

## **BioLight Expands its Ophthalmic Cluster in the Field of Glaucoma and Dry Eye Syndrome**

### **BioLight invests in D.E.S. Diagnostics Ltd., a company engaged in developing a unique stick that enables diagnosis and monitoring treatment of Dry Eye Syndrome**

**Dry eye is a multi-parameter disease therefore is challenging to diagnose. It is estimated to affect about 100 million people worldwide.**

**Tel Aviv, Israel, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013 - Bio-Light Israeli Life Science Investments (TASE: BOLT)**, pioneering a unique innovation encouraging strategy through creation of clusters of companies focusing on a specific medical condition, announced today that it is expanding its Glaucoma and Dry Eye Syndrome Cluster by means of investing, through a wholly owned subsidiary, in D.E.S. Diagnostics Ltd., which is developing an innovative stick that enables diagnosis and monitoring of Dry Eye Syndrome by examining various parameters in tear fluid.

**Suzana Nahum Zilberberg, BioLight's CEO:** "We are happy with the investment in D.E.S. Diagnostics, which represents a further step in the expansion of the Ophthalmic cluster focusing on Glaucoma and Dry Eye Syndrome, as part of the cluster strategy being implemented at BioLight.

"The stick development will be integrated into the Glaucoma and Dry Eye Syndrome cluster, which already encompasses two companies namely IOptima Ltd., a company that has developed and is marketing an innovative CO<sub>2</sub> laser system for surgical treatment of Glaucoma patients, and ViSci Ltd., a company developing an ocular implant for controlled release of medications to treat various eye diseases. The combination of the different technologies and the experienced staff working within the cluster companies is expected to facilitate the use of their accumulated knowledge and expertise to create unique synergies between the companies.

"As part of the cluster strategy, BioLight is examining further investments in ophthalmology-related companies, to enrich our cluster and create added value for our shareholders."

**Keren Leshem, Head of the Glaucoma and Dry Eye Syndrome Cluster:** “The technology being developed by D.E.S. Diagnostics addresses a market with significant economic potential. This market has a true unmet need for effective ways of diagnosing and monitoring treatment of Dry Eye Syndrome, and this technology introduces real innovation into this field.

“In spite of its frequency, the process of diagnosing dry eye is complex as it’s multi-parameter based. The ability to diagnose dry eye is an important factor in both the early discovery and treatment of the condition, and in monitoring the efficacy of treatment. The stick now being developed is based on an assessment of several key components and a quantitative examination of tear fluid.”

Dry Eye Syndrome is a physiological condition that occurs mainly due to a reduction in the secretion of tears or changes in their composition. Although this condition is not life threatening to patients, it causes a great deal of discomfort, suffering and affects quality of life. According to estimates, the syndrome affects about 100 million people worldwide, and its frequency increases with age.

In the framework of the investment agreement, BioLight’s subsidiary undertook to invest up to \$750,000 in D.E.S. Diagnostics, to be paid in four installments. Upon its first payment, the BioLight subsidiary will be allocated ordinary shares of D.E.S. Diagnostics comprising 70% of its issued and paid-up capital, at full dilution. The balance of the payments will be due within a period of 18 months following the signing of the agreement, subject to the company meeting specific scientific milestones defined by the parties.

### **About BioLight Life Science Investments Ltd.**

BioLight Israeli Life Sciences Investments Ltd., a public company traded in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE), is a unique Biomedical firm engaged in the management and commercialization of Biomed innovation by introducing a new approach of value creation through knowledge synergies (the “Clusters Approach”).

The company creates value by forming clusters of companies around defined medical conditions which enables knowledge synergies thus enhancing innovation in research and commercial realization. At present, BioLight’s portfolio includes 10 technologies divided across two disease-oriented clusters one of which focuses on cancer diagnostics and the other focused on Glaucoma & Dry Eye Syndrome. Additional clusters are in various planning stages.

For more information please visit the Company’s website at [www.bio-light.co.il](http://www.bio-light.co.il)