

Hikma and Winterlight Labs PoC Collaboration

Hikma and Winterlight Labs collaborate to develop biomarkers for Schizophrenia patients in MENA

23 November 2021 - Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC ('Hikma'), the multinational pharmaceutical company, announces a collaboration agreement with Winterlight Labs, Inc., a Hikma Ventures portfolio company, to conduct a Proof-of-Concept (PoC) study to validate Winterlight Labs' speech-based biomarkers for schizophrenia patients in the Arabic language.

The first of its kind study in the region is sponsored by Hikma and will be conducted in coordination with leading psychiatric care organizations across 4 countries in the MENA – Algeria, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. The study has already started in Jordan, with the remaining sites expected to start in the coming weeks.

This regional study is an important step towards proving the validity of vocal biomarkers for monitoring the progression and severity of schizophrenia in patients. Winterlight Labs' proprietary AI, through a series of digitally administered and recorded tasks, can extract over 500 acoustic and linguistic features from short audio snippets to assess a patient's mental health accurately and objectively.

Commenting on the agreement, David Olafsson, Head of Global Clinical Research at Hikma, said, "We are excited to lead this research using Winterlight Labs' vocal biomarkers across the MENA markets where we are conducting the study, and are positive that this pioneering digital tool will transform the way that schizophrenia is monitored – thereby offering better care for patients while simultaneously easing the burden on their caregivers and healthcare providers."

Hikma Ventures, Hikma Pharmaceuticals' strategic venture capital arm, led Winterlight Labs' [Series A investment](#) in November 2019 and has made 12 investments to date in global digital health companies. Commenting on this milestone collaboration, Faisal Al-Husry, Associate at Hikma Ventures, said, "With the rise of digital health platforms globally and the increased focus on remote patient monitoring, we believe that it is only a matter of time before digital monitoring tools – like Winterlight Labs' vocal biomarkers – become the norm in clinical practice. We are happy to support Winterlight Labs' development and are eager for Hikma to introduce these tools to patients and healthcare customers in the MENA region."

In her remarks on the partnership, Jessica Robin, Director of Clinical Research at Winterlight Labs, said, "This collaboration is very exciting as it enables us to make our platform available for Arabic-speaking patients. The PoC will help validate our schizophrenia assessment program and enable us to reach a wider patient cohort. We

look forward to working with Hikma and leveraging their reach in MENA in combination with our technology.”

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About Hikma

Hikma helps put better health within reach every day for millions of people in more than 50 countries around the world. For more than 40 years, we've been creating high-quality medicines and making them accessible to the people who need them. Headquartered in the UK, we're a global company with a local presence across the United States (US), the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Europe, and we use our unique insight and expertise to transform cutting-edge science into innovative solutions that transform people's lives. We're committed to our customers, and the people they care for, and by thinking creatively and acting practically, we provide them with a broad range of branded and non-branded generic medicines. Together, our 8,400 colleagues are helping to shape a healthier world that enriches all our communities. We are a leading licensing partner, and through our venture capital arm, are helping bring innovative health technologies to people around the world. For more information, please visit www.hikma.com.

About Hikma Ventures

Founded in August 2015, Hikma Ventures operates as the corporate venture capital arm of Hikma Pharmaceuticals. Hikma Ventures invests in global start-ups where Hikma's expertise can accelerate revenue growth and enhance value creation by providing ventures with access to the resources of a multinational pharmaceutical company.

For more information, please visit www.hikmaventures.com.

About Winterlight Labs Inc.

Winterlight has developed a tablet-based assessment that is fast, objective, and stress-free. By analysing speech alone, the technology can detect cognitive impairment associated with dementia and mental illness as track the efficacy of related treatments. The Winterlight assessment can be used in life science research, senior care and clinical settings. For more information, please visit www.winterlightlabs.com.