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pSivida enrols first patient in Uveitis trial

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Singapore: pSivida, a leader in developing sustained release, drug delivery products for treatment of back-of-the-eye diseases, has started enrollment of the first patient in an investigator-sponsored clinical trial of its injectable sustained release device in posterior uveitis.

"We are very pleased that the first patient has been enrolled in this study," said Dr Ashton, president and CEO of pSivida. "This trial, conducted in the US, will study the use of injectable micro-inserts to treat posterior uveitis, a frequently blinding disease. These same inserts have recently been approved in several EU countries for the treatment of chronic Diabetic Macular Edema and will be marketed there by our partner Alimera Sciences. We are now independently developing the same devices for use in posterior uveitis."

The insert is a tiny tube that is about the size of an eyelash containing the steroid fluocinolone acetonide that is released at a consistent rate over a period of approximately 36 months. The micro-insert is placed in the back of the eye during an office visit through the use of a fine gauge needle. Posterior uveitis is an inflammatory disease of one of the layers of the eye. It is estimated to be the third largest cause of blindness in the US affecting approximately 175,000 people of whom approximately 30,000 are blind.