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American Heart Association's new statement on arterial stiffness

AtCor Medical Holdings Limited (ASX:ACG), the developer and marketer of the SphygmoCor® system which measures central aortic blood pressures and arterial stiffness non-invasively, today announced that the American Heart Association (AHA) has published a new statement on the importance and measurement of arterial stiffness. The statement recognises the explosive growth and progress in the field of arterial stiffness and central hemodynamics and provides new recommendations for healthcare practitioners.

Arterial stiffness impacts cardiovascular risk and precedes conditions including high blood pressure, diabetes and hypertension, as the elasticity (or hardening) of the arteries affects how hard the heart has to pump to circulate blood through the body.

The authors state that the measures of arterial stiffness using carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity and central aortic pressure waveform analysis are established clinically, and can be used to independently predict cardiovascular risk.

The AHA recommends measuring carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity to provide incremental information beyond standard cardiovascular tests to determine cardiovascular risk. Additionally central aortic blood pressure wave separation analysis is recommended when testing is focused on the role of wave reflection as either an exposure for a cardiovascular outcome or a target for intervention. Regarding the size of treatment effect, both measurements were highly rated and within the top two categories assigned by the AHA. Central aortic wave separation analysis received a Class 1 designation and carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity a Class IIa designation.

SphygmoCor is the only commercial device that meets all of the statement's recommended requirements for carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity, central aortic pulse wave analysis and can be performed on a single device.

Duncan Ross, AtCor Medical CEO said: "We could not be more pleased by this important statement from the prestigious American Heart Association. The statement further validates growing clinical awareness and application to patient care in the product-market segment pioneered and led by AtCor. This will clearly help to increase adoption of AtCor Medical's SphygmoCor, which is the established technology leader. It is a very good day for patients, doctors, health funds and our industry."

The AHA statement follows the guidance document released in May, by an expert panel on the use of central aortic pulse wave analysis in clinical practice from a symposium sponsored by the North American Artery Society.

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 aortic 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 3,800 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 over 900 peer-reviewed studies published in leading medical journals and thousands of citations. 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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