



ASIAN CENTRE FOR LIVER DISEASES & TRANSPLANTATION

Health Minister Inaugurates Vietnam's First Liver Centre; Singapore-Vietnam Joint-Venture Marks Major Milestone In Country's Healthcare Development

- Singapore specialists will provide diagnosis in Asian Liver Centre, Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City
- 500-square-meter centre will serve as "satellite clinic", with patients requiring surgery referred to ACLDT in Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore
- Singapore-based, ASX-listed ACLDT plans to ride on success in Vietnam to open more satellite clinics in Asia

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 11 September 2010 – The Asian Liver Centre, Vietnam, ("ALCVN"), a Singapore-Vietnam joint-venture offering specialist liver treatment for the first time in Vietnam, was declared open today by Minister of Health Mr Nguyen Quoc Trieu, marking a major milestone in the development of healthcare in the country of 85 million people.

The centre in Ho Chi Minh City is a 70:30 joint-venture between Singapore-based, Australian Stock Exchange-listed **Asian Centre for Liver Disease and Transplantation ("ACLDT")** (ASX:AJJ) and Vietnam's **Hoa Lam Investment Development Group** ("Hoa Lam").

It will offer diagnostics, endoscopy and consultations to patients having Hepatitis B and C, fatty liver, liver cancer and alcoholic liver disease. Singapore-based specialists from ACLDT will travel regularly to Vietnam to provide liver care and advice, supported by a local ALCVN medical team.

ALCVN is the first such joint-venture satellite clinic by ACLDT, which is led by Executive Chairman and lead surgeon Dr Tan Kai Chah, who has carried out over 800 liver transplantations. Apart from liver treatment, ALCVN will refer patients requiring surgery or transplantations to ACLDT which is based in Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore.

The opening ceremony for ALCVN, which begins operations immediately, was witnessed by senior government and health officials, business leaders and VIPs including Vietnam's former Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai. It was followed by a seminar, attended by over 200 Vietnamese doctors and health officials, at which ACLDT surgeons presented papers on liver disease.

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ACLDT expects the Vietnam centre to contribute positively to its financial performance in the financial year ending 31 August 2011.

“We are excited by the opportunity of working with a highly regarded partner such as the Hoa Lam Group to bring advanced liver care and treatment to Vietnam. For ACLDT, this centre is strategically important as it our first satellite clinic. Its success will pave the way for more centres in Asia and possibly the Middle East,” said ACLDT’s Dr Tan. “We are indeed thankful for the support from our partners and the Vietnamese government.”

ACLDT currently treats about 270 Vietnamese patients a year and has conducted five liver transplantations for Vietnamese patients – a four adults and one child – to date.

“Early diagnosis of liver problems can help save countless lives. For Hoa Lam, the ALCVN is a major milestone in our efforts to raise specialist healthcare standards in Vietnam. We are indeed honoured to have a world-class team as our partner, and such strong support from the Vietnamese Government,” said Madam Tran Thi Lam, Chairperson of the Hoa Lam Group.

The Hoa Lam Group consists of well-established and reputable enterprises in Vietnam ranging from manufacturing to financial services.

Located in the central business district, the 500-square-meter facility has examination rooms, an endoscopy suite, ultrasound room and a pharmacy. It is connected by sophisticated tele-medical technology which allows doctors from Singapore to have face-to-face consultation with patients in Vietnam. Doctors can also remotely examine X-rays and follow up with advice for further treatment.

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Asian Centre for Liver Diseases and Transplantation Ltd (ASX: AJJ), founded in 1994, started trading on the Australian Securities Exchange in September 2009. The company’s centre it Gleneagles Hospital, Singapore, is the largest private liver transplant and liver disease treatment facility in Asia, treating people from throughout the world. AJJ is progressing plans to establish centres in Vietnam, Malaysia and China to meet the growing demand in emerging markets.

The incidence of liver cancer has doubled in the past two decades and continues to increase due to hepatitis B and hepatitis C, alcoholism and fatty liver disease. AJJ has specialist skill in liver transplants from live donors, such as relatives, as the liver is the only human organ that can regenerate.

For further information, please visit www.asianlivercentre.com.sg

The Hoa Lam Group of Vietnam

The Hoa Lam Group began as distributor of motorcycles in Vietnam in 1996 and began manufacturing motorcycles in 1999; five years later it joint-ventured with leading Taiwanese manufacturer Kymco. It has since divested the motorcycle business and diversified into banking (it owns Viet Bank); real estate (residential and commercial property development); clean tech (manufacture of solar panels) and healthcare (investment in High-Tech Healthcare Park In Ho Chi Minh City and the Asian Liver Centre, Vietnam). The Group has over 1,400 employees.

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