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Australia

## Scedosporium patent grant in US and Europe

**Melbourne, 14 February 2018:** Australian infectious disease therapy and vaccine development company BioDiem Ltd is pleased to announce the grant of its patent "Method of Treatment of Scedosporium spp infections" in the important territories of the USA and Europe.

Scedosporium infections are a type of fungal infection which can occur in patients with already damaged lungs. The infections can be local or extend into surrounding tissues or even to distant parts of the body. In patients with weakened immune systems, for example after chemotherapy, the risk of spread of infection is greater. Scedosporium infections are increasingly recognized as causes of resistant life-threatening infections in these immunocompromised patients. The most common sites of infection are the lungs, sinuses, bones, joints, eyes, and brain.

BioDiem's antimicrobial technology, BDM-I, is being developed through its subsidiary, Opal Biosciences Ltd. BDM-I has shown antimicrobial activity *in vitro* against Scedosporium spp.

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## About BioDiem Ltd (www.biodiem.com)

BioDiem is an Australian biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercialising vaccines and infectious disease therapies. BioDiem's business model is to generate income from partnerships including with other vaccine and infectious disease treatment companies through existing and new licences to its LAIV vaccine and other technologies. Income comes from licence fees and royalties on sales.

BioDiem's lead technology is the LAIV (Live Attenuated Influenza Virus) vaccine technology used for production of seasonal and pandemic influenza vaccines and is given intranasally. This technology is licensed currently to two commercial partners, in India and China, and is licenced to the World Health Organisation as part of the Global Pandemic Influenza Action Plan to Increase Vaccine Supply. Serum Institute of India's Nasovac-S™ is based on BioDiem's technology and is already marketed in India. BioDiem's antimicrobial technology, BDM-I, is being developed through its subsidiary, Opal Biosciences Ltd.

## About Opal Biosciences Ltd (www.opalbiosciences.com)

Opal Biosciences is an Australian biotechnology company and an innovative player in infectious disease treatment. The unmet need for new anti-infectives is due to increasing resistance to existing antibiotics, more widespread and common difficult-to-treat infections, and the paucity of upcoming new treatments. This need has spurred the EU and US to introduce significant financial incentives to encourage development of new anti-infectives. Opal is currently seeking funding to support the next stage of development of its products including Opal-I, an injectable product.

## **Further information**

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