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Media Release

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Aspen Medical working on clinical trials in Liberia to cure Ebola

Canberra-based Aspen Medical has been contracted by a leading American research-based biopharmaceutical company to conduct clinical trials in the search for a cure to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

The clinical trials will take place at Aspen Medical's healthcare clinic in the Liberian capital Monrovia over the next year and will involve trialling an investigative compound thought to work by blocking a key enzyme the virus needs for replication. The trial will be led by Aspen Medical's Dr Philip Ireland, who was awarded Liberia's highest civilian honour and named a Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of Africa for his work during the EVD outbreak in Liberia.

"For us there is a real sense of closing the loop. We worked across Liberia and Sierra Leone on behalf of the Australian, US and UK governments to stop Ebola and we are honoured to be now playing a crucial role in making this dreadful disease a thing of the past," said Glenn Keys AO, Executive Chairman and Founder of Aspen Medical.

Aspen Medical was one of the only organisations in the world to be contracted by three separate countries to deliver their Ebola response. The company managed the Australian Government's Ebola Treatment Centre in Sierra Leone from mid-December 2014 until the end of April 2015. Aspen Medical continued to play a crucial role in Sierra Leone where it managed the Kerry Town Treatment Unit on behalf of the UK Government as well as providing support to the laboratory run by Public Health England until the end of November 2015. The company also managed four Ebola Treatment Units in Liberia on behalf of the US Government. In all, more than 250 non-African health professional deployed to West Africa with Aspen Medical and were supported by over 800 local staff across the three projects.

In recent months the company has opened a private healthcare clinic in Freetown. The facility is the company's second such clinic in West Africa following the opening of the

clinic in Monrovia in early 2014. In addition to the clinic in Sierra Leone, the company launched aero-medical evacuation (AME) and general aviation services in West Africa in late 2015, and has been conducting AME mission on a regular basis since then.

Aspen Medical recently won the Australian Institute of Project Management and Asia-Pacific Federation of Project Management awards for its Ebola Response work in West Africa.

To date, 28,639 infections have been recorded and 11,316 people have died as a result of the Ebola outbreak which began in Guinea in December 2013. Liberia and Guinea remain Ebola-free whilst two confirmed cases of EVD have been reported in Sierra Leone since the start of the year.

ENDS

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