



## **Arquer Diagnostics Announces Exclusive Agreement with Synlab to Accelerate the Introduction in the UK of Game-Changing non-invasive Diagnostic test for Patients with Suspected Bladder Cancer**

**Sunderland, United Kingdom, 13th July 2020** – Arquer Diagnostics, a UK-based company committed to manufacturing and marketing innovative, non-invasive tests for diagnosing and monitoring cancer, today announced that it has entered into an exclusive agreement with SYNLAB UK & Ireland, a leading medical diagnostic services provider.

The agreement will provide access for UK-based urologists to **ADXBLADDER**, a urine test for people with suspected bladder cancer and those being monitored for recurrence. The full details of the deal remain confidential.

**ADXBLADDER**, the diagnostic test at the center of the agreement between Arquer and SYNLAB, is a game-changing urine test which can rule out the presence of bladder cancer with an extremely high level of accuracy both in patients showing signs of the disease and in patients undergoing monitoring for possible recurrence.

In the UK, around 10,200 patients are diagnosed with bladder cancer each year <sup>1</sup>, with some 5,400 people dying annually from the disease <sup>2</sup>.

Patients who have had bladder cancer currently undergo up to four invasive cystoscopies each year to check for recurrence, meaning multiple visits to hospitals and unpleasant tests. The rigorous clinical trials run with **ADXBLADDER** show the non-invasive test is quicker, highly accurate and potentially, cheaper than the current standard diagnostic.

SYNLAB will provide a “collection kit” to urologists so that their patients will be able to send their urine sample directly to the SYNLAB laboratory for analysis: a simple method to provide a much needed service to bladder cancer patients

Arquer CEO, Nadia Whittley, commented, “This agreement allows our innovative and game-changing urine test to reach the right people at the right time. **ADXBLADDER** gives urologists a valid tool to use in combination with cystoscopy, and with SYNLAB’s expertise and experience in laboratory analysis, we will make sure this test becomes part of their toolbox.”

SYNLAB UK & Ireland Chief Medical Officer Dr David James commented “SYNLAB are pleased to work with innovative companies such as Arquer Diagnostics in enabling patient access to cutting edge testing which can make a positive impact on patient’s lives”.

As well as bladder cancer, Arquer's breakthrough technology is showing positive early data in the diagnosis of prostate and endometrial cancers. The company is currently undertaking clinical evaluation of the technology in these additional tumour indications.

## Notes to editors:

### About Arquer Diagnostics

- Arquer Diagnostics is a UK-based company committed to manufacturing and marketing innovative, non-invasive tests for diagnosing and monitoring cancer.
- Its first product, ADXBLADDER, is a game-changing urine test used to diagnose patients showing signs of bladder cancer and monitor those with a history of bladder cancer
- Rigorous clinical trials show unequivocally that its test is more accurate, than the current standard urine test (cytology)
- Arquer's approach and tests are supported by highly regarded expert KOLs at leading global organisations such as University Hospital Southampton, Sunderland Royal Hospital, UK, Fundació Puigvert, Barcelona, Spain and Pitié-Salpêtrière University Hospital, Paris
- The company's breakthrough technology is also showing positive early data in the diagnosis of prostate and endometrial cancers, and clinical validation is ongoing

### About ADXBLADDER

- For urologists that suspect bladder cancer, ADXBLADDER is a novel, non-invasive urine-based lab test that delivers a simple, fast and accurate way of ruling out bladder cancer in people who have disease symptoms or are undergoing surveillance cystoscopies in follow-up
- A robust clinical development programme, involving approximately 3,000 patients, has demonstrated that ADXBLADDER enables urologists to confidently exclude the presence of high-risk bladder cancer with an NPV of 99%, without having to use cytology. This could reduce the need for unnecessary and invasive cystoscopies
- This makes ADXBLADDER an accurate, reliable and less costly means of diagnosing and monitoring bladder cancer
- ADXBLADDER uses patented technology to detect MCM5 (Minichromosome Maintenance Complex Component 5) protein produced by expression of the *MCM5* gene
  - Arquer technology is capable of detecting the presence of a protein produced by expression of the *MCM5* gene in urine and other body fluids, offering a minimally invasive way to rule out the presence of certain types of cancer
  - All cancer cells, but not healthy cells, contain MCM5 which means that when a tumour is present in the bladder, the urine will contain MCM5.

## About bladder cancer

- More than 12,000 patients are diagnosed with bladder cancer each year in the UK and the disease kills 6,000 people annually <sup>3</sup>.
- When diagnosed at its earliest stage, more than 9 in 10 (95%) people with bladder cancer will survive their disease for one year or more, compared with only some 1 in 3 (36%) when the disease is diagnosed at the latest stage <sup>4</sup>.
- Almost a fifth (18%) of bladder cancer cases in England are diagnosed after presenting as an emergency, and almost half (47%) of these are diagnosed at late stages III or IV <sup>5</sup> when survival is dramatically reduced
- 75% of all bladder cancers will recur, with 61% recurring in the first 2 years <sup>6</sup>
- Bladder cancer has the highest lifetime treatment costs per patient of all cancers, followed by colorectal, breast, prostate, and lung cancer <sup>7</sup>
- **ADXBLADDER** has the potential to reduce the number of unnecessary and painful cystoscopies in bladder cancer surveillance patients, by increasing the interval between tests and replacing some cystoscopy appointments with an **ADXBLADDER** test
- There is a high unmet need

## Media enquiries:

Emma White, The Difference Collective [emma.white@thedifferencecollective.com](mailto:emma.white@thedifferencecollective.com)

---

## References:

1. Cancer Research UK <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer#heading-Two> Accessed May 2020
2. Cancer Research UK <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer#heading-One> Accessed May 2020
3. Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2018). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today/home> Accessed May 2020
4. Cancer Research UK <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer/survival#heading-Three> Accessed May 2020
5. Cancer Research UK <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bladder-cancer/diagnosis-and-treatment#heading-Zero> Accessed May 2020
6. Cancer. 2013 Sep 1; 119(17): 3219–3227
7. Miller BA, Kolonel LN, Bernstein L et al (1996) Racial/ethnic patterns of cancer in the United States 1988–1992, National Cancer Institute. NIH Pub. No. 96-4104, Bethesda