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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health



**National Institutes of Health Commercialization Assistance Program
(NIH-CAP)**

Company Overview

Industry Sector: Medical Devices and Service

Company Overview: VisionQuest Biomedical is a leader in the development of software and optical devices for the early detection of diseases of the retina and optic disc. Our development of computer-based software for automatic detection of eye diseases represents a major breakthrough to enable economical, broad scale screening of individuals throughout the world. VisionQuest Biomedical has been a leader in innovation for affordable eye care.

Target Market(s):

- Family Care Physicians
- Optometrists
- General Ophthalmologists
- Screening Centers
- Medical Centers

Management

Leadership:

Peter Soliz, PhD, President and CEO
Peter Soliz, PhD, Chief Strategy Officer
Wendall Bauman, MD, Medical Director
Robert Richmond, Chief Financial Officer
Simon Barriga, PhD, Chief Research Scientist
Gilberto Zamora, PhD, Director of Translational R&D
Ana Edwards, Sales and Regulatory Affairs Manager

Scientific Advisory Board:

TBD

Key Value Drivers

Technology*: Automatic Eye Disease Screening System (AEDSS) ® is the first U.S.-approved automated system for screening digital images of the retina or optic disc. The computerized system detects any retinal disease and makes automated referrals to eyecare specialists. AEDSS ® is non-invasive and can be part of any routine examination by the primary care physician or optometrist. This technology is practical and economical.

Competitive Advantage: The AEDSS ® increases efficiency of manual reading of each retinal image by a factor of five or more by triaging all “normal” findings and referring only images with a suspected pathology. With greater efficiency, the cost of screening is reduced by a factor of three or more, while providing eyecare to a wider segment of the population which is not being screened for eye disease at present.

Plan & Strategy: Strategic partners (screening centers and camera manufacturer) have been recruited as part of team. A Strategic partner(s) for distribution are being recruited. Venture capital necessary to expand nationally and internationally shall be raised.

Product Pipeline

Phase I: The AEDSS has been tested on over 2,000 cases with outstanding performance results. Sensitivity and specificity for detecting diabetic retinopathy has been greater than 90% and 85%, respectively. Over 4,000 new cases are being introduced to the algorithm in the first quarter of 2010. Cases presenting with other retinal disease, such as age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, and other retinal disease are being collected for use in testing in the second quarter of 2010.

A preliminary meeting with the FDA will be held in the first quarter of 2010. A document is being developed that outlines our clinical test plan and software compliance plan for presentation and approval from the FDA.

Phase II: We have met with retinal screening groups from coast to coast and have formed collaborations with centers in California, Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico. These will serve as sources of new test data and beta sites for our screening system.

Phase III: We will begin testing of the first prototype in the third and fourth quarters of 2010. The first beta site will be implemented at the Retina Institute of South Texas where a reading center will be formed to include a staff of graders, study coordinators, and our medical director. In subsequent versions of the product, capability to screen for additional eye diseases will be added.