



## PRESS RELEASE

### Leading Pharma Executive Kate Hilyard Joins Healx to Drive the Integration of AI with Drug Discovery for Rare Diseases

**Cambridge, UK** – 2 October, 2018 – [Healx](#), the Cambridge (UK) technology company developing breakthrough treatments for rare diseases, today announced the appointment of Kate Hilyard PhD as Chief Operating Officer (COO).

A senior pharma executive, with extensive drug discovery expertise, Kate's appointment underlines Healx's mission to combine deep pharmacological expertise with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and active patient engagement to give sufferers of rare disease a better quality of life.

At Healx, Kate will lead strategy implementation to drive business growth enabling Healx to deliver rare disease treatments at scale through AI and cutting-edge technologies. Her industry experience adds to that of co-founder Dr David Brown, the inventor of Viagra and ex-Global Head of Drug Discovery at Roche, and the Healx drug discovery team. The Company's massively parallel approach to drug discovery combines its unique AI technologies with one of the largest collections of insights from rare disease patient groups.

**Welcoming Kate to the Company, Tim Guilliams, Healx's co-founder and CEO said:**

*"Kate brings a wealth of experience to Healx and her appointment is a real coup. Having started Healx with an artificial intelligence and patient care focus, Kate's appointment broadens our senior expertise with further deep rare disease research knowhow and will be core to our goal of transforming the lives of patients, using our AI to find treatments based on existing drugs. Kate will help shape the next company milestones as we grow our world-class talent and demonstrate our ambition to transform the lives of rare disease patients."*

Kate's track record of scientific and business leadership includes over 25 years' drug discovery experience in the pharma and biotech sector, with a decade finding new treatments for rare diseases. She joins from Charles River where she was Corporate Vice President Discovery, leading and integrating multiple sites in the UK, EU and US working with a global client base. Previously she has held senior leadership roles at BioFocus DPI Ltd (which was acquired by Charles River) and Cambridge Antibody Technology (now part of MedImmune), having commenced her industry career at Roche. She gained her PhD in molecular immunology from Oxford University and her early academic career includes postdoctoral research in human biology at Oxford and Harvard Universities.

**Commenting on her appointment, Kate Hilyard, COO, Healx said:**

*"The unmet medical need for patients with rare diseases cannot be met using the traditional drug discovery and development approach. A radical shift away from blockbuster drugs towards more personalised treatments and patient-centric approaches is required. Using AI to discover new therapies has already been shown to be transformative in terms of time and money spent on clinical trials and Healx is at the forefront of changing drug discovery using AI. It is exciting to be joining the ambitious Healx team at this pivotal time, to use my extensive experience of transforming drug discovery organisations to make a difference to rare disease patient lives."*



In July, Healx announced that it had raised £10 million in a Series A financing which will be used to more than double Healx's diverse and multi-disciplinary team of software engineers, data scientists, pharmacologists and drug development experts and to expand its world class artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies. Its Healnet AI platform facilitates highly parallelized, automated, large scale drug discovery that drastically reduces time and cost to discovery compared to traditional processes and can cut medicine development time by up to 80%.

-ENDS-

### **About Healx**

Healx Limited is a technology company from Cambridge University focused on accelerating rare disease treatments by redesigning drug discovery. Healx integrates AI, deep pharmacology expertise, and patient engagement to intelligently match treatments to disease patients.

There are 7,000 known rare diseases that affect 350 million people worldwide. 1 in 20 people on the planet suffer from a rare disease – in aggregate, rare diseases are not rare. Yet 95% of rare diseases still do not have an approved treatment. Rare disease patients and families have been let down by a broken traditional pharma model that is dependent on and focuses on blockbuster drugs.

Healx's mission is to reverse this by using Artificial Intelligence (AI), deep pharmacological expertise and extensive patient engagement to give sufferers of rare disease a better quality of life. Healx's massively parallel approach combines cutting edge technology with one of the largest collections of insights from rare disease patient groups. The company was founded in 2014 by Dr Tim Guilliams, a Bio-Chemical Engineer and founder of the Cambridge Rare Disease Network, Dr David Brown, the inventor of Viagra and ex-Global Head of Drug Discovery at Roche and Dr Andreas Bender, a lecturer and researcher at Cambridge University's Centre for Molecular Sciences Informatics.

Healx was selected in the global 'Disrupt 100' list 2017, covered in the Harvard Business Review, and awarded 'Cambridge Graduate Business of the Year' 2016 by Business Weekly and 'Life Science Business of the Year' 2015 by Cambridge University Entrepreneurs. The company has raised capital from Balderton Capital, Amadeus Capital Partners and Jonathan Milner. For more information, please visit <https://healx.io/> or follow @healx

For more information, please contact:

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