

Hemex Health

4640 S Macadam Avenue • Suite 200A • Portland, OR 97239 • 503-703-7696 • p.white@hemexhealth.com

17 March 2025

Senator Aaron Woods, Co-Chair

Representative David Gomberg, Co-Chair

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Woods and Gomberg and Members of the Committee:

OTRADI is one of Oregon's Centers of Innovation Excellence. OTRADI is a non-profit institute funded primarily by the State of Oregon, under the umbrella of Business Oregon and the Oregon Innovation Council. OTRADI's mission is to fuel the economic development of Oregon's bioscience industry by enabling the translation of innovative research into products and companies that benefit human health and create high-wage jobs for Oregon.

Hemex Health was founded in 2016 in Portland, Oregon. Hemex Health develops affordable point-of-care diagnostics that quickly deliver reliable results. The company's diagnostic solutions are cost-effective for both low- and high-income countries, simple to use, and designed to provide reliable answers for clinicians to act.

Our solution is called Gazelle, a portable, battery-operated instrument that uses artificial intelligence, innovative optics, and miniaturization to enable a broader range of users to test for important diseases and conditions. Gazelle is available for identifying hemoglobin variants, such as sickle cell disease and beta thalassemia, in over 40 countries. There have been over 2 million tests sold by Hemex Health in Africa, the Middle East, Europe and South Asia. Gazelle is used in several India states for diagnosing sickle cell disease as part of the National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Program. We are adding additional tests to Gazelle such as Ferritin for iron deficient anemia. And this year we will be submitting to the US FDA for clearance to be able to market Gazelle in the US. In the US we see increasing demand for decentralized, affordable tests to diagnose and monitor chronic diseases.

OBI has been an excellent base for Hemex to get our start and to grow. It offered important lab space that was critical to our development process. It also provides a community of other entrepreneurs and experts which can help us solve challenges and share our networks. OBI has also introduced us to investors and resource groups such as CTIP, a west-coast group that is funded by the FDA and helped us with regulatory advice. We have raised over \$33M in investment funding and \$12M in grants since we came to OBI. And we also employ 24 people here in Oregon.

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It is a challenging time for medtech companies with the recent closing of US-AID, the slow-down of grants at the NIH and the changes at the US FDA. That creates an even greater need to have funding for the resources here at OTRADI as part of the Centers of Innovation Excellence to continue to support this community and share best practices going forward.

We are supportive of OTRADI/OBI's continued funding as we are seeking to stay and grow our operations here in Oregon. We look forward to a continued close partnership with OTRADI and the OBI in the future.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Patti White

CEO and Co-Founder

Hemex Health