



## **Metrion Biosciences becomes independent CRO**

*Management team completes buyout of specialist ion channel research business from Xention*

- **Fully independent ion channel CRO offering bespoke screening services**
- **Expertise to support a variety of therapeutic areas**
- **Flexibility to work on projects of all sizes**
- **Opportunities for collaborative research**

**Cambridge, UK, 22 October 2015:** Metrion Biosciences Ltd ("Metrion"), the Cambridge-based, specialist ion channel research business, today announced the successful completion of its management buyout from Xention Limited ("Xention"). The buyout was led by Dr Marc Rogers, previously VP Research for Xention, with investment support from Dr John Ford, CSO of Xention, and Dr Keith McCullagh, Chairman of Xention.

Metrion Biosciences was established in May 2015 as the contract research business of Xention. Metrion is now a stand-alone independent contract research company, based in new premises on the Babraham Research Campus at Cambridge. Metrion has substantial experience and expertise in ion channel biology and safety screening and provides comprehensive, high quality ion channel services to the pharma and biotech industries. Metrion will retain its existing pharma collaboration agreements, and with independence gains the flexibility to support additional projects of all sizes across different therapeutic areas. Customers can also access cardiac and neurotoxicology screening services, including a high quality hERG assay and a CiPA-compliant cardiac safety panel.

The Metrion Biosciences team is led by Dr Marc Rogers, with Dr John Ridley as Business Manager. Dr Keith McCullagh and Dr John Ford will join the board as investor directors. The research team at Metrion has extensive experience in ion channel and drug discovery research, having brought five ion channel drug candidates to the clinic, conducted multiple research collaborations with international pharma businesses, and completed several UK and European grant projects.

Dr Marc Rogers, CSO of Metrion Biosciences, commented: "I am excited to be leading Metrion as we commence a new phase of the company's development as an independent CRO. The team behind Metrion pioneered automated patch clamp electrophysiology, and with deep expertise in the field the company is well placed to provide high quality, bespoke and flexible screening services."

**ENDS**

***Notes to editors***

Photograph of Dr Marc Rogers,  
Managing Director and Chief Scientific Officer of Metrion Biosciences.



For high resolution images please contact Zyme Communications.

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### **About Metrion Biosciences** [www.metrionbiosciences.com](http://www.metrionbiosciences.com)

Metrion Biosciences provides customers with access to a range of high quality ion channel assays on a fee-for-service or collaboration basis. Metrion Biosciences' specialist ion channel expertise includes an industry leading panel of *in vitro* cardiac ion channel safety assays, translational native cell and phenotypic assays for neurological and cardiotoxicity testing, and a range of other ion channel screening services such as cell line development and optimisation. Metrion Biosciences is able to provide tailored assay formats, data analysis and reporting solutions, effective project management and quality assured data packages.