



## PRESS RELEASE

Final

### QPS AND G-CURE ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

*Complementary world-class capabilities prime for accelerating cardiovascular drug development*

**Groningen, The Netherlands – September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016** - [QPS Holdings LLC](#) and [G-CURE BV](#) announce today that they have signed an agreement to collaborate in executing cardiovascular drug development programs for pharmaceutical companies.

The proposed collaboration focuses on cardiovascular research areas where G-CURE has extensive expertise. The aim is to move promising drug candidates through preclinical testing to proof-of-concept clinical studies within the shortest time possible. G-CURE has a deep understanding of development programs for promising novel cardiovascular drugs, from pre-clinical models up to proof-of-concept studies. Preclinical portions of the collaboration will be carried out by G-CURE at the University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG) experimental cardiology laboratory and by QPS at its preclinical ADME laboratories in Newark, Delaware and/or its fully GLP compliant toxicology laboratories in Taipei, Taiwan. These three preclinical testing facilities will afford access to a broad technical platform for speeding up the optimization and early development of cardiovascular drug leads.

The collaboration between the two partners establishes an internationally competitive drug development infrastructure. Cardiovascular specialists whose understanding of cardiovascular physiology and pathophysiology is world-renowned contribute significant value. The arrangement promises unique opportunities for the

comprehensive mapping of cardiovascular drugs in healthy subjects and diseased patients.

“There is no question that this collaboration creates a unique infrastructure on both sides of the interface between basic and clinical research. This will enable our clients to improve the diagnosis, prevention and therapy of cardiovascular disease such as heart failure, acute coronary syndromes and atrial fibrillation,” said Bernard Dorhout, PhD, CEO at G-CURE. “The collaboration with QPS will enable our pharmaceutical clients to develop innovative treatments to better serve the needs of patients suffering from cardiovascular disease.”

Wim Tamminga, PhD, Vice President and Global Head of Early Phase Clinical of QPS said: “This is yet another example of a strong collaborative research effort that QPS has set up with some of the highly specialized medical research groups within the UMCG. The collaboration with G-CURE promises to provide our pharmaceutical industry and biotech partners with a one-stop shop for the early development of new cardiovascular drugs. The strength of the collaboration lies in the well-established skills of the two companies, representing different but complementary competencies. By acting together, contributing resources and skills, we offer a great opportunity to sort out the most promising drug candidates that are destined to make a difference for patients who suffer from cardiovascular disease.”

### **About QPS Holdings, LLC**

Founded in 1995, QPS is a GLP/GCP-compliant contract research organization (CRO) and life sciences products supplier supporting discovery, preclinical, and clinical drug development, providing quality services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients worldwide. QPS linearly integrated core competencies include: neuropharmacology, DMPK, liver research, toxicology, bioanalysis, translational medicine, and clinical research program management. QPS regional laboratories and testing facilities are located at company headquarters in Newark, DE; Springfield, MO; Fargo, ND; Research Triangle Park, NC; Hollywood, FL; South Miami, FL, USA; Groningen, The Netherlands; Graz, Austria; Hyderabad, India; Barcelona, Spain; and Taipei, Taiwan. For more information, visit:

<http://www.qps.com>

## **About G-CURE**

Originating from the Department of Cardiology at the UMCG in Groningen, The Netherlands, G-CURE has a long-standing history of high quality scientific output in international cardiovascular research. Overall focus area is the preservation of left ventricular function, with special interest in heart failure, atrial fibrillation and ischemic heart disease. Together with our clients, we design and set up a research and development plan for their cardiovascular compound or device, from preclinical through to Proof of Concept clinical studies. G-CURE offers their clients the unique opportunity to exploit its vast network of experienced and well established partners in every aspect of drug development (among which are regulatory, preclinical and clinical study execution, data management and (expert) report writing). All major partners of G-CURE are located on the premises of the UMCG. For more information, visit: <http://www.gcure.nl>

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