Chiesi (UK Ltd) and Hull University Hospital, NHS Trust Executive Summary

This summary has been written by Chiesi Ltd with consultation and approval from the Collaborative Working Project Team, established with full representation of partners.

Finding the hidden millions: restoration of early COPD diagnosis for Hull Lung Health Check participants to optimise treatment and improve outcomes (FRONTIER)

Aim: To enable early COPD diagnosis and timely initiation of evidence-based pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions to improve outcomes for participants of the Hull Lung Health Check program.

The intended objectives of this collaborative project are to:

- Identify Hull Lung Health Check participants at high risk of having COPD based on symptoms, and/or imaging findings.
- To invite Hull Lung Health Check participants at high risk of having COPD to attend a one-stop diagnostic clinic comprising symptom assessment and objective measurement of airflow limitation.
- Initiate evidence-based pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions for newly diagnosed COPD patients with the goal of improving short-, medium- and long-term health outcomes.

Intended Benefits

For patients:

- Earlier diagnosis of a previously undiagnosed respiratory disease, leading to appropriate and timely support with life-style modification (e.g., smoking cessation) to promote lung health
- Early initiation of evidence-based COPD treatments has potential to: reduce symptom burden, improve health related quality of life, preserve/improve physical activity, and prevent COPD exacerbations.
- Early education and support

For NHS:

- Early Identification of patients with COPD that otherwise may not have presented to a healthcare resource until reaching an advanced stage when negative disease behaviours established.
- Identification and diagnosis of COPD in an elective out-patient setting, rather than in an acute care setting at the time of exacerbation.
- Earlier initiation of evidence-based interventions with potential to improve short, medium, and long-term health outcomes.
- Improved understanding of the clinical characteristics of COPD patients diagnosed through Lung Health Checks with potential to inform future COPD screening initiatives and early COPD treatment protocol.

For the industry partner:

- Growth of patient population eligible for COPD treatment
- Increase in the appropriate use of medicines aligned to local or national guidance
- Better understanding of the challenges faced by the NHS in delivering high-quality patient
 care
- Reputational gain associated with supporting improvements in NHS services and care

This involves a balance of contributions from both parties with the pooling of skills, experience, and resources.

The project will last 2 years and commence September 2023