

## Case Study 1:

### Commercialisation of university research to meet the need for a fast, inexpensive and sensitive point-of-care diagnostic test for Meningococcal Disease.

#### Situation:

In Australia and New Zealand, Meningococcal Disease affects predominantly children and teenagers. The fatality rate for those infected is close to 10%, with death often occurring within 12 hours, and a further 20% of those infected sustaining permanent disabilities. Early and rapid disease recognition and diagnosis could significantly reduce the incidence of death and disability resulting from meningococcal infection, by enabling antibiotic treatment at an earlier stage of disease progression.

#### Approach (through NanoVentures Australia):

We worked alongside the university (RMIT) to:

- Develop and evaluate both the platform technologies and specific reagents for *Neisseria meningitidis*.
- Engage an industrial design company for the design, production and evaluation of first prototype devices, which were appropriate for the rapid and inexpensive detection of the causative organisms.

Information and views canvassed from clients and end-users were collated and used to inform the design of prototype devices. Potential development and commercialisation partners were identified to take the test and device through to the market.

#### Result:

The project resulted in out-licensing the technology to a company in the Asia Pacific region (Trinity Bioactives Ltd) for the production, marketing and distribution of a Point-of-Care Meningococcal diagnostic test.

