

## **ICON Completes Acquisition of BeijingWits Medical Consulting Ltd**

### ***Acquisition Strengthens ICON's Presence & Capabilities in China***

**Dublin, Ireland, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 – ICON plc, (NASDAQ: ICLR; ISIN: IE0005711209),** a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, today announced that it has completed the acquisition of BeijingWits Medical Consulting Ltd., a leading CRO in China. The acquisition enhances ICON's existing service capabilities and delivery in the region through the addition of over 100 highly qualified and experienced BeijingWits professionals located in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Wuhan and Hong Kong.

Founded in 1997, BeijingWits offers full-service clinical development capabilities and has a strong track record in clinical trial execution in China. The company is a renowned expert in Chinese regulatory processes and a leading advocate of ICH GCP in China.

“ICON has been operational in China since 2005 and since that time we have grown our clinical and laboratory capabilities to service the demand from both local and global clients for quality drug development expertise,” commented Ciaran Murray, CEO, ICON plc. “The acquisition of BeijingWits enhances our current capabilities and reflects our on-going commitment to building our presence in China. BeijingWits has a strong track record of success and brings to ICON a strong leadership team, experienced staff and good relationships with local investigator sites and regulatory bodies.”

#### **About Beijing Wits Medical Consulting Company**

Beijing Wits Medical Consulting Company was founded in 1997. The company provides services to global and local pharmaceutical, medical device and biotechnology companies focusing on Phase I to IV Clinical studies. Beijing Wits currently has more than 100 employees, operating from 6 offices in China.

#### **About ICON plc**

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specialises in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. ICON currently has approximately 8,500 employees, operating from 81 locations in 40 countries.

Further information is available at [www.iconplc.com](http://www.iconplc.com)

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