Xcelerant Delivery System

COMPANY	Medtronic, Inc.
PHONE	(707) 591-7979
WEB	www.medtronic.com

KEY FEATURES

- For use with AneuRx AAA Stent Graft System
- Intuitive, integrated handle for improved deliverability
- Kink-resistant catheter material for better trackability through tortuous vessels
- Distal radiopaque marker improves visibility

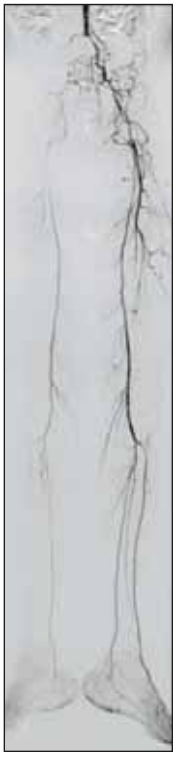
Medtronic, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN) has received FDA approval for the Xcelerant Delivery System for use with its AneuRx AAA Stent Graft System. The company expects full market release of the Xcelerant with the AneuRx in the first quarter of 2005. The Xcelerant's enhanced design incorporates an integrated handle that gives maximum control for slow, smooth graft retraction for precise placement and faster deployment when desired. The delivery system also features improved catheter material to enhance trackability through tortuous pathways and a distal radiopaque marker band for greater visibility of deployment progress. The company says that the Xcelerant will give the physician greater control during AAA stent graft implantation and added confidence in procedural results.

InnovaBreeze Imaging Technique

COMPANY	GE Healthcare
PHONE	(262) 544-3616
WEB	www.gehealthcare.com

KEY FEATURES

- For the Innova 4100 and Innova 3100 cardiovascular and interventional imaging systems
- Digital imaging primarily for leg arteries
- Operator-controlled variable table speed movement during imaging
- Real-time subtraction of the surrounding anatomy from the blood vessels
- Continuous subtracted vessel visualization while table is moved allows physician to follow blood flow and target an area of disease
- Specialized software for automatic combination of images into a single image of entire contrast-filled peripheral vasculature



InnovaBreeze, an automated imaging technique, has been introduced by GE Healthcare (Milwaukee, WI) to be incorporated in their Innova 4100 and Innova 3100 cardiovascular and interventional imaging systems. InnovaBreeze uses digital imaging primarily for pictures of the arteries in the legs. During imaging, the table is moved to follow an injection of contrast media from the abdominal aorta to the feet. InnovaBreeze uses specialized software that automatically combines separate images into a single image of the leg's entire contrast-filled vasculature for easy physician examination. The enhanced Innova systems with InnovaBreeze have operator-controlled variable table speed movement and real-time subtraction of the surrounding anatomy from the blood vessels. This allows physicians to follow the blood flow through the legs and effectively target diseased areas, GE states.

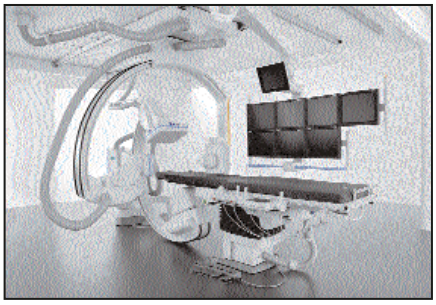
The core of the Innova system is GE's Revolution digital flat panel detector technology that, according to GE, provides superior image quality for clear visualization of fine vessels and precise interventional device placement. The Revolution detector also provides demonstrated X-ray dose savings.

Axiom Artis dBA

COMPANY	Siemens Medical Solutions
PHONE	(610) 448-1646
WEB	www.usa.siemens.com/medical

KEY FEATURES

- World's first flat panel detector-based neurointerventional biplane system
- Available for neuroradiology and universal angiography
- Floor and ceiling-mounted C-arm stands with flexible positioning and fast, programmable movements
- Fully ergonomic tableside operation in exam room with color touchscreen control of imaging system and gantry
- User profiles specially designed for each application



The Axiom Artis dBA (Siemens Medical Solutions, Malvern, PA) is a flat panel, detector-based neurointerventional biplane system used for simultaneous digital imaging techniques, and is designed to overcome the challenges of modern angiography and interventional procedures in neuroradiology and universal angiography. The biplane system provides a floor and a ceiling stand with flat detector technology specifically developed for neuro and body interventional applications, providing enhanced patient access, increased coverage, and best image quality, the company states.

The AXIOM Artis dBA, like all Siemens angio systems, provides syngo, Siemens' standard user interface, and offers the full range of Combined Applications to Reduce Exposure (CARE), Siemens' technology to reduce radiation exposure for the patient and clinician. Siemens offers fully integrated 3D applications that allow the user access from the tableside and communication between the 3D dataset and C-arm movements.

High-Definition MR System

COMPANY	GE Healthcare
PHONE	(262) 544-3937
WEB	www.gehealthcare.com

KEY FEATURES

- Available on GE Signa 1.5T and 3.0T MR systems
- Extremely fast data processing engine for massive simultaneous imaging without delays
- High-density surface coils
- Highly accurate gradients

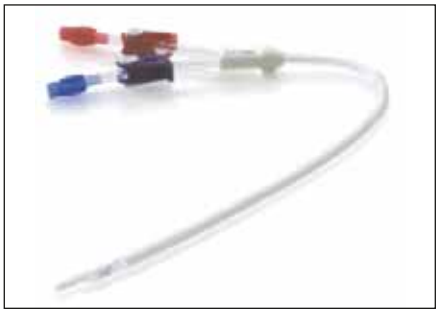
GE Healthcare (Milwaukee, WI) recently launched a high-definition magnetic resonance (HDMR) system, which is available on GE Signa 1.5T and 3.0T MR systems. The system produces remarkable image clarity in cases that are difficult to image due to movement, such as with Parkinsons patients or with children who are not responding to sedation. Lawrence N. Tanenbaum, MD, of New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, explains, "Dedicated high-density coils facilitate throughput and enable high-definition scanning, resulting in dramatic images reminiscent of those provided by high-definition television." As channels are added (incrementally in units of 16, 32, 48, 64, etc.), image-processing power increases proportionally. The coil elements that detect the signal, the receivers that digitize it, and the array processors that perform calculations are scaled together, allowing massive simultaneous imaging without processing delays.

ProGuide Chronic Dialysis Catheter

COMPANY	Datascope Corp.
PHONE	(201) 995-8700
WEB	www.datascope.com

KEY FEATURES

- Over-the-wire delivery with sheathless introduction
- Apposition deflection feature designed to minimize the risk of the catheter suctioning up against the vessel wall
- Consistently high flow rates
- Average recirculation below 1%, well within K/DOQI guidelines
- Available in 14.5 F, with and without sideholes



The FDA has cleared Datascope Corp. (Montvale, NJ) to launch its new ProGuide chronic dialysis catheter to connect to dialysis machines for patients with end-stage renal disease. The ProGuide is an over-the-wire chronic dialysis catheter that does not require the use of a tear-away sheath, which may be associated with air embolism. According to the company, sheathless introduction potentially decreases the size of venous entry hole and eliminates the need for the patient to hold their breath during catheter placement. An apposition deflection feature ("The Bump") has been designed near the inflow lumen to minimize the risk of the catheter suctioning up against the vessel wall. The ProGuide produces consistently high flow rates (>500 mL/min @ 160mmHg for 28 cm catheter), which allows for shorter dialysis sessions, thereby reducing overall cost of treatment. Average recirculation below 1%, well within K/DOQI guidelines. The ProGuide Chronic Dialysis Catheter is available in 14.5 F, with and without sideholes. The device will be marketed and sold through Datascope's Interventional Products Division. ■

ENDOVASCULAR TODAY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

If you would like to submit an article for publication in *Endovascular Today*, first query in writing with an outline of your proposed article.

Editorial Policies. All articles published in *Endovascular Today* are reviewed by our Chief Medical Editor and Editor-in-Chief, who have sole discretion to accept, reject, or edit any article submitted for consideration. All articles must be original and must not have been published elsewhere.

Format. We accept manuscripts in Microsoft Word format. Drafts should be e-mailed to the Editor-in-Chief.

Deadlines. All assigned work must be submitted by the first day of the month, 2 months prior to publication.

Length. Unless otherwise agreed to by our Editor-in-Chief, articles shall be at least 1,200 words in length.

Author Information. Please include (1) a complete article title, (2) the author (s) full name(s), academic degree(s), affiliation(s), financial connection to any products mentioned, and (3) full address for correspondence, including complete mailing address, fax number, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Artwork. A minimum of two figures (and related legends) should be supplied with each article. Digital files can be sent in JPG, TIF, or EPS format, and should be approximately 300 dpi at 4 inches wide. If sending via e-mail, JPEG images are preferred. Original slides and photos are also acceptable. Please be sure to indicate numbering and orientation of images.

References. References should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text and listed at the end of the manuscript. Unpublished data (such as papers submitted but not yet accepted for publication and personal communications) should be cited parenthetically within the text.

Direct queries to Pete Christy, Editor-in-Chief, at pchristy@bmctoday.com or (484) 581-1825. Address correspondence to Endovascular Today, *c/o Bryn Mawr Communications II LLC, 1008 Upper Gulph Road, Suite 200, Wayne, PA 19087.*