



News Release

LU Holding invests in Lundoch Diagnostics AB and its novel blood test technology for predicting type 2 diabetes

Lund University's holding company, LU Holding, announces its investment in Lundoch Diagnostics, a company that develops a technology for the prediction of type 2 diabetes from a simple blood test. The scientific founder of the company, Dr. Yang De Marinis, is Associate Professor at the Department of Clinical Sciences at Lund University and led the scientific discovery behind this technology which was recently published in Nature Communications.

Lund, Sweden — January 12, 2022 — Type 2 diabetes has attained the status of a global pandemic, which affects close to 10 percent of the world's adult population. The disease greatly reduces the quality of life of the hundreds of millions who suffer from its difficult complications, and may even lead to death if left uncontrolled. The number of patients with type 2 diabetes and prediabetes is expected to increase dramatically in the years and decades to come, which imposes an enormous burden on society. Currently, diabetes care accounts for roughly one tenth of healthcare costs globally.

However, type 2 diabetes is largely preventable with early risk detection and management. A recent large international study revealed a reliable blood biomarker that can identify patients at risk of developing type 2 diabetes almost 20 years before the condition strikes.

The global study was initiated in 2018 and is a collaborative effort among 22 different universities, hospitals and institutions throughout Europe, the US and China. The article "Elevated circulating follistatin associates with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes" was recently published in the prestigious scientific journal [Nature Communications](#). The leader of the study, Dr. Yang De Marinis, Associate Professor at the Department of Clinical Sciences at Lund University, founded Lundoch Diagnostics to translate the scientific discovery to a simple blood test for clinical use around the world.

LU Holding is pleased to officially announce its investment in Lundoch Diagnostics AB to facilitate this commercialization. Based on the initial scientific discovery, Lundoch uses an AI-driven predictive algorithm with a patented blood biomarker panel to provide real-time risk assessment of type 2 diabetes of an individual years from the blood test, regardless of other conditions such as weight, age or lifestyle factors. This simple blood test will therefore identify type 2 diabetes risk and offer a good window for intervention, to effectively prevent the development of type 2 diabetes.

Eddie Thordarson, Portfolio Manager at LU Holding, comments: "Lundoch Diagnostics is working in an extremely exciting area of global health as type 2 diabetes is a pressing global health challenge. Dr De Marinis and her research colleagues have made a critically important discovery of an early type 2 biomarker and LU Holding is pleased to invest to help bring this technology to market."

Dr. De Marinis, who is also the CEO of Lundoch, commented on the mission of the company. "We aim to provide a simple blood test that eventually helps prevent type 2 diabetes. Dialogue has already been initiated between Lundoch and potential collaborators including blood testing centers, diagnostic companies and the health food industry. Our vision is to provide a complete health solution, including type 2 diabetes risk assessment and digital health management. We welcome more partners to join with LU Holding to help accelerate our commercial development."



The company has also recently recruited Greg Batcheller as chairman of the board. Mr. Batcheller has extensive experience in leading the development and commercialization of early-stage life science companies. He comments: “Diabetes is an all-too-common disease, so it is critical to intervene early to reduce the steadily growing number of cases worldwide. Dr. De Marinis is a prominent global diabetes researcher and an experienced entrepreneur, and I look forward to supporting and working with her and the company to commercialize this important discovery in early detection—and thus prevention—of type 2 diabetes. This is an exciting opportunity to advance global health.”

About LU Holding

LU Holding AB is owned by the Government of Sweden but managed by Lund University. LU Holding works to bring innovations from Lund University to market by investing in research-based companies, or by helping to license research results to established firms. LU Holding is able to support newly founded companies both operationally and financially, and assist in corporate management and strategies as an investee when a company progresses through the commercialization process. Our portfolio of more than 60 companies is focused within the life sciences, healthy foods and nanoscience sectors.

About Lundoch Diagnostics AB

Based in Lund, Sweden, Lundoch Diagnostics AB is an early-stage company focused on the development and commercialization of diagnostic technologies and platforms aimed at the early detection and prevention of type 2 diabetes.

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