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Spotlight Innovation Enters into Sponsored Research Agreement with Indiana University to Develop New Therapies for Spinal Muscular Atrophy

URBANDALE, Iowa, Aug. 16, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- [Spotlight Innovation Inc.](#) (OTCQB: STLT) today announced that the Company has entered into a Sponsored Research Agreement with Indiana University to support research directed by Elliot Androphy, M.D., aimed at developing safe and effective drugs to treat patients with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). Dr. Androphy is a member of Spotlight Innovation's Scientific Advisory Board and a co-inventor of STL-182, the Company's lead product candidate for SMA.



Geoffrey Laff, Ph.D., Spotlight Innovation's Senior Vice President of Business Development, commented, "Dr. Androphy is a prolific researcher and highly-respected thought leader. We are privileged to work with him to develop novel therapies for SMA."

[Dr. Androphy](#) is the Chair of the Department of Dermatology of Indiana University School of Medicine and has published widely in high-impact journals including *Science*, *Nature*, *EMBO Molecular Medicine*, *Human Molecular Genetics*, *Journal of Virology*, and *Molecular Cell*. He served as Vice Chair for Research of the Department of Medicine and Director of the M.D./Ph.D. Program at the University of Massachusetts Medical School where his lab characterized the disease-causing mechanism of alternative splicing of the SMN2 gene. At Indiana University School of Medicine, Dr. Androphy has used a novel, cell-based high throughput screen for compounds that increase levels of the SMN protein. This work has led to the identification of pre-clinical drug candidates for SMA.

About Spotlight Innovation Inc.

Spotlight Innovation Inc. (OTCQB: [STLT](#)) identifies and acquires rights to innovative, proprietary technologies designed to address unmet medical needs, with an emphasis on rare, emerging and neglected diseases. To find and evaluate unique opportunities, we leverage our extensive relationships with leading scientists, academic institutions and other sources. We provide value-added development capability to accelerate development progress. When scientifically significant benchmarks have been achieved, we will

endeavor to partner with proven market leaders via sale, out-license or strategic alliance. For more information, visit www.spotlightinnovation.com or follow us on www.twitter.com/spotlightinno.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this press release that are not purely historical are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements herein include statements regarding Spotlight Innovation's efforts to develop and commercialize various product candidates, including STL-182, and to achieve its stated benchmarks. Actual outcomes and actual results could differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include risks and uncertainties, such as: the inability to finance the planned development of STL-182; the inability to hire appropriate staff to develop STL-182; unforeseen technical difficulties in developing STL-182; the inability to obtain regulatory approval for human use; competitors' therapies proving to be more effective, cheaper or otherwise more preferable; or, the inability to market a product. All of which could, among other things, delay or prevent product release, as well as other factors expressed from time to time in Spotlight Innovation's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). As a result, this press release should be read in conjunction with Spotlight Innovation's periodic filings with the SEC. The forward-looking statements contained herein are made only as of the date of this press release and Spotlight Innovation undertakes no obligation to publicly update such forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

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