

For Immediate Release, October 1, 2015:

VisionQuest i-Rx partners with Clínicas del Azúcar, Monterrey, MX

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico. VisionQuest i-Rx Inc. and Clínicas del Azúcar (Monterrey, MX) have announced today that they have executed a partnership agreement to provide teleretina services with an automatic screening software system developed under two small business grants from the National Eye Institute. The automatic retinal screening software system is called EyeStar™. Under this agreement, VisionQuest and Clínicas del Azúcar (CDA) will establish a reading center in Mexico, provide telemedicine infrastructure to all the CDA clinics, and deploy a unique automatic screening technology. The cornerstone of this agreement is VisionQuest's EyeStar™, a software that provides eye care providers a tool to optimize reading center operations by automatically identifying patients that need to be referred to a specialist.

For the broad population in Mexico, EyeStar™ increases access to eyecare by triaging those patients that do not need to see a specialist from those that do need to do so. The improved access through use of modern retinal image processing techniques provides a much more economical means for giving people the means to get periodic eye examinations and the avoidance of costs associated with future vision loss.

Clínicas del Azúcar provides a network of full service diabetes care clinics where the diabetic population of Mexico can receive complete care from dietary needs to foot exams to blood tests. Currently, they treat more than 15,000 patients and VisionQuest i-Rx has been assisting CDA in implementing automatic screening of diabetic retinopathy and other eye diseases for the past three years. This fall CDA and VisionQuest i-Rx are transitioning to an automatic retinal image reading system, EyeStar™. Now, each individual that is imaged is processed by EyeStar™ and triaged automatically for further reading by a physician. With EyeStar™, the physician's eyecare workload is reduced by more than 50%. Today CDA has a network of five diabetes care clinics in Monterrey and is in the process of opening at least five new clinics within the next twelve months. This rapid growth is made possible in part through the added capacity enabled by EyeStar™.

This new agreement between VisionQuest i-Rx and Clinicas del Azucar is the result of more than three years of research to demonstrate the feasibility of teleretinal screening, and EyeStar™ in particular. Javier Lozano, Clínicas del Azúcar's CEO, expressed that ". . .with EyeStar™ and VisionQuest i-Rx support, CDA will revolutionize the screening for retinal disease from diabetes and prevent thousands of unnecessary blindness. We will be in a position to screen the millions of diabetics throughout Mexico, efficiently and economically, and be able to refer the patient to a specialist even before symptoms may appear." His VisionQuest i-Rx counterpart, Dr. Peter Soliz, mentioned that ". . .with this new agreement we demonstrate the commercial value of EyeStar™ and are happy to provide much needed increased access to care in Mexico. In the coming years we expect to do the same in the United States and in other countries with high prevalence of diabetes."

About VisionQuest i-Rx

VisionQuest i-Rx, Inc. was established in 2012 to commercialize screening products

developed under the NIH Small Business Innovative Research program. VisionQuest i-Rx is the sister company of VisionQuest Biomedical, which was formed in 2007 to test advanced medical imaging technologies in clinical environments for the purpose of making these advances readily available to clinics at large. VisionQuest's first objective is to transition technologies developed by the founder and CEO, Dr. Peter Soliz. Since 1996, Dr. Soliz has been developing ophthalmic imaging technologies, including a low-priced, portable retinal camera and software for automatic detection of retinal lesions in patients with diabetic retinopathy.

About Clínicas del Azúcar

Clínicas del Azúcar's "one-stop-shops" mission is to provide specialized, convenient and affordable diabetes care in Mexico. Founded by students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Clínicas del Azúcar comprehensive redesign of the care processes and its cutting-edge technology improves significantly the convenience and access to specialized diabetes care. Today the number of diagnosed diabetics in Mexico is estimated at about 12 million, but increasing to nearly 30 million by 2030. Clínicas del Azúcar innovative approach reduces significantly the cost of care and the number of diabetes-related-complications, addressing a critical socioeconomic issue and improving people's quality of life. Currently, Clínicas del Azúcar operates five clinics and treats more than 15,000 patients in Northern Mexico.

For more information about VisionQuest Biomedical LLC or VisionQuest i-Rx, Inc. visit:

<http://visionquest-bio.com>

<http://visionquest-irx.com>

<http://clnicasdelazucar.com/>

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