

NEWS-LEADER

SPRINGFIELD

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Business to market medical products

St. John's Research Institute, a tenant in the Jordan Valley Innovation Center, JVIC, has launched a new for-profit venture -- Inveno Health Inc. -- a building at Boonville Avenue and Phelps Street.

The business, in a renovated former flea market, will license, market and distribute products developed by St. John's physicians and researchers.

Inveno, which starts with one employee, plans to expand in the future, and the business will count royalties and product sales as its incomes, said Pete Miles, executive director of St. John's Research Institute.

One of the products is Povinol, a special antiseptic eye drop developed by Dr. Wendell Scott.

State funding for this project has helped St. John's start Inveno to commercialize the eye drop, but Inveno will also sell other St. John's products, such as a cleanser developed by Dr. Roger Huckfeldt and an infant surgical positioning device by Dr. Bharat Shah.

Miles credited JVIC with St. John's new venture, saying product research and development would otherwise have been impossible.