

Aspira Women's Health, Inc. Announces an Agreement for the Development and Commercialization of an Early-Detection Test for Identification of Ovarian Cancer

## **Description**

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**AUSTIN, Texas** — **March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021** — Aspira Women's Health, Inc. (Nasdaq: AWH), a bioanalytical-based women's health company, today announced it has entered into an agreement with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI), Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Medical University Lodz to evaluate their novel microRNA (miRNA) technology in combination with current AWH technologies, for the development of a highly sensitive and specific high-risk early detection test for ovarian cancer. Ovarian cancer accounts for more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system and is the only gender-specific cancer with an over 50 percent mortality rate impacting women of all ages and ethnicities.

"Over the past 10 years, Aspira has been actively developing and evaluating numerous technologies that will advance early detection of ovarian cancer. With our focused expertise and experience in multi-modality detection of ovarian cancer risk, we have the foundation to implement a liquid biopsy test specific to early-stage disease detection," said Lesley Northrop, Ph.D., FACMG, Chief Scientific Officer at Aspira Women's Health.

"The survival rate for ovarian cancer is significantly higher in early stage, such that an early detection technology with superior sensitivity and specificity has the ability to impact the survival of this disease," added Elena Ratner, MD, Gynecologist Oncologist, Clinical Division Director, Smilow Cancer Hospital, Yale University School of Medicine and Global Chief Medical Advisor, Clinical and Translational Medicine at Aspira Women's Health. "Dana-Farber, the Brigham, and Medical University Lodz have been long-recognized as leaders in ovarian cancer care and research, and we are extremely excited to collaborate with their teams and to potentially develop what we believe will be an extremely impactful test that can save the lives of countless women."

"We are pleased to enter into this agreement with Aspira to combine the skills of all of our organizations to develop this novel test for ovarian cancer's early detection," said Dr. Dipanjan Chowdhury, Chief of the Division of Radiation and Genome Stability, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. "Aspira is well-positioned to leverage our ground-breaking research in the field of miRNA, conducted collaboratively with Dr. Kevin Elias, Director of the Gynecologic Oncology Laboratory at Brigham and Women's, and Dr. Wojciech Fendler from the Department of Biostatistics and Translational Medicine of the Medical University of Lodz. Our hope is to translate this into the development of a novel test for early ovarian cancer detection."