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Circadian's new diagnosis tech to be launched in July

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Singapore: A novel technology for aiding the diagnosis of Cancers of Unknown Primary (CUP), by Circadian Technologies, will be commercially launched on July 16, 2012, in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia under the brand CUPGUIDE. The diagnostic test method has been developed in collaboration between Circadian, Healthscope Advanced Pathology, the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, a leading specialty cancer center, and scientists at the NICTA, Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence.

A publication in March 2012 from Healthscope reported that the CUP test was able to detect actual primary source of tumor type with 93 percent accuracy within the first three predictions and had 98.5 percent specificity across 15 different tumour types. Healthscope, through its subsidiary Clinical Laboratories, has rights to develop, clinically validate and market the test throughout Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore.

Circadian retains rights to market the test in the remainder of the world. Healthscope has paid Circadian an upfront fee, and will pay a royalty on sales of the test. Circadian, through its wholly owned subsidiary Cancer Therapeutics, owns exclusive worldwide rights to the test through a licensing arrangement with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the NICTA.

The CUP diagnostic methodology identifies a patient's tumor type by comparing its pattern of gene expression to a database of known tumors. It is hoped that by correctly identifying a patient's tumor type, clinicians can choose the most effective treatment strategy for the cancer. CUP is generally less well known and publicized than other cancer types. However, it is actually more common than leukemia and is the fifth most common cause of death due to cancer in Australia. In 2007, Cancer

Council Australia estimated the incidence of CUP to be around 2,900 case per annum; American Cancer Society estimated USA incidence at around 32,000 per annum and Cancer Research UK estimated UK incidence at 14,000 per annum.