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BEAM receives $1.7 million NIH grant to improve preventative screening for alcohol misuse in partnership with Carilion Clinic

April 13, 2022 (Roanoke, Va.) - BEAM Diagnostics, Inc. (BEAM) – a behavioral health company delivering digital assessments to improve patient-centered healthcare – has been awarded a $1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to commercialize its pioneering technology dedicated to improving and increasing proactive assessment of alcohol use in outpatient medical clinics.

BEAM's proprietary technology, *Beacon-Alc*, is a digital screening tool that quickly and accurately determines a patient's risk of alcohol misuse without asking stigmatizing questions. In a clinical study conducted at Carilion Clinic, *Beacon-Alc* identified three times as many patients at risk for developing hazardous drinking habits or Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) compared to current assessment practices.

"Our patients receive the best care when our health care providers can offer the leading available treatments," said Dr. Stephen A. Morgan, M.D. Carilion Clinic Senior Vice President & Chief Medical Information Officer. "*Beacon-Alc* is a validated assessment tool that will allow Carilion to care for our patients who misuse alcoholic beverages. Integrating BEAM's platform will equip our providers with easy access to predictive analytics, allowing for more proactive patient care."

The two-year $1.7 million grant from the NIH National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) will allow BEAM to finalize development and implement *Beacon-Alc* into clinics as a digital assessment for providers. In partnership with Carilion Clinic, BEAM will begin interfacing with Carilion's electronic medical record system, making the tool readily accessible to providers and patients.

We are excited to take the next step toward commercialization," said Dr. Sarah Snider, BEAM Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer. "Ultimately, the current funding launches BEAM's mission to increase identification; leading to proactive, not reactive, intervention and to improve population health by reducing preventable morbidity and mortality."

Snider is formerly a Postdoctoral and Senior Research Associate at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC's Addiction Recovery Research Center. With Dr. Warren Bickel, an authority on addiction and Virginia Tech professor, she co-founded BEAM Diagnostics as a spinout company from the research institute in 2017.

Beacon-Alc will be accessible on BEAM's digital assessment platform, *Beacon*, which can be easily administered anywhere, simplifying assessment delivery. *Beacon* will be

available to large healthcare systems and smaller practices alike through its standalone web application and EMR-application marketplaces. BEAM plans to capture the digital behavioral assessment market by expanding its offerings with data-driven results and seamless integration into healthcare workflows and digital health solutions.

About BEAM Diagnostics, Inc.
BEAM is a behavioral health company delivering digital assessments to improve patient-centered healthcare. Healthcare providers are expected to treat an increasingly large list of ailments in a population with growing behavioral health needs. This expectation, combined with the lack of proactive resources, creates a healthcare industry centered around reactive measures that are costly to patient health and healthcare systems.

BEAM developed *Beacon*, a digital assessment platform that simplifies assessment delivery and equips providers with accessible, predictive technology that improves the proactive quality of care for patients in a time-efficient, cost-effective, and non-stigmatizing manner. BEAM's expertise in behavioral science and data-driven technology shifts the standard of care from reactive to proactive and allows for earlier treatment in scenarios where health conditions are currently not detected. To learn more, visit beamdiagnosticsinc.com and follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn.

About Carilion Clinic
Carilion Clinic is a not-for-profit health care organization serving more than one million people in Virginia's Blue Ridge and Southwest Virginia regions. Headquartered in Roanoke, Carilion's comprehensive hospital network, primary and specialty physician practices, and other complementary services deliver high-quality, patient-centered care close to home. Carilion's enduring commitment to the health of our communities has advanced over the last decade. Beginning with the transformation to the clinic model of a physician-led, integrated health care system, Carilion has developed robust academic partnerships with the creation of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC, and Radford University Carilion's school for allied health sciences. Carilion advances care through education and research elements to improve the health of the communities we serve. Learn more at CarilionClinic.org, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

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