

The Companies Announcement Office.
Australian Stock Exchange Limited,
SYDNEY

Via: ASX online

15th February 2005

TRIAL TO REDUCE EAR INFECTIONS IN ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

VRI has commenced a trial using PCC® to reduce ear infections among Aboriginal children on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales.

VRI was recently awarded an Australian Technology Showcase Demonstration Grant to support the funding of the six month trial.

The trial will be conducted in collaboration with the Port Macquarie-based Partnership for Aboriginal Care.

Director of the Partnership for Aboriginal Care, Bob Davis, says up to 100 children aged between 6 and 18 months will take part in the program. "Ear infections are common in children and proportionally higher among Aboriginal children sometimes resulting in learning difficulties and even permanent hearing loss."

Executive Chairman of VRI Kim Slatyer said that "a successful trial could result in VRI obtaining Government support to provide PCC® to aboriginal communities around the country. We would then promote the initiative to governments in other countries with similar indigenous health issues".

For further information contact:

Mr Kim Slatyer, 02 9209 4268

Bob Davis 02 6588 1400