

MATRIX

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MATRIX CONTINUES CORPORATE GAINS

Appointed Broker and Financial Adviser to Ark Therapeutics Group plc

Matrix Group's investment banking business has been appointed as broker and financial adviser with immediate effect to Ark Therapeutics Group plc (LSE: AKT.L), a specialist healthcare group addressing high value areas of unmet medical need within vascular disease and cancer.

Commenting on the appointment, Martyn Williams, CEO of Ark Therapeutics said:

"We are delighted to be working with the team at Matrix as we launch the next stage in Ark's development. It was critical for us that the broker we appointed had demonstrated a commitment to this sector and was able to offer first class advisory, research and distribution capabilities. We were impressed by the proven credentials of the Matrix team in all these areas."

Malcolm Le May, CEO, Matrix Investment Banking added:

"Matrix is delighted to have won the role of Corporate Broker to Ark Therapeutics. This appointment not only underlines our capabilities in the life sciences sectors but also emphasises the strength of our integrated investment banking platform, which continues to thrive on such client additions."

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Notes to Editors

The investment banking business of Matrix Group is a client focused, advisory, capital raising and securities sales, trading and research firm. They bring together considerable experience, knowledge and access to meet and match the strategic ambitions of growing companies and the performance needs of investing institutions. Today Matrix has a 100 strong investment banking team advising over 80 retained clients and serving the sales, trading and research needs of more than 200 institutional customers.

The investment banking business of Matrix has significantly increased research coverage and their team of 21 analysts now covers around 150 stocks across small, mid and large cap.

The investment banking business is part of Matrix Group, a privately owned financial services business in the UK with around £4 billion of assets under management and around 250 professionals employed across three divisions: Asset Management, Investment Banking and Property. Since inception in 1987, Matrix has raised over £14 billion of assets for investments across these business areas.

Ark Therapeutics Group plc

Ark Therapeutics Group plc is a specialist healthcare group addressing high value areas of unmet medical need within vascular disease and cancer. These are large and growing markets, where opportunities exist for effective new products to generate significant revenues.

Ark has an early stage pipeline emanating from collaborations with University College, London and the AI Virtanen Institute in Kuopio, Finland, the development of which it intends to progress in collaboration with pharmaceutical and biotech partners.

In addition Ark has the ability to off-set a proportion of its R&D costs and to generate sustainable revenues through the exploitation of its proprietary technology platform, process development, scale-up and manufacturing capabilities on behalf of third parties.

Ark has its origins in businesses established in the mid-1990s by Professor John Martin and Mr Stephen Barker of University College London and Professor Seppo Ylä-Herttuala of the AI Virtanen Institute at the University of Kuopio, Finland, all of whom remain consultants on the Company's research and development programmes.

Ark's shares were first listed on the London Stock Exchange in March 2004 (AKT.L).