



## **PRESS RELEASE**

09 July 2008

### **Viking invests in Zilico**

The Yorkshire-based venture capital firm, Viking Fund is the latest investor in Zilico Ltd alongside a number of private investors.

Zilico is a medical diagnostics company which is developing two products to provide real-time diagnosis for cervical cancer. Clinical trials of the first product, aimed at the colposcopy, or referral market, are planned later this year.

Sameer Kothari, CEO of Zilico, commented: "This funding round enables Zilico to push ahead with its four-centre trial across UK and Europe. and to prepare for raising a much larger venture capital round later in the year."

Andrew Burton, Managing Director of the Viking Fund commented: "Zilico have identified a strong need to improve the efficiency and accuracy of cervical screening services. This is a good proposition and an excellent addition to Viking's portfolio of investments in Yorkshire".

#### ***For more information please contact:***

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#### **Notes for editors:**

Zilico Ltd is a company developing the next generation of cancer diagnostics with a product line which will provide real-time diagnostics for cervical cancer. Two products are under development: the first for the referral market and the second for the screening market. Clinical data on 500 women has demonstrated superior performance over existing diagnostic procedures and a multi-centre clinical trial over the next 8 months is expected to underwrite the effectiveness of Zilico's technology and products.

Zilico has developed Electrical Impedance Spectroscopy EIS, an objective scientifically-proven method to differentiate between normal, pre cancerous and cancerous cells. This provides a real-time diagnosis that removes subjectivity at both screening and referral, and potentially avoids the need for a biopsy. Zilico's patented technology, which has been discussed in learned peer-reviewed journals, exploits the different electrical resistivity of normal, pre-cancerous and cancerous cells.

Since incorporation in 2006, Zilico (previously known as Aperio Diagnostic Ltd) has focused on developing a research-based instrument into a device appropriate for commercial manufacture and routine use by medical practitioners. Both Zilico products consist of a handheld device and a base unit together with a single-use disposable sleeve for each test. Pre-production standard devices will be used in a multi centre clinical trial scheduled to start in Q3 2008.