

Enrollment Begins in New Atherosclerotic Lesions Study in the Superficial Femoral for PAD Patients

- **New FORTEZ Study to assess the use of the FLEX Dynamic Scoring Catheter™ in patients with atherosclerotic peripheral artery disease in the superficial femoral and popliteal arteries**
- **Dr. Lopez, lead investigator, St. Joseph's Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana actively enrolling 50 patients in the FORTEZ Study**
- **More than 12 million people in the U.S. and more than 30 million worldwide are affected by Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)¹**

Toledo, Ohio, November 14, 2018 - VentureMed Group, Inc., a medical device company that develops and markets innovative interventional vascular solutions, announced that the first PAD patient with disease in the superficial femoral and popliteal arteries has been successfully enrolled in the FORTEZ Study. The study entitled "*Prospective Study for the Treatment of Atherosclerotic Lesions in the Superficial Femoral and/or Popliteal Arteries Using the FLEX Dynamic Scoring Catheter™ plus DCB*" is a single center, single arm, non-randomized study being conducted at the St. Joseph Hospital in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. The objective of the study is to assess safety and efficacy of the FLEX Catheter in patients with atherosclerotic peripheral artery disease in the superficial femoral and popliteal arteries.

The FLEX Catheter creates long parallel linear micro incisions in all plaque morphologies to prepare an ideal vessel environment to facilitate angioplasty. Its dynamic technique safely scores difficult, diseased vessels, providing vessel compliance and acute lumen gain.

"There are an increasing number of cases where vessel preparation before drug coated balloon angioplasty is necessary to deliver the best outcomes. The FLEX Catheter is showing potential to change the current practices," said Lou Lopez, M.D., Director Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Allen County Cardiology, St. Joseph Hospital. Dr. Lopez added, "We are excited to be part of the FORTEZ Study and look forward to validating the many possible benefits of this potential clinical advancement."

"The first enrollment in the FORTEZ Study is a significant milestone that reflects VentureMed Group's continued commitment to advancing the treatment of atherosclerotic lesions." said Gary Smith, CEO of VentureMed Group. "With over 400 case reports, the evidence that the FLEX Catheter delivers significant luminal gain regardless of lesion length, low provisional stent use and dissection rates and significant change in vessel wall compliance is growing."



VentureMed Group is exhibiting at the VEITH 45th Annual Symposium in New York, November 13-17. Prof Daniel Hayoz, Chief of Medicine of the Medical Clinic at hopital fribourgeois (HFR), will present a talk entitled *Arterial Preparation Improves Outcomes of Drug Coated Balloon Angioplasty* during the International Guest Faculty Program on November 15th at 4:52.

About Peripheral Arterial Disease

Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) is a narrowing of the peripheral arteries caused by a hardening of the arteries. More than 12 million people in the US and 30 million people worldwide are affected by PAD. It most commonly affects the arteries of the pelvis and legs, including the femoral and popliteal arteries. Left untreated, patients with PAD are five times more at risk for limb amputation.¹

References:

Stay in Circulation: Campaign Materials: Facts about Peripheral Arterial Disease (P.A.D.). Nhlbi.nih.gov. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/pad/materials/pad_extfctsht_general.html. Published 2018. Accessed November 5, 2018.

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About the FLEX Dynamic Scoring Catheter™

The FLEX Catheter creates long parallel linear scores in all plaque morphologies to prepare an ideal vessel environment to facilitate angioplasty. Its dynamic technique safely scores difficult, diseased vessels, providing vessel compliance and acute lumen gain.

About VentureMed Group, Inc.

VentureMed Group is a medical device company, founded in 2012, that develops and markets innovative medical devices for the interventional vascular industry. The company's FLEX Dynamic Scoring Catheter™ is a safe and effective vessel preparation device engineered to create parallel micro-incisions, prepping the vessel for angioplasty. The FLEX Dynamic Scoring Catheter™ is cleared for sale in the US and carries CE Mark for sales in EU. For more information, visit www.FlexVesselPrep.com.

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