



## aktaPD: an Action-oriented Approach to Pharmaceutical Development

### aktaPD's Dr. Lou Vaickus Teams with InVivo Therapeutics in Development of Novel Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Program

RALEIGH, NC/BOSTON, MA - Lou Vaickus, MD, FACP, and founder and President of akta Pharmaceutical Development™ (aktaPD), an international life science industry partner providing clients with experts in all phases of drug development, will soon be completing his consultancy tenure as interim Chief Medical Officer of InVivo Therapeutics Holdings Corp. (NVIV).

Over the course of a year, Dr. Vaickus played a key role in helping InVivo Therapeutics, a publicly traded Cambridge, MA company specializing in innovative biomaterials to heal spinal cord injuries, bring their investigational device for acute spinal cord injuries further along its development path. In October 2014, InVivo enrolled its first subject in the pilot study of its Neuro-Spinal Scaffold, a surgically implanted bioresorbable scaffold or "bridge" that spans the gap across the injured area to facilitate healing of the spinal cord. As interim Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Vaickus helped revise the development program, facilitated site and patient enrollment, worked with FDA and DSMB to accelerate enrollment goals, helped raise capital, and assisted in recruiting the permanent CMO.

"We had many challenges before us," said InVivo CEO Mark Perrin. "Drawing from his extensive experience in clinical development, Lou successfully partnered with our team to implement a number of invaluable protocol enhancements and revisions that improved site recruitment and reduced our clinical development timeline." According to Dr. Vaickus, "There is a huge unmet need among people with spinal cord injuries. InVivo's bioresorbable scaffold could dramatically change the treatment of these patients. Balancing all the moving parts for the betterment of patient care in a new trial takes experience, a good team, and best ethical practices. We're very proud of the work that we did with InVivo to progress their clinical program towards making this treatment available to those who can most benefit from it."

Headquartered in Boston with a US branch office in Raleigh, NC and international branches in Sweden, Canada and Germany, aktaPD is an international company that engages in the design, development, and commercialization of treatments for diseases. Working with biopharmaceutical and private investment companies as well as academic and government institutions, aktaPD provides expertise in preclinical and clinical development, regulatory affairs, leadership, manufacturing, marketing, operations, technology, and knowledge transfer. For more information, visit [aktapd.com](http://aktapd.com) or call 919.845.0900, extension 202.



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