



## **Innovate UK Funding Award for Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> Production Line Readiness**

**Oxford, 30 July 2015 ...** Accentus Medical, a leading developer of advanced surface modifications and coating technologies, is pleased to announce a funding award of £70,736 from Innovate UK, the UK's innovation agency, towards a project targeted at demonstrating production line readiness of its innovative Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> silver ion based antimicrobial hydroxyapatite coating for orthopaedic implants. This award has been received from Innovate UK's Collaborative R&D competition for funding: *Production line readiness for high-value manufacturing.*

Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> combines silver ions, a well-known antimicrobial agent, with the company's clinically established Acusure<sup>®</sup> plasma spray hydroxyapatite coating technology. The technology involves silver ion dosing of the hydroxyapatite coated implant surface, utilising Accentus Medical's proprietary process control technology.

The project will transition the Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> production process from a laboratory setting, to demonstration of a scaled-up manufacturing process enabling cost-effective commercial supply to Accentus Medical's growing customer base of global orthopaedic device manufacturers. The key project innovation will be to develop control methodology delivering capability for silver dosing of the implant surface in a batch processing environment, consistent with the stringent process validation requirements of global medical device regulators.

The Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> technology is already in the early stages of commercialisation. In fact the first clinical implantation of a custom orthopaedic device coated with Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> took place in Adelaide, Australia on 10 July 2015. This device was distributed by Signature Orthopaedics, a pioneering commercial partner of Accentus Medical in the global orthopaedic device market.

Dr Philip Agg, CEO, said: *"The launch of this exciting project supported by Innovate UK represents a further landmark in the development of Accentus Medical as a high growth UK manufacturing company supplying innovative, world leading technologies to an increasing portfolio of customers within the global medical device market. The project will develop our capability in a production relevant environment, providing the essential foundation for Accentus Medical to exploit the Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> technology, from its UK manufacturing base, to an orthopaedic export market that is forecast to maintain sustained growth driven by global population ageing."*

-ends-

**For further information, please contact:**

Lynne Trowbridge

T: +44 (0)20 7457 2861

Email: [AccentusMedical@instinctif.com](mailto:AccentusMedical@instinctif.com)

### **About Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup>**

Acusure Ag<sup>®</sup> combines silver ions, a well-known antimicrobial agent, with the company's clinically established Acusure<sup>®</sup> plasma spray hydroxyapatite coating technology. The technology involves silver ion dosing of the hydroxyapatite coated implant surface, utilising Accentus Medical's proprietary process control technology.

### **About Agluna<sup>®</sup>**

Agluna<sup>®</sup> harnesses the anti-microbial properties of silver ions in preventing device related infection. The technology is an electrochemical process involving high voltage anodisation of the titanium implant in phosphoric acid, followed by incorporation of silver ions from an aqueous solution. Agluna<sup>®</sup> is protected by several patent families registered in major global territories.

### **About Accentus Medical**

Accentus Medical is a global leader in delivery of innovative, silver-based anti-microbial surface treatments and biocompatible coatings on implantable medical devices. The company combines a long history of expertise in surface technologies, with dedicated research and development of new technologies for the medical device industry. Based at the historic Harwell Oxford campus, Accentus Medical has provided expertise in surface technologies to the orthopaedic device industry since the 1970s, serving major orthopaedic and medical device manufacturers worldwide.

The company has two principal technology platforms: Agluna<sup>®</sup> silver anti-microbial surface treatment for prevention and control of post-operative infection, and Acusure<sup>®</sup> plasma spray coating for improving biocompatibility and durability of implants. These technologies are supplied to customers at Accentus Medical's ISO13485:2012 and ISO9001:2008 accredited facility. Accentus Medical is also very well known for the medical device testing programmes offered by its in-house test laboratories. Manufacturers have been utilising test results provided by the company for many years as part of device homologation files all over the world.

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

### **About Innovate UK**

As the UK's innovation agency, one of the main roles of Innovate UK is to achieve business and economic growth for the UK. One way the organisation supports this is through funding innovative **Collaborative Research and Development (CR&D)** projects. Collaborative research and development (R&D) encourages businesses and researchers to work together on innovative projects in strategically important areas of science, engineering and technology – from which successful new products, processes and services can emerge, contributing to business and economic growth.

Find out more about the CR&D programme here:

<http://www.innovateuk.org/-/collaborative-r-d>