

# AlphaRET Completes Initial Recruitment of Investigator Sites for 2RT<sup>®</sup> Confirmatory Pivotal Study

# Highlights:

- Twenty-eight (28) of the world's leading retinal researchers have confirmed participation as investigators
- Professor Robert Finger at the University of Bonn, leading age-related macular degeneration research facility, comments on study importance

Nova Eye Medical Limited (ASX:EYE) (**Nova Eye Medical** or the **Company**), a medical technology company committed to advanced ophthalmic treatment technologies and devices, today announces that its AlphaRET division has completed the initial recruitment of investigator sites for the Company's planned 2RT<sup>®</sup> Confirmatory Pivotal Study.

In a significant milestone in the Company's plans to conduct the multi-center confirmatory study, which is intended to validate the results of the 2018 "LEAD" Study, twenty-eight (28) of the world's leading retinal researchers and clinical experts across Europe, Canada and Australia have confirmed their participation in the study, including Robert Finger, PhD, MD. Professor and Consultant Ophthalmologist from the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Bonn, Germany, Prof. Dr. Finger is a leading authority in age-related macular degeneration (AMD) research.

"The University of Bonn is a leading AMD research facility and is pleased to participate in the 2RT<sup>®</sup> Confirmatory Pivotal Study. The work done by Professor Guymer in the 2018 LEAD Study is highly regarded and certainly showed that 2RT<sup>®</sup> is a promising therapy for AMD in its early stages, and warrants a Confirmatory Study," said Prof. Dr. Finger.

"We are thrilled to partner with Prof. Dr. Finger and his retinal colleagues on this important study. Additionally, we are delighted that all the researchers invited to participate in the study have agreed to do so. This is a major milestone for 2RT<sup>®</sup> and reaffirms the strong interest from the global retinal community," commented Tom Spurling, Managing Director of Nova Eye Medical.

The Confirmatory Pivotal Study will be led by Robyn Guymer, AM FAHMS, Deputy Director of the Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), the Head of Macular Research at CERA and Professor of Ophthalmology at Melbourne University. Prof. Guymer was the Principal Investigator for the LEAD Study.

"I am pleased to see the broad and deep interest from my global colleagues in conducting the study. There is an urgent need for an effective intervention to slow or prevent progression of AMD from its early stages to vision-threatening late complications," said Prof. Guymer.

2RT<sup>®</sup> is a proprietary, world first nanosecond laser therapy to treat age-related macular degeneration in its intermediate stage. It works by stimulating the rejuvenation of cells in the retina to initiate a healing response that targets the underlying causes of AMD. Importantly, 2RT<sup>®</sup> has the potential to transform the global treatment of AMD by treating patients earlier in the disease state. This represents a revolutionary change from the status quo, in which patients undergo treatment late in the disease process, by which time significant vision loss has already occurred.

AlphaRET is progressing discussions with potential equity partners to fund the completion of the 2RT<sup>®</sup> Confirmatory Pivotal Study.

## Authorised for release by the Board of Directors of Nova Eye Medical.

– ENDS –

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#### ABOUT ALPHARET PTY LTD

AlphaRET Pty Ltd (AlphaRET) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nova Eye Medical Limited. AlphaRET is focussed on executing the commercialization efforts for 2RT<sup>®</sup>.

For additional information about AlphaRET and 2RT®, please visit: www.alpha-RET.com

#### ABOUT THE LEAD STUDY

The multi-center LEAD ("Subthreshold Nanosecond Laser Intervention in Age-Related Macular Degeneration – The LEAD Randomised Controlled Clinical Trial") Study was the first time that a laser intervention had been shown to reduce the rate of disease progression in selected patients with intermediate AMD. Specifically, post hoc analyses showed that in patients who did not have coexistent reticular pseudodrusen (RPD), a fatty deposit that is

associated with the later stages of AMD (76% of the patients enrolled), treatment with 2RT<sup>®</sup> resulted in a clinically meaningful 77% reduction in the rate of disease progression at 36 months following treatment. The leading cause of blindness in industrialized countries, AMD is a chronic eye disease that can result in distorted vision and/or a loss of central vision. It most frequently affects people over fifty years of age.

### ABOUT NOVA EYE MEDICAL

Nova Eye Medical Limited is a medical technology company that develops, manufactures and sells a portfolio of proprietary ophthalmic treatment technologies and devices. Used by eye surgeons in more than 100 countries globally, these technologies include iTrack<sup>™</sup> minimally invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS), a consumable surgical device that restores the eye's natural outflow pathway to lower pressure inside the eye and to reduce patient reliance on anti-glaucoma medications for mild-moderate glaucoma. The Molteno3<sup>®</sup> glaucoma drainage device platform is designed to enhance surgical utility and optimize clinical outcomes for long-term IOP control in cases of severe glaucoma. It also offers the benefit of a simplified and faster surgical procedure. With its sales headquarters based in Fremont, California, Nova Eye Medical is supported by a global network of more than 50 distribution partners. Manufacturing facilities are located in Fremont, California and Dunedin, New Zealand.

For additional information about Nova Eye Medical and its technologies, please visit: <u>www.nova-eye.com</u>