



## PRESS RELEASE

# Woke Signs Letter of Intent with The University of Western Australia to Identify Novel LSD Analogues

- Woke Pharmaceuticals and The University of Western Australia sign a Letter of Intent to discover novel analogues of LSD
- The University of Western Australia has unique chemistry expertise related to the chemical structure of LSD
- Research plan aims to identify patentable molecules with enhanced therapeutic applications and safety profile

**16 February 2022 – Woke Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd** ('Woke' or 'the Company'), a Sydney NSW-based company focused on psychedelics for mental health, today announced that it has signed a non-binding Letter of Intent (LoI) with The University of Western Australia to discover novel active analogues of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD).

LSD is a classical and potent hallucinogen, used recreationally since 1938; banned in 1968 in the US and other countries; and now a molecule of interest for treatment of mental health disorders. It is considered non-addictive with a low potential for abuse, and has been evaluated in numerous controlled studies, resulting in beneficial behavioural changes, as well as remission of psychiatric symptoms. Clinical studies of LSD have shown that the therapeutic benefit is maintained for >12 months after treatment for disorders such as anxiety, PTSD, and substance abuse.

The LoI with The University of Western Australia and Woke allows for exclusive finalisation of a Research Agreement. The team at UWA led by Associate Professor Scott Stewart and his research group at the Chemistry, School of Molecular Sciences, has unique expertise in the chemistry required to identify and synthesise a library of novel chemical entities that are structurally similar to LSD broadening the therapeutic applications of this class of compounds.

These compounds will be produced as part of a structure activity relationship study using modern medicinal chemistry leading to a group of pharmacologically optimised drug candidates to maximise the effect on key neuroreceptors in the brain and minimising side-effects compared to the parent LSD molecule.

Mr Nick Woolf, CEO of Woke Pharmaceuticals, said: "Clinical studies have shown the safety and long-term efficacy of LSD therapy alongside psychotherapy for patients with various mental health disorders. This proposed research agreement with The University of Western Australia is an exciting drug discovery programme, which adds to Woke Pharmaceuticals' existing pipeline of novel psilocybin drug candidates targeting depression. In collaboration with an expert team at The University of Western Australia, we aim to be a leading company in the discovery and development of novel LSD-based psychedelic therapies, with the aim of benefiting patients with disorders such as anxiety, PTSD, and substance abuse."

**ENDS**

This announcement was authorised for release by the Directors of Woke Pharmaceuticals.

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### **ABOUT WOKE PHARMACEUTICALS**

**Woke Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd** is an Australian-based company focused on the development and commercialisation of novel psychedelic therapies for the treatment of mental health disorders. The Company's lead candidates are based on synthetic psilocybin for the treatment of depression. Psilocybin is a naturally occurring psychedelic prodrug compound produced by more than 200 species of fungi. Clinical trials have shown its safety and efficacy in the treatment of depression and other disorders. Woke Pharmaceuticals is developing a novel micro-dose formulation for treatment of moderate depression and a novel high-dose formulation with concomitant psychotherapy for treatment of major depression. Both candidates are expected to enter Phase II trials in 2022 with leading investigators in the field of mental health. The Company is also embarking on a novel drug discovery programme to identify pharmacologically optimised analogues of LSD with The University of Western Australia.

For further information, please visit [www.wokeph.com](http://www.wokeph.com).