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Diabetes treatment provider eyes Chesterfield with expansion plan

Trina Health, a California-based company that operates infusion clinics to treat diabetes, is entering the Missouri market with its first clinic in Chesterfield.

Animo Health Inc., which is doing business as Trina Health of Missouri, owns the rights to open Trina clinics in Missouri. The company, which is led by St. Charles-native Mark Pound, is investing \$1 million to open the 1,674-square-foot clinic at 1585 Woodlake Drive in Chesterfield this week. Trina Health of Missouri plans to invest a total of \$18 million over the next four and a half years to open clinics across the state.

“We have a pretty substantial roll-out plan over the state in the coming years,” Pound said.

Trina Health’s clinics provide its patented, FDA-approved Artificial Pancreas Treatments, which involve the use of a mobile infusion device that administers insulin to the pancreas in a pulse rate that mimics a



MICHAEL THOMAS FOR SLBJ

Mark Pound and Trina are investing \$1 million to open the first local clinic.

healthy pancreas. “For many years, one of the main focuses on diabetes has been controlling blood sugar, which is a symptom of the underlying problem of improper carbohydrate metabolism,” Pound said. “The Artificial Pancreas Treatment treats the problem, not the symptom.”

Nearly 30 million Americans have diabetes, and diabetes and prediabetes cost America \$322 billion per year, according to the American Diabetes Association.

Pound said Trina Health of Missouri is “still figuring out” how many clinics it will eventually open in the St. Louis market, but it could be as many as five. The company also plans to add locations in markets such as Kansas City, Columbia, Springfield, Joplin and Cape Girardeau, Pound said.

The eight-chair Chesterfield facility will treat two rotations, or 16 patients, per day. It currently has a full-time staff of three, including a nurse practitioner, a licensed practical nurse and a clinic coordinator, and a part-time medical director. The clinic will be adding a pool of part-time employees, such as paramedics.

Trina Health, which had 2016 revenue of \$4.2 million, operates clinics in 14 U.S. states and one clinic in Telangana, India.