TERUMO INTERVENTIONAL SYSTEMS

Press Release

For Immediate Release **February 20, 2008**

New manufacturing techniques employed in the Terumo Pinnacle TIF Tip™ Introducer Sheath may reduce vascular complications

Sets a new standard for smoother, less traumatic vascular access

Somerset, NJ – A new manufacturing technique at its Maryland plant has given Terumo Interventional Systems an edge in sheath technology.

Terumo Interventional Systems is proud to introduce the new Pinnacle Total Integrated Fit (TIF) Tip™ Introducer Sheath, developed with a unique manufacturing process that creates a super-fine tapered edge and super-smooth transitions from dilator-to-sheath and guidewire-to-dilator. The new manufacturing technology has resulted in an introducer sheath that is able to bend and flex without gapping, kinking, or producing sharp crimps, thereby minimizing potential trauma.

In benchtop tests, Pinnacle TIF Tip required up to 24% less force in vascular entry than competitors' sheaths and, unlike comparative sheaths, flexed beyond 45º without kinking or collapsing*. Less penetration force means the sheath is less likely to deform (buckle or "accordion") during vascular entry, resulting in easier, safer insertions.

Pinnacle TIF Tip has been eagerly accepted by clinicians at the front lines of cardiac interventions. Dr. David E. Allie, Chief of Cardiothoracic and Endovascular Surgery at the Cardiovascular Institute of the South (CIS) and President/CEO of South Louisiana Clinical Research Foundation in Lafayette, LA, as well as Dr. Craig Walker, Founder, Medical Director, Interventional Cardiologist of the Cardiovascular Institute of the South (CIS)

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in Houma, LA, have been so impressed that they have arranged to participate in a study with Pinnacle TIF Tip to evaluate ease of use and the possible reduction of complication rates compared to other introducer sheaths.

During recent evaluations the following comments were noted. “No resistance, great,” said Dr. Walker. “I can definitely feel a difference with this.”

Dr. Allie commented, “I want to use it again in my other cases. I recognize that all sheaths may not be created equal, and recognize that the sheath could be a contributing factor to vascular access complications.”

Vascular Access Management (VAM) complications remain a significant source of clinical morbidity and economic costs. In a study published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, 5844 patients underwent vascular access procedures at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA. Vascular access complications included groin hematoma in 5.7% of patients, bleeding in 5.1%, and pseudoaneurysm in 1.7%, among others.[1] Single unit transfusions during Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) increased overall costs of the hospitalization by $8000 and major and minor hemorrhages increased costs by $6300 and $400, respectively.[2] In addition, hospitalization stays were increased 3-fold in patients with clinical hemorrhage.[3,4]

The new Pinnacle TIF Tip Introducer Sheath should help to avoid complications, helping to reduce patient morbidity and costs while enhancing quality of care. Clearly, the savings to hospitals in reduced complications could add up to thousands of dollars annually. Just one less groin bleed per month could save a hospital over $12,000 annually.

For more information, customers can contact Terumo Interventional Systems by calling its Inside Sales Customer Care Team at 800-862-4143 or by visiting http://www.terumo*is*.com.

Terumo Interventional Systems
Terumo Interventional Systems (TIS), a strategic business unit of Terumo Medical Corporation, directly markets a full line of guidewires, catheters, introducer sheaths, guiding sheaths and embolization products for use in a multitude of different interventional procedures.

Interventional Radiologists, Interventional Neuroradiologists, Interventional Cardiologists and Vascular Surgeons are among the medical professionals that depend upon TIS products to access and cross difficult-to-reach lesions thereby allowing therapeutic intervention in previously unreachable vascular beds.

Terumo Medical Corporation
Founded in 1972 as a Terumo Corporation subsidiary, Terumo Medical Corporation (TMC) develops, manufactures and markets high-quality medical devices used in a broad range of applications in numerous healthcare markets. TMC manufactures a broad portfolio of needles and syringes, entry-site management products, and a line of sterile connection devices used in hospitals and blood banks worldwide.

Terumo Corporation
Tokyo-based Terumo Corporation is one of the world's leading medical device manufacturers with $2.3 billion in sales and operations in more than 150 nations. Founded in 1921, the company develops, manufactures and distributes world-class medical devices including products for use in cardiothoracic surgery, interventional procedures, and transfusion medicine; the company also manufactures a broad array of syringe and hypodermic needle products for hospital and physician office use. Terumo contributes to society by providing valued products and services to the healthcare market and by responding to the needs of healthcare providers and the people they serve. Terumo Corporation's shares are listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange (No. 4543, Reuters symbol <4543.T>, or Bloomberg 4543:JP) and is a component of the Nikkei 225, Japan's leading stock index.

*Data on file. Terumo Medical Corporation.

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