

# Media release

21 July 2020

## Australian Company AnteoTech developing test for detection of COVID-19 in 15 minutes

- High sensitivity test designed to rapidly detect COVID-19 (SARS-Cov-2) significantly quicker than current swab testing which can take up to 48 hours for results to be delivered
- Test aims to deliver on-the-spot results using portable Australian designed Point of Care device
- Potential to drastically reduce community spread and improve containment given high sensitivity and turnaround time of test
- Extensive body of work and testing undertaken in AnteoTech's Brisbane labs in the past ~120 days builds on development of other rapid tests (sepsis, flu A&B)
- Test may be available in ~6-9 months subject to clinical trials, regulatory approvals and partner program which are now underway

Leading Brisbane-based surface chemical and life sciences public company, AnteoTech Limited ("AnteoTech" or "the Company") has successfully developed a high-sensitivity, proof of concept assay that detects the COVID-19 virus within 15 minutes. This is a significant breakthrough and, when combined with detection of influenza in a single test, is an outstanding development by an Australian company in the fight against COVID-19.

Following careful evaluation of the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic and the response from various global diagnostic companies, AnteoTech was able to deploy its proprietary and Australian developed AnteoBind technology to develop a proof of concept high sensitivity rapid detection test. The assay will use saliva and/or mucus samples taken from patients and combine these with a point of care reader, also Australian developed, that is designed to deliver a positive/negative result to users within 15 minutes of testing **(see image below).** 

### Viral Antigen Rapid Test



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This is a considerable development as COVID-19 continues to spread. The rapid detection test will provide quicker results, thus faster detection of infected patients which will allow for easier containment of outbreaks. Further, embedding the test into a point of care device will allow for in situ testing at multiple locations such as airports, hospitals, pharmacies and GP clinics.

The test is highly sensitive, increasing the ability to diagnose cases of COVID-19 before a patient is showing symptoms which will be pivotal in halting spread and containing outbreaks and clusters. The test also detects the presence of influenza, another cause for COVID-like symptoms.

#### AnteoTech's CEO Derek Thomson said:

"This is without a doubt a ground-breaking development for AnteoTech and it puts an Australian company at the forefront of what could be a major breakthrough in the battle against COVID-19. We have been hard at work since early March applying our proven and patented AnteoBind technology to a test that can very rapidly detect this virus. Our announcement this week is the culmination of hundreds of man hours of test work undertaken by our highly capable Queensland-based scientific technical team that have years of experience in this field.

"Today's announcement is not a claim we are making lightly. We stress that we are still at proof of concept stage but our results thus far indicate we have achieved very high sensitivity in a rapid test format for the detection of COVID-19 based on a rigorous approach and recognised processes for testing the viral antigen. If you take a current scenario such as an outbreak at an apartment block, if our test is commercialised, it will show which people are carrying this virus within 15 minutes.

"We have been very busy six to nine months ahead of us to develop this test for commercial use. Our timelines can be accelerated with support from government agencies. It is incredibly satisfying and humbling to play a part in halting this devastating pandemic and our technology has every possibility of achieving this."

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#### ABOUT ANTEOTECH GROUP

AnteoTech in an Australian Securities Exchange-listed is a surface chemistry company with Intellectual Property ("IP") in its core technology product groups AnteoCoat™, AnteoBind™ and AnteoRelease™. The Company's purpose is to create shareholder value by identifying and solving important global industry problems by providing unique value-add solutions for its customers. Customers operate in the life sciences, diagnostics and energy markets.

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