Turbo Elite

COMPANY	Spectranetics Corporation
PHONE	(800) 633-0960
WEB	www.spectranetics.com

KEY FEATURES

- Improved outer jacket and inner guidewire lumen
- Continuous-on lasing
- 80-Hz laser repetition rates
- Many laser fiber sizes available

Spectranetics Corporation (Colorado Springs, CO) announced that it has received FDA clearance to market the Turbo Elite product line for the treatment of blockages within leg arteries. The excimer laser ablation system vaporizes lipid-based, calcified, and fibrotic plaque.

According to the company, the new product line represents its third generation of peripheral laser catheters. The Turbo Elite features an excimer laser ablation catheter for peripheral intervention and introduces optimized ablation efficiency and more energy output compared to previous laser ablation technology. Other features include an improved outer jacket and inner guidewire lumen, as well as additional laser fibers in most sizes for improved pushability, trackability, and ablation capability. The Turbo Elite incorporates all of the features of the Turbo product line, including 80-Hz laser repetition rates, continuous-on lasing, and a hydrophilic coating, the company said.

"The improvements minimized resistance in the system and gave me a whole new feel for the lesion morphology," said Brian D. Nelson, MD, a cardiac and peripheral vascular interventionist at Waukesha Heart Institute, Waukesha, Wisconsin.

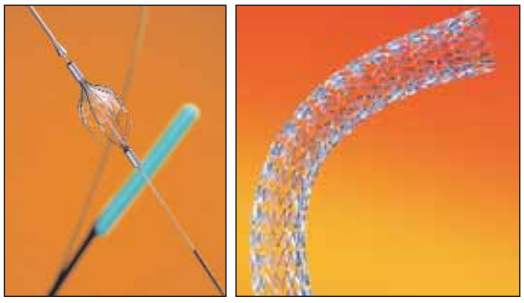
Precise RX and AngioGuard RX System

COMPANY	Cordis Endovascular Division of Cordis Corporation
PHONE	(800) 327-7714
WEB	www.cordis.com

KEY FEATURES

- Only carotid system supported by randomized data
- RX capability facilitates single-operator use
- 0% major stroke rate for treated SAPPHIRE patients and 0.6% 1-year TLR

The Cordis Endovascular Division of Cordis Corporation (Warren, NJ) announced FDA approval to market its Precise RX Nitinol Self-Expanding Stent and AngioGuard RX Emboli Capture Guidewire System to treat clogged neck arteries. The devices are different from Cordis's over-the-wire carotid system approved last year. According to the company, the rapid exchange (RX) version facilitates single-operator use and more efficient manipulation of the catheter and guidewire during stenting procedures. Cordis states that its devices represent the only carotid system backed by a large, randomized clinical trial, SAPPHIRE, to support the potential benefits of carotid artery stenting in patients who are ineligible, or considered high-risk, for carotid endarterectomy, the company said.



Anil Chhabra, MD, of Willis Knighton Medical Center in Louisiana, who performed the first carotid case with the Precise RX Stent and AngioGuard RX Guidewire System in the US stated, "It's great to get the same devices on the rapid-exchange delivery system. The AngioGuard RX Emboli Capture Guidewire System was very easy to advance through a very tight lesion, and the autotapering of the Precise RX Nitinol Self-Expanding Stent was apparent in the excellent wall apposition across the different-sized internal and common carotid arteries." ■