Verily Launches Landmark Study with Duke and Stanford as First Initiative of Project Baseline

Study will recruit thousands of participants in effort to better characterize health and the transition to disease

South San Francisco, Calif., – April 19, 2017 – Verily Life Sciences LLC, an Alphabet company, in partnership with Duke University School of Medicine and Stanford Medicine, announced today the initiation of the Project Baseline study, a longitudinal study that will collect broad phenotypic health data from approximately 10,000 participants, who will each be followed over the course of at least four years. The study is the first initiative of Project Baseline, a broader effort designed to develop a well-defined reference, or "baseline," of health as well as a rich data platform that may be used to better understand the transition from health to disease and identify additional risk factors for disease. Beyond this initial study, Project Baseline endeavors to test and develop new tools and technologies to access, organize and activate health information.

"With recent advances at the intersection of science and technology, we have the opportunity to characterize human health with unprecedented depth and precision," said Jessica Mega, MD, MPH, chief medical officer of Verily. "The Project Baseline study is the first step on our journey to comprehensively map human health. Partnering with Duke, Stanford and our community of collaborators, we hope to create a dataset, tools and technologies that benefit the research ecosystem and humankind more broadly."

The Project Baseline study will begin enrolling participants at the Stanford and Duke study sites within the next few months. The committed study sites at this time include Duke's sites in Durham and Kannapolis, North Carolina; Stanford's site in Stanford, California; and the California Health and Longevity Institute in Westlake Village, California. The scientific executive committee is also exploring additional study sites across the United States.

Each site will gather deep datasets on participants through repeat clinical visits; daily use of a wrist-worn investigational device and other sensors; and regular participation in interactive surveys and polls by using a smartphone, computer or call center. Data collected will include clinical, imaging, self-reported, physical, environmental, behavioral, sensor, molecular, genetic, and other health-related measurements. Biospecimens collected will include blood and saliva, among others.

One of the focus areas of the Project Baseline study is participant involvement, which includes development of a participant committee and the option to receive certain health data and test results, participate in conference calls with members of the study team and evaluate new tools and technologies.

"Through the Project Baseline study, we are aiming to engineer a true twenty-first century approach to health - in a preventive and personalized way," said Dr. Adrian F.

Hernandez, MD, MHS, professor of medicine at Duke and member of the Duke Clinical Research Institute. “Instead of having the annual physical exam that has not changed in decades, we’re hoping to develop new platforms that will discover changes in health as they happen in meaningful and actionable ways. To do this successfully, we will partner with participants to learn and deliver the best approaches for every aspect of the study.”

“Currently, most of what we see as treating physicians are short snapshots in time of an individual and primarily after they are already ill. We are effectively missing a lot of valuable information years prior to illness,” said Sanjiv Sam Gambhir, MD, PhD, chair of radiology at Stanford and director of the Canary Center for Cancer Early Detection. “We’re dealing with illness in the absence of a well-defined reference of healthy biochemistry, and this underscores the criticality of what we hope to achieve here. By focusing on the health of a broad population, we can eventually have a meaningful impact on the well-being of patients around the world.”

The Project Baseline data repository will be built on Google computing infrastructure and hosted on Google Cloud Platform, which meets rigorous compliance standards that test for data safety, privacy and security. De-identified Project Baseline study data will be available to qualified researchers for exploratory analysis in the future. Initial research goals include characterizing the variation in the observed physical and biochemical traits of the study population, or phenotypic diversity, and identifying biomarkers of disease-related transitions, including those related to cardiovascular disease and cancer.

The study’s scientific executive committee is composed of Dr. Mega; Dr. Hernandez; Dr. Gambhir; Andrew Conrad, PhD, chief executive officer of Verily; Eric Peterson, MD, MPH, director of the Duke Clinical Research Institute; and Kenneth Mahaffey, MD, vice chair of clinical research at Stanford. Beyond the scientific executive committee, the Project Baseline study will seek input from a diverse coalition of experts from across the life science and healthcare communities including academia, medicine, science, technology, data, design, engineering, and patient advocacy groups.

“We have seen huge strides in cardiovascular disease research by better understanding specific disease patterns, causes, and effects in defined populations over time,” said Nancy Brown, chief executive officer of the American Heart Association. “The Project Baseline study has the opportunity to significantly influence our current body of knowledge by better understanding the indicators of wellness. The outcome of this study could inspire a new generation of tools that are geared towards disease prevention versus just diagnosis and treatment.”

For more information about the study, visit www.projectbaseline.com.

About Verily Life Sciences
Verily is a life sciences research and engineering organization focused on improving healthcare outcomes by applying the latest scientific and technological advances to significant problems in health and biology. By combining unparalleled capabilities in

data organization and analytics services with robust scientific and product engineering expertise, Verily is targeting the dual objectives of creating tools and user-friendly platforms that capture a deeper and broader set of health data, and organizing the data so that it is useful and actionable. Verily partners with leading life sciences, medical device, and government organizations to leverage deep domain expertise and resources that enable exponentially faster development, meaningful advancements, and deployment at scale. For more information, please visit www.verily.com.

About Duke University School of Medicine
Duke University School of Medicine is among the nation's elite medical schools, consistently ranked in the top 10 by U.S. News & World Report. In addition to its education mission, Duke is also a national leader in biomedical and health sciences research and home to the nation's largest academic clinical research organization, the Duke Clinical Research Institute. Duke University School of Medicine, along with the Duke University School of Nursing and Duke University Health System, create Duke Health, which offers every level of health care service, from prevention and primary care to sophisticated specialty services. For more information, please visit https://medschool.duke.edu.

About Stanford Medicine
Stanford Medicine consistently ranks among the top medical schools in the world, and is home to 7 Nobel Prize winners and 31 members of the National Academies of Science. The school has a long tradition of leadership in pioneering research, developing creative teaching protocols and devising effective clinical therapies. Stanford Medicine includes the Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford Health Care and Stanford Children's Health. For information about all three, and for updates on Stanford's efforts to make healthcare more predictive, preventive and precise, please visit http://med.stanford.edu.

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