



For Immediate Release

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Experts Comment: Delivering Clot-Busting Drugs with an Ultrasound-Enhanced Delivery System Could Reduce the Amount of Drugs Needed to Dissolve Life-Threatening Blood Clots

Live Case Demonstration Viewed by International Audience of Endovascular Specialists in Hollywood, Florida

BOTHELL, WA - January 21, 2009: A wide international audience of endovascular specialists viewed a live case procedure during the 21st annual International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy (ISET) concluding that delivering clot busting drugs with an ultrasound-enhanced delivery system could reduce the amount of drugs needed to break up dangerous blood clots in the legs and pelvis.

Constantino Peña, MD, an interventional radiologist at Baptist Cardiac & Vascular Institute (Miami, FL), treated a 74-year-old male with a blocked leg artery. Dr. Peña delivered the drug Tenecteplase (TNK) to the clot via the EkoSonic Mach 4 system. Experts reported that the clot completely dissolved within 12 hours.

Dr. Peña said that the amount of TNK used to dissolve the clot was half what is typically used. Barry Katzen, MD, founder and medical director of Baptist Cardiac & Vascular Institute emphasized that lowering the amount of drug needed to dissolve clots can significantly reduce the risk of major bleeding.

Robert W. Hubert, President/CEO of EKOS Corporation said, "Clearly the outcome is exciting but no surprise. The recently introduced EKOS 2nd generation system was specifically designed to decrease drug dosage and shorten time for complete clot dissolution, providing physicians with greater clinical confidence. What is also noteworthy is that unlike mechanical devices, EKOS technology does not fracture the thrombus or damage red blood cells. The EkoSonic™ Endovascular System with Rapid Pulse™ Modulation Technology is 4-times faster than conventional catheter-directed thrombolysis," concluded Hubert.

About EKOS Corporation: EKOS Corporation pioneered the development and clinical application of microsonic technologies in medicine, introducing its first

system for the treatment of vascular thrombosis in 2005. Today, interventional radiologists, cardiologists and vascular surgeons at leading institutions across the nation use EKOS MicroSonic™ Accelerated Thrombolysis (MSAT) to provide faster, safer and more complete dissolution of thrombus. In 2008, the company introduced the 2nd generation EkoSonic™ Endovascular System with Rapid Pulse™ Modulation. The EkoSonic System is FDA-cleared for controlled and selective infusion of physician-specified fluids, including thrombolytics, into the peripheral vasculature. It is currently used to treat patients with peripheral arterial occlusions (PAO) and deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and additional applications are being investigated. In addition, the system has the CE mark & is distributed internationally for neurological applications. Visit www.ekoscorp.com.

About ISET: Considered to be the premier meeting on endovascular therapy, the International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy (ISET) is attended by more than 1,200 physicians, scientists, allied health and industry professionals from around the world. The meeting pioneered the use of live cases to promote the multidisciplinary treatment of cardiac and vascular disease by endovascular means. ISET is presented by the Baptist Cardiac & Vascular Institute, Miami. For more information, visit www.ISET.org.

SIDEBAR:

Venous thromboembolism and chronic venous insufficiency continue to be associated with high mortality and major morbidity in the United States. Each year over 700,000 patients in the US develop blood clots (thrombus) in the arteries (peripheral arterial occlusions or PAO) and veins (deep vein thrombosis or DVT) of their arms or legs. Often the clot resolves itself or can be treated with medication, e.g., blood thinners. However, because blood thinners prevent but do not actively remove clot, many DVT patients treated with blood thinners alone develop Post Thrombotic Syndrome (PTS). This condition is thought to result from damage to the delicate venous valves when exposed to the occluding blood clot for time periods greater than a few weeks. PTS can subsequently develop over months or years into a serious irreversible debilitating condition. Thus, many physicians are now performing interventional treatments such as the EKOS procedure to remove as much of the clot as possible immediately after diagnosis of significant DVT. The recently published American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) guidelines include sections containing suggestions for antithrombotic/thrombolytic therapy for DVT. The Guidelines align closely with the benefits of the EKOS MicroSonic™ Accelerated Thrombolysis (MSAT), and should allow physicians to confidently refer patients with acute DVT and PAO for treatment. Guidelines can be found at http://www.chestjournal.org/cgi/reprint/133/6_suppl/71S