



Thursday, 25 October 2007

## OBJ APPOINTS TRANSDERMAL EXPERTS TO SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

OBJ Limited (ASX: OBJ) is pleased to announce that it has strengthened its Scientific Advisory Board with the appointments of two transdermal scientists. Dr Michael Roberts and Dr Heather Benson will advise the Company on its optimisation and validation programs for its Dermaportation and ETP delivery platforms.

Dr Roberts is a leading transdermal scientist with over 35 years experience in transdermal drug delivery and has published over 350 scientific papers covering transdermal transport. He has extensive academic and industry experience in the commercialisation of transdermal drug delivery technologies and products.

Dr Benson is a transdermal scientist with significant industry and academic experience in transdermal drug delivery across a range of technologies. Dr Benson heads up the transdermal research laboratory at Curtin University.

The appointments of Dr Roberts and Dr Benson further strengthens OBJ's scientific team following the recently announced appointment of Dr Ian Frazer to the Scientific Advisory Board to advise on its transdermal vaccine project.

The Scientific Advisory Board members now include:

- *Dr Mike Roberts* – Professor and Director, Therapeutic Research Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital, University of Queensland;
- *Dr Heather Benson* – Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy, Curtin University of Technology;
- *Dr Ian Frazer* – Professor, Diamantina Institute, Princess Alexandra Hospital, University of Queensland; and
- *Dr Chris Quirk* – Consultant dermatologist.

OBJ Managing Director Jeffrey Edwards said the strengthening of the SAB with the appointments of Dr Roberts, Dr Frazer and Dr Benson provides key expertise to support the advancement of its transdermal delivery platforms as the Company moves from a research-stage to a development-focused drug delivery company in 2008.

“The SAB will guide OBJ's scientific programs, as its moves to leverage its delivery platforms and build a development pipeline across a number of high market potential applications,” said Mr Edwards.

### For more information:

Mr Jeffrey Edwards    Managing Director  
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**About OBJ:**

OBJ Limited is an Australian drug delivery company focused on the development of enhanced transdermal delivery solutions for the global pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries. OBJ's proprietary *Dermaportation* and *ETP* technologies use electromagnetic energy fields to control molecular movement and skin permeability without disrupting the skin barrier. The delivery platforms can be employed in a range of cost-effective delivery solutions from single-use patches to multi-use transdermal systems for potential applications in pain management, CNS disorders, hormone therapy, vaccines, peptides and cosmetics.

**Scientific Advisory Board profiles:****Dr Michael (Mike) Roberts** BPharm MSc PhD DSc DipTertEd MBA FAIPM

Dr Mike Roberts is a registered pharmacist and leading transdermal scientist with over 35 years experience in transdermal drug delivery. He is NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow, Professor and Director of the University of Queensland's Therapeutic Research Unit at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. He was previously Professor and Chairman of Pharmacy at Otago University (NZ), and prior to this a community and hospital pharmacist. Dr Roberts has extensive academic and industry experience in the commercialisation of transdermal drug delivery technologies and products. He has published over 350 scientific papers covering aspects of transdermal transport, has co-edited 3 research books and is a regular international speaker in transdermal delivery. He is also Associate Editor of *Skin Pharmacology and Applied Physiology*; Member of Editorial Board for *J Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics*, *Pharmaceutical Research*, *Clinical Pharmacokinetics*, *Current Drug Delivery*, *Drug Metabolism & Pharmacokinetics*. He was past president of Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA) and was a co-recipient of the Inaugural APSA Achievement award "for outstanding achievements in pharmaceutical science" in 2004. Dr Roberts holds consulting and directorship positions with numerous Australian and international life science companies and Government bodies in the areas of pharmaceutical product development and drug safety.

**Dr Heather Benson** BSc(Hons) PhD

Dr Heather Benson is a transdermal drug delivery scientist with experience in the transdermal and perdermal delivery of drugs and peptides. She heads the Transdermal Delivery Research Group at the School of Pharmacy of Curtin University. Over the past 15 years her research has focused on novel methods to optimize the skin penetration of drugs and peptides. Dr Benson is a Member of the Editorial Board for *Current Drug Delivery*, has published over 100 articles and is a regular presenter on transdermal delivery at international conferences. She has held teaching positions in Ireland, Canada and several Universities in Australia, and currently consults to a number of leading Pharmaceutical companies.

**Dr Ian Frazer** MB ChB MD FRCP(Ed) FRCPA FAA

Dr Ian Frazer is a clinical immunologist with extensive academic, clinical development and industry experience in virology and immunology. Dr Frazer heads the University of Queensland Diamantina Institute at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. His current research interests include immunoregulation and immunotherapeutic vaccines for Papillomavirus associated cancers. Dr Frazer is an inventor of technology enabling development of the recently launched vaccines for cervical cancer and was named the 2006 Australian of the Year in recognition of his achievements. Dr Frazer is also a member of the Australian Cancer Research Foundation Medical Research Advisory Committee, and advises the WHO and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on

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Transdermal drug delivery technology

papillomavirus vaccines. Dr Frazer is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and was awarded the prestigious Howard Florey Medal for Medical Research in March 2007.

**Dr Chris Quirk** MBBS FACD MAAD

Dr Christopher Quirk is a leading Australian dermatologist with significant clinical and industry experience in dermatology product development. He runs a specialist dermatology practice in Western Australia and has been a teaching hospital consultant for over 22 years. Dr Quirk has conducted numerous product trials for pharmaceutical companies such as Roche, Novartis, 3M and Matrix and has served on medical advisory boards for Merck, Allergan and Roche. Dr Quirk has published over 22 scientific papers in dermatology and is a regular presenter at international dermatology conferences. He is a Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists and Member of the American Academy of Dermatology.

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