

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **Major Australian drug discovery opens way for a more effective approach to the treatment of dementia**

- Current approaches to dementia treatment have failed to deliver meaningful benefits because they focus on minimising damage after brain cells have already suffered catastrophic structural damage
- Filamon has designed a drug capable of preventing that damage occurring in the first place
- ALPHA-003 is intended to preserve the integrity of brain cell microtubules and protect them from destructive neuroinflammation
- In a world-first outcome, ALPHA-003 is designed to protect both tau and neurofilaments from responding to inflammation that leads to microtubule degradation.

Australian biotechnology company, Filamon Limited, a clinical-stage company developing next generation anti-inflammatory drugs for chronic degenerative diseases associated with ageing, today announces what it believes to be a major breakthrough in the search for an effective treatment for dementia.

The focus to date on dementia treatment has been on minimising the consequences of damage to brain cells, a strategy that has produced no real meaningful progress in what is a looming global problem. Filamon sought to design a drug capable of minimising the brain damage before it occurs, a strategy that the Company believed would provide greater benefit to patients. ALPHA-003 is the result of that work.

Associate Professor Kieran Scott, Professor of Oncology at Western Sydney University, and co-discoverer of ALPHA-003, said, “The underlying problem with most forms of dementia is the destruction of a key structural component of brain cells known as microtubules. These long, hollow tubes are vital to healthy brain function. In dementia, these microtubules degrade, resulting in the death of brain cells.

“To date, no-one has found a way of preventing microtubular destruction. We believe ALPHA-003 has the potential to be that first drug by stabilising the two main brain cell components whose job is to protect microtubules from damage – tau and neurofilaments.”

ALPHA-003 is the result of Australian-designed, deep-learning, computational drug design technology. ALPHA-003 is designed to bind to and prevent both tau and

neurofilaments from being disrupted by inflammatory forces, giving it an important first-in-class mechanism of action.

Importantly, Filamon also has confirmed that the drug is able to cross the mammalian blood-brain barrier.

ALPHA-003 is being developed to treat a group of diseases known as tauopathies which include the two major forms of dementia (Alzheimer's disease, frontotemporal dementia), progressive supranuclear palsy (a form of Parkinson's) and chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE, the result of repeated concussion). To date, no treatment has emerged as offering any meaningful ability to slow down the rate of deterioration of tauopathy diseases.

ALPHA-003 is advancing through its pre-clinical testing with the aim of being in the clinic in 2026.

In an increasingly ageing global society, dementia is emerging as a major social and economic problem. The disease already has become the main cause of death in women in developed countries, with men expected follow suit within a decade. Apart from the financial and emotional toll on patients and carers, the cost of caring for highly dependent dementia patients is regarded as a looming major issue for national health budgets.

### **About Filamon**

Filamon is an Australian, public, unlisted drug development company focused on the development of next generation anti-inflammatory drugs for age-related chronic inflammatory diseases. The target is degenerative diseases accounting for most hospitalisations and deaths in developed countries. The Company's drug pipeline is derived from four technology platforms targeting complex signaling pathways previously considered undruggable because of their importance to cell function. The target indications are solid cancers, ophthalmic diseases including wet AMD and dry AMD, and neurological diseases associated with neuroinflammation.

The Company's focus is on providing the aging population with a renewed chance for more productive and independent living. Through groundbreaking research and technology, we are reshaping what it means to treat age-related chronic diseases.

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