

## PainChek® to receive Government funding for children's disability app development

### HIGHLIGHTS

- WA Government awards nearly ~\$400k to a project to develop PainChek® for children with disabilities
- Associate Professor Jenny Downs from the Telethon Kids Institute is leading the PainChek project on behalf Centre of Child Health Research at University of Western Australia along with PainChek's Professor Jeff Hughes.
- Further evidence of the support and potential for PainChek technologies in assisting in the treatment of non-verbal and pre-verbal children
- PainChek Ltd will hold exclusive rights to commercialise the technology and the resulting IP

PainChek® Ltd (ASX: PCK) ("PainChek®" or "the Company"), developer of the world's first smart phone-based pain assessment and monitoring application, is pleased to announce that a project to create a specific version of PainChek® for non-verbal children living with a disability has been recognised by the State Government of Western Australia through a \$392,820 grant from the Future Health Research and Innovation Fund.

The project was one of 17 awarded in the McGowan Government's inaugural Innovation Seed Fund 2022 with more than \$8 million distributed under the program, focused on novel ideas that have the potential to improve the health and wellbeing of Western Australians.

The project, known as 'Detecting pain in kids who can't tell you it hurts: PainChek® for children with disabilities', is led by Associate Professor Jenny Downs, from Telethon Kids Institute on behalf of the Centre for Child Health Research, University of Western Australia along with PainChek's Professor Jeff Hughes.

The grant is further validation and evidence of the need for technology-enabled tools, such as PainChek® for the assessment of pain in non-verbal children. As such the project addresses a significant unmet need and opens the opportunity to expand PainChek's market opportunities. PainChek® is already used in over 800 aged care facilities globally and has transformed pain management in residential aged care homes across both Australia and in the UK.

PainChek Ltd will hold the exclusive rights to utilise the arising IP to commercialise the new tool, and have global, non-revocable, exclusive and perpetual rights for future pain assessment tool development or refinement.

#### **Jeff Hughes, PainChek's Chief Scientific Officer said:**

"Pain amongst children living with disability is common and can have a significant negative impact on their quality of life. For those caring for these children, knowing when they are in pain can be challenging. This project aims to create a tool that will allow rapid and accurate detection of pain, thus improving pain management."

More information on the Innovation Seed Fund awards can be found at: [https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2022/07/McGowan-Government%E2%80%99s-Innovation-Seed-Fund-awards-\\$8-million-across-17-health-and-medical-innovation-initiatives.aspx](https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2022/07/McGowan-Government%E2%80%99s-Innovation-Seed-Fund-awards-$8-million-across-17-health-and-medical-innovation-initiatives.aspx)

This release has been authorized for release by CEO Philip Daffas.

**For more information:**

Sally McDow  
Company Secretary, PainChek  
[sally.mcdow@boardroomlimited.com.au](mailto:sally.mcdow@boardroomlimited.com.au)  
0420 213 035

Philip Daffas  
CEO, PainChek  
[philip.daffas@painchek.com](mailto:philip.daffas@painchek.com)  
0406 537 235

**About PainChek®**

PainChek® Ltd is an Australian based company that develops pain assessment technologies.

Pain often goes unrecognised and under-treated in people with communication difficulties. PainChek Universal is a clinically validated smartphone-based medical device that enables best practice pain assessment for all people, everywhere.

PainChek Universal is a complete point-of-care solution that combines the existing PainChek® App with the Numerical Rating Scale (NRS). This enables best-practice pain management for all residents living with pain in any environment — from those who cannot verbalise pain to those who can, and those who fluctuate between the two.

The PainChek® App uses artificial intelligence and facial recognition to detect pain in those who cannot self-report. This gives a voice to those who cannot verbalise pain, whilst also driving objectivity and consistency in all assessments. For those who can self-report, PainChek Universal also includes access to the Numerical Rating Scale, a well-established standard used to document pain levels amongst these individuals. PainChek Universal also supports pain assessment using both tools at the point of care, for those people whose ability to communicate fluctuates.

PainChek® is being rolled out globally in two phases: first, PainChek® for adults who are unable to effectively verbalise their pain such as people with dementia, and second, PainChek® for infants who have not yet learnt to speak. Both the adult and infants products have received regulatory clearance in numerous markets including Australia, Europe, UK, NZ, Singapore and Canada.

The PainChek® Shared Care Program is a PainChek® licensing model which enables a professional carer to share their resident or patient data securely with other healthcare professionals or designated homebased family carers for ongoing pain assessments or clinical data review.

To find out more, visit [www.painchek.com](http://www.painchek.com)