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ASIA EDITION

Agilex Biolabs appoints Dr Caroline Popper for Board Chair

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The new Board Chair role aims to leverage an exciting phase of growth in APAC clinical trials Bioanalytical Services



Award-winning Australian bioanalytical laboratory Agilex Biolabs announced on 2 April 2020 that it has appointed US-based Dr Caroline Popper, MBBS, MPH as Board Chair as part of its APAC clinical trials bioanalytics growth plans.

More than 38% of Agilex Biolabs' biotech clients already come from the APAC region – primarily from China and South Korea.

APAC clients are particularly attracted by Agilex Biolabs' FDA-inspected status, and the more than 40% rebate on clinical trial spend that applies in Australia.

Agilex Biolabs specializes in bioanalysis of small molecules and biologics for PK, immunogenicity, biomarkers and immunological pharmacodynamics assessments.

Agilex Biolabs, the only FDA-inspected lab of its type in the region, is located in Adelaide, South Australia in a science and biotech specialist hub.

Dr Popper was first appointed to the Agilex Biolabs Board in July 2019.

Agilex Biolabs CEO Jason Valentine said, "We are extremely pleased Dr Popper accepted the Board Chair role and we look forward to an exciting phase of growth under her guidance."

"Dr Caroline Popper is a medical doctor, pathologist, health economist, medical consultant and experienced company director, with over 20 years of hands-on experience in the healthcare, medical devices and drug discovery fields.

She has managed a wide range of diagnostics, device and drug discovery businesses in both Fortune 500 and start-up settings, at amongst others, Becton Dickinson, bioMerieux, and MDS."

Dr Popper said, "My clinical experience enables me to help interpret relevant market forces, develop strategies and create partnerships that thrive in the global and fast-changing and challenging health care landscape."

"Agilex Biolabs is a stand-out leader in the pharma services space and I look forward to taking on this significant role and being part of the next phase of growth for the company, leveraging its position in the important APAC region."

"The Aglilex Biolabs team of scientists and specialist PhDs is quite exceptional making it well-positioned to rapidly deliver bioanalytics for biopharma clients running clinical trials in Australia, Asia and the US, and the EU."

The company specialises in bioanalysis of small molecules and biologics for PK, immunogenicity, biomarkers and immunological pharmacodynamics assessments utilising LC-MS/MS, immunoassay (Mesoscale, Gurolab, Luminex) and flow cytometry (BD FACSymphony A3, 20 colour cell analyser).

Agilex also offers pharmacodynamics services that include immunobiology services using the latest state-of-the-art technology to support immunology, cell biology and mode of action assays, including:

- Immunophenotyping
- Receptor occupancy
- Cytokine release assays (whole blood or PBMC stimulation assays) and cytokine/biomarker profiling
- PBMC assays and cellular mechanism of action assays (eg: ADCC)

CEO Jason Valentine said "Our FDA-inspected facilities have more than 65 dedicated laboratory staff, and annually support more than 80 clinical trials. This year we will analyse more than 60,000 samples for pharma/biotechs from the US, Europe and APAC."

"By combining specialised expertise, technological innovation and a 20-year track record, we have supported hundreds of preclinical and clinical trials around the world."

"Our world-class bioanalytical facilities have OECD GLP Recognition with NATA (Australian Government OECD GLP Compliance monitoring authority) and ISO 17025 Accreditation for global recognition."