

## **HOLD FOR RELEASE UNTIL MARCH 29, 2019**

## LIGHTMED Corporation and Mexico's Leading Pediatric Hospitals Partner in Childhood Blindness Prevention

San Clemente, CA – March 29, 2019 - LIGHTMED Corporation, a global medical technology company, announced the successful installation and support of 34 LIGHTLas 810 photocoagulator lasers across 32 Mexican states. Mexico's Ministry of Health, the government department in charge of all social health services in Mexico, initially purchased 18 LIGHTMED lasers to be placed in areas with the most urgent need. Soon after, they ordered an additional 16 units to further reach pediatric and maternity hospitals and clinics across Mexico.

"Through the incredible work of many pediatric ophthalmologists, we are so proud to see firsthand the difference our lasers are making on the youngest lives in Mexico. Looking ahead, we hope to expand the reach of our LIGHTLas 810 lasers so children worldwide can escape vision loss. Being able to see is a gift, and we are humbled that we have the opportunity to take part in promoting Mexico's childhood blindness prevention efforts," said Gary Lee, CEO of LIGHTMED.

Approximately 32,000 premature babies worldwide become blind or develop severe vision loss annually due to Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), a leading cause of preventable blindness in children\*. ROP makes abnormal blood vessels grow in the retina, but with early detection, screening and treatment, blindness can be prevented.

The team of pediatric ophthalmologists in Mexico work in various hospitals that maintain an "open doors" policy, offering training and treatment to virtually anyone who needs help. These doctors are dedicated to transferring their knowledge about ROP, and how to treat it, to as many doctors globally as possible. "We are working to set up a network of blindness prevention reference centers. Now that we have LIGHTMED lasers throughout Mexico, we can focus our efforts on training doctors, ultimately giving more babies the chance to be treated," said Dr. Consuelo Zepeda, Chief Pediatric Ophthalmologist for the ROP Clinic at Hospital Civil de Guadalajara, Mexico.

Dr. Marco A. Ramirez, Department of Ophthalmology Chief at Hospital Infantil de México added, "LIGHTMED is a perfect example of how a technology company can work alongside ophthalmologists with one common objective: to provide the best eye care for patients. In the past 1.5 years partnering with LIGHTMED and using their LIGHTLas 810 laser, I can say that their lasers are affordable without compromising on quality, and the company has consistently delivered excellent service."

Every year, an estimated 500-1,000 premature babies in Mexico develop late stage ROP due to lack of parent education, screening and treatment. With Mexico's ROP blindness prevention plan in place, the team expects to decrease this number as close as possible to zero over the next ten years.

\*Blencowe H, et al. "Preterm-associated visual impairment and estimates of retinopathy of prematurity at regional and global levels for 2010." Pediatr Res. 2013.

## **About LIGHTMED Corporation:**

LIGHTMED is a medical device and technology company focused on developing, manufacturing and marketing a wide range of innovative laser, light and diagnostic systems for the ophthalmic, dental and dermatology markets. Our leading technologies are used to treat a variety of medical conditions, improving the lives of millions of people. LIGHTMED has been in business since 1997 with its own R&D and manufacturing facilities now located in Taiwan, Japan, Israel and USA. All of LIGHTMED's products are backed by an industry-leading warranty and guaranteed with premium customer care through our sales and service centers located worldwide.

Visit <u>www.lightmed.com</u> for more information. Connect with LIGHTMED on <u>Facebook</u> (@lightmedusa), <u>Linked In (LIGHTMED)</u>, and <u>Twitter (@LIGHTMEDUSA)</u>.

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