



EyeStart – illumiSonics Press Release

illumiSonics Names EyeStart Co-Founders As Scientific Advisors

Drs. Toby Chan, Jaspreet Rayat and Richard Weinstein have joined illumiSonics, a promising Canadian optical imaging company, as scientific advisors. “We are excited with this new partnership that further strengthens illumiSonics’ patented Photoacoustic Remote Sensing (PARS®) technology as we look deeper into the human body,” said Rocky Ganske, President and Chief Executive Officer of illumiSonics. For Dr. Jaspreet Rayat, one of the co-founders of EyeStart, a new incubator in the medtech space based in Kitchener, Ontario, “illumiSonics is a company striving to help physicians treat patients before they develop disease. We see a lot of potential upside with PARS in eyecare.”

About PARS Solution:

illumiSonics has created PARS, the world’s only non-contact, high-resolution, reflection-mode technology that enables deep imaging and leverages optical absorption contrast inherent in many unstained and living tissues. “The applications for this technology are endless,” explains Ganske.

PARS transforms in the way the medical profession will detect and process cancers. Recent publications show the ability to re-create pathology specimens without the need for cumbersome stains and processing in paraffin wax blocks, which was the previous gold standard. This idea has been taken one step further, and instead of imaging excised tissues, PARS imaging techniques provide virtual biopsy capabilities in-vivo and capture the endogenous optical absorption contrast of biomolecules; this detects cancerous cells in living tissues with ease.

Applying these innovations to eyecare is a natural next step. For Dr. Toby Chan, another co-founder of EyeStart, “PARS microscopy has just recently been used to conduct non-contact, label-free, in-vivo photoacoustic imaging of ocular tissue for the first time”. Dr. Rayat concurs:

“The illumiSonics team successfully imaged the ocular vasculature in the mouse eye demonstrating the capability of PARS microscopy for in-vivo ocular imaging. This provides the groundwork towards introducing PARS imaging systems in the human ophthalmic setting. Imagine the ability to detect early cellular or even molecular level changes that take place in a sight-threatening disease process (e.g. age-related macular

degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, etc.) before it becomes symptomatic or clinically detectable on physical examination. This will be a paradigm shift in the current ocular imaging modalities of eye disease from diagnostic to preventative.”



About EyeStart:

EyeStart is an accelerator for early stage biotechnology, medical device, and life sciences projects. The MedTech company grows multiple ophthalmic and other start-ups that enhance strategic and random encounters and nurture synergistic opportunities. See www.eyestart.com.

For more information about EyeStart and its investment strategy, please contact Dr. Richard Weinstein at info@eyestart.com.



About illumiSonics:

illumiSonics develops, patents and commercializes PARS® advanced optical imaging systems for a wide range of pre-clinical and clinical applications. The proprietary PARS® photoacoustic remote sensing technology is a revolution in optical imaging. Like traditional photoacoustic imaging, PARS® measures optical absorption and is capable of providing functional and molecular imaging of anything that can absorb light, without contact or labels. For more information, please visit <https://www.illumisonics.com>.

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