



ASX release

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Another study using AtCor's SphygmoCor system demonstrates importance of central blood pressure measurement

---Non-invasive central blood pressure assessment reveals important drug effect not detectable by conventional methods

AtCor Medical Limited (ASX:ACG) today announced that its SphygmoCor[®] system, which measures central blood pressure and arterial stiffness non-invasively, has played a key role in a new study that points to new and potentially better treatment options for hypertension. The study¹, conducted by researchers from Emory University, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania and Novartis Corporation (NYSE:NVS) was presented on March 16th, at the 2010 American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions

The study compared a combination of Novartis' renin inhibitor aliskiren and diuretic hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ) with the calcium channel blocker amlodipine in the treatment of 332 African Americans with Stage 2 hypertension. Although the two drug regimens produced similar reductions in conventional cuff blood pressure measurements at the arm, the aliskiren/HCTZ combination resulted in a significantly greater reduction in central blood pressure, the pressure the brain, heart and kidneys actually experience. The study measured central blood pressure using AtCor's SphygmoCor system, and further highlights the importance of this device in managing hypertension.

AtCor believes this study is further evidence of the importance of measuring central blood pressure and that it will support the company's efforts to expand clinical use of the SphygmoCor system and secure reimbursement in the USA. In addition, AtCor is targeting a number of payers with patient diversity programs. These programs have been put in place to eliminate racial and ethnic healthcare disparities with targeted interventions based on evidence. AtCor's reported studies in the African American population are clearly aligned with this initiative.

Points to new treatment options-and an unmet clinical need

"Research such as the Strong Heart Study has shown elevated central blood pressure is more strongly related to cardiovascular events than other risk factors, including brachial blood pressure," said Keith Ferdinand MD, the lead author of the study. "Our findings suggest an important new option for assessing the benefits of blood pressure medications in African American patients."

"This study adds to accumulating evidence that if you want to ensure a complete understanding of drug response and dosing, you must measure central blood pressure" said Duncan Ross, AtCor Medical President and CEO. "It also points to an unmet need in the care of African American patients. Earlier studies from Emory University and the University of Illinois using SphygmoCor have shown that African Americans may have normal brachial blood pressure, but significantly elevated central blood pressure. Non-invasive central blood pressure assessment is vitally important in diagnosis and in managing drug therapy, especially with African Americans," Ross concluded.

SphygmoCor[®] is a registered trademark of AtCor Medical Pty Ltd and its related entities

About AtCor Medical

AtCor Medical develops and markets products for the early detection of cardiovascular risk and management of cardiovascular disease. Its technology allows researchers and clinicians to measure central blood pressure non-invasively. The company's SphygmoCor® system visibly identifies the effects of reflected blood pressure in the central aortic pressure wave, effects which cannot be detected with standard blood pressure monitoring. More than 2,100 SphygmoCor® systems are currently in use worldwide at major medical institutions, research institutions and in various clinical trials with leading pharmaceutical companies. The company's technology has been featured in hundreds of peer-reviewed studies published in leading medical journals. AtCor has operations in Australia, the United States, and Europe. For further information, please visit our web site at www.atcormedical.com.

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ⁱ Responses to Aliskiren/HCTA versus Amlodipine on Peripheral and Central Blood Pressure in African Americans with Stage 2 Hypertension
K. Ferdinand, J. Pool, R. Weitzman, D. Purkayastha, R. Townsend
Presented at ACC.10 March 14-16, 2010, Atlanta GA