovation Ltd is delighted to announce that it has received a combined grant of \$500,000 to increase the impact of health research. The grant comes from three leading Australian foundations: The Ian Potter Foundation (\$200,000), the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (\$150,000) and the Paul Ramsay Foundation (\$150,000).

This grant will assist in scaling the usage and impact of Covidence, Veritas's online systematic review technology. Systematic reviews are high-quality summaries of research and are an integral part of decision making in health and many other fields.

Covidence is the foundation for a new approach to systematic review, enabling more efficient evidence synthesis and accelerating the impact of evidence on decision making for the community's health and well being. These donations will be critical in enabling expanded access to Covidence, the incorporation of artificial intelligence technology, and free access to researchers based in low and middle-income countries.

Veritas CEO and Senior Research Fellow at Cochrane Australia, Monash University, Julian Elliott said, "We are very grateful for the generosity of The Ian Potter Foundation, the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation and the Paul Ramsay Foundation. This grant demonstrates the commitment of Australia's leading charitable foundations to the development of technologies that maximise the value of health research. Through Covidence we are working to ensure that research findings translate into action and improved health outcomes rapidly and reliably."

Chair of The Ian Potter Foundation, Mr Charles Goode said, "The Foundation is pleased to support the next critical stage of product development of Covidence, and capacity building for Veritas to ensure wider adoption of this innovative tool among medical researchers globally. Increasing the market reach of Covidence will enable Veritas to achieve sustainability and accelerate the translation of research into health practices thus benefiting the wider community."

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation chief executive officer Catherine Brown said, "What Veritas has achieved with Covidence to date and the development of new technology to upgrade this online platform further, is a highly innovative approach to a significant problem in the health sector. The project has many flow on benefits to the community's health. It is exciting that this Melbourne-based social enterprise has developed this solution for health researchers in Australia and internationally with a solid plan to achieve financial sustainability over a short period of time. The Foundation was pleased to fund this project from the Eldon & Anne Foote Trust."

Simon Freeman, CEO of the Paul Ramsay Foundation said, "We are delighted to be able to support Covidence through this exciting phase of its development. The Foundation is excited by the potential of the technology to support health professionals in the delivery of the most up to date evidence-based care to patients and to assist in the translation of research into clinical practice."

The grant acknowledges Veritas' success in launching Australian technology onto a global stage, becoming the most widely used systematic review software platform. Covidence is a core component of Cochrane's review production toolkit and is used by some of the world's largest academic institutions, including Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, New York University, and others.

About Veritas Health Innovation Ltd

Veritas Health Innovation is an Australian DGR1 social enterprise with a mission to improve scientific knowledge for health and wellbeing. To achieve its mission, Veritas has developed an online systematic review platform, Covidence, in partnership with Cochrane, the world's premier network for health evidence synthesis. Covidence is helping systematic reviewers around the world get their reviews done faster and with less effort. Covidence is the foundation for a new approach to systematic review, enabling more efficient evidence synthesis and accelerating the impact of evidence on decision making for health and well being. www.covidence.org

About The Ian Potter Foundation

The Ian Potter Foundation is one of Australia's major philanthropic foundations. The Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors including the arts, environment, science, medical research, education and community wellbeing. The Ian Potter Foundation aims to support and promote a healthy, vibrant and fair community for the benefit of all Australians. www.ianpotter.org.au

About Paul Ramsay Foundation

The Paul Ramsay Foundation is committed to identifying the root causes of disadvantage and implementing strategic solutions to empower our communities. The Paul Ramsay Foundation supports charitable causes in Australia, with the aim of creating systemic change with significant impact. <https://paulramsayfoundation.org.au>

About Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

As Australia's largest independent community foundation, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation works to inspire philanthropy to influence and support positive social change. The Foundation was established in 1923 by Lord Mayor Sir John Swanson to grow a perpetual fund to help solve the most challenging community issues of the day. Annually the Foundation provides grants of more than \$9.8 million to charitable organisations to increase life opportunities and promote social inclusion. Our grants and initiatives focus on priorities within four Impact Areas including Homelessness & Affordable Housing, Education & Employment, Environment & Sustainability, and Healthy & Resilient Communities. To learn about how Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation works to make positive changes in our community visit lmcf.org.au

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