



Company Epistem Plc
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Headline Epistem announces further partnership with The University of Manchester
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Marketwire: Epistem Holdings Plc (LSE: EHP), Manchester, UK, the UK biotechnology and personalised medicine company, announce a further partnership with The University of Manchester to further the understanding of the biology of chronic delayed wound healing associated with skin ulcers.

The team, led by Dr Matthew Hardman have been awarded an MRC Industry Collaboration Agreement (MICA) grant from the UK Medical Research Council to help fund the investigations. Chronic delayed wound healing is most often found in the elderly and those with diabetes. Due to the increasingly aged population and rising incidence of diabetes the frequency of chronic wounds is increasing. However, there are very limited treatments available. The research, which investigates the role of specific inflammatory mediators produced by macrophages, is intended to lead to new preclinical models to evaluate potential new therapies in this area, as well as generate new therapeutic opportunities. Dr Hardman is a world-leading expert in the molecular and cellular aspects of pathological healing and heads a multi-disciplinary research group within the Manchester Healing Foundation Centre for Tissue Regeneration at the University. Epistem's Contract Research Services Division provides specialised preclinical and scientific research services to drug development and personal care companies in the areas of oncology, mucositis, inflammation (inflammatory bowel disease and rheumatoid arthritis), wound healing and skincare. Epistem are experienced in commercialising new technologies and the partnership will allow the Company to expand its existing range of wound healing models.

Dr Hardman, who is based in the University's Faculty of Life Sciences, said: *"It is a real privilege to be awarded this collaborative grant sponsored by the Medical Research Council. This partnership represents a tremendous opportunity to realise the potential of our work."*

Catherine Booth, Managing Director at Epistem, added: *"We are delighted to be working with Dr Hardman again, who is a highly regarded wound healing expert, and to be able to provide our customers with access to cutting edge preclinical models"*

Epistem will be giving two oral presentations on recent additions to its wound healing portfolio at The Symposium on Advanced Wound Care (SAWC) on Thursday 24th April.

For further details please contact:

Epistem Plc

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Notes for editors

Epistem is a biotechnology and personalised medicine company commercialising its expertise in stem cells in the areas of epithelial (oncology, gastrointestinal and dermatological) and infectious diseases. Epistem develops innovative therapeutics, biomarkers and diagnostics (Genedrive[®]) alongside contract research services for drug development companies. The Group's core expertise is focused around the regulation of adult stem cells located in epithelial tissue including the gastrointestinal tract, skin, hair follicles, breast and prostate and utilizing novel, proprietary next generation molecular biology for use in personalised medicine. www.epistem.co.uk