Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath

COMPANY	St. Jude Medical, Inc.
PHONE	(800) 253-9073
WEB	www.sjm.com

KEY FEATURES

- Five unique flexibility zones
- Guide catheter construction provides excellent kink resistance
- 32-strand stainless steel braid technology
- 80-cm and 90-cm working lengths

St. Jude Medical, Inc. (St. Paul, MN) recently announced FDA clearance and European CE Mark approval of the Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath, a flexible tube through which physicians can deliver balloon catheters, stents, and other tools to open blockages in the carotid arteries. According to the company, the Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath is designed specifically to provide easier and faster access to challenging carotid anatomy. The Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath is engineered with five distinct transition zones to provide flexibility on the distal end of the sheath and support on the proximal end of the sheath. Its construction provides excellent kink resistance for added confidence in navigating challenging anatomy, the company says. The Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath is available in 80-cm and 90-cm working lengths.

"The Strada Carotid Guiding Sheath is a versatile sheath that is particularly adaptable to the tortuous carotid anatomy," said Theodore Schreiber, MD, Specialist-in-Chief, Vice President of Cardiovascular Development, and Division Chief of Clinical Cardiology, Detroit Medical Center. "It's a valuable addition to the tools available to physicians for the treatment of carotid artery disease with balloon angioplasty and stenting."

Arrow NextStep Chronic Hemodialysis Catheter

COMPANY	Arrow International, a division of Teleflex Medical
PHONE	(610) 378-0131
WEB	www.arrowintl.com/nextstep

KEY FEATURES

- Vessel-friendly tip
- Replaceable hub connection
- Alcohol-compatible construction
- SmartSeal hemostatic peelable dialysis sheath
- Color-coded micropuncture introducer set

The Arrow NextStep (Arrow International, Reading, PA) is a retrograde, tunneled chronic hemodialysis catheter designed to combine a step-tip catheter's ease of insertion and a split-tip's sustained high flow. According to the company, the Arrow NextStep's unique tip is designed for a smooth transition through a sheath and for over-the-wire insertion. To reduce recirculation and deliver high flow, the Arrow NextStep's tip has two complementary features. First, the ports on the catheter are reversed to take better advantage of blood flow dynamics. The venous port releases blood in the superior vena cava, and the arterial port draws blood from the right atrium. Second, the ports are significantly separated to enhance flow and minimize recirculation. Retrograde tunneling improves the operator's ability to ideally position the catheter tip, cuff, and hub. The Arrow NextStep is engineered to take advantage of retrograde tunneling and to help clinicians achieve the outcomes they want for their patients, the company says.

StarClose SE Vascular Closure System

COMPANY	Abbott Vascular
PHONE	(800) 227-9902
WEB	www.abbottvascular.com/en_us/content/document/eifu_starclose_se_vcs.pdf

KEY FEATURES

- Simple, numbered-step deployment
- Shape-memory nitinol clip
- Ergonomically friendly design

Abbott Vascular (Santa Clara, CA) has launched the StarClose SE Vascular Closure System, a next-generation vessel closure device engineered to enable fast, safe, and secure closure of the femoral artery access site after a catheterization procedure. StarClose SE, which stands for Safe and Extravascular, was designed to preserve the safety, reliability, and extravascular closure of the first-generation StarClose technology while providing enhanced ease of use for physicians, the company says. The added ergonomically friendly design features include an intuitive, numbered system, providing visual guidance and audible "clicks" for each step leading up to clip deployment; immediate vessel closure with deployment of a shape-memory clip onto the surface of an artery, allowing patients to recover and be discharged sooner than with manual compression; and added device stability for the operator during clip deployment. David Lee, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Director of Cardiac Catheterization and Coronary Intervention Laboratories at the Stanford School of Medicine, stated, "StarClose SE enables operators to immediately confirm reliable closure, reducing patient time to mobility following catheterization."

TigerWire Steerable Guidewire

COMPANY	St. Jude Medical, Inc.
PHONE	(800) 253-9073
WEB	www.sjm.com

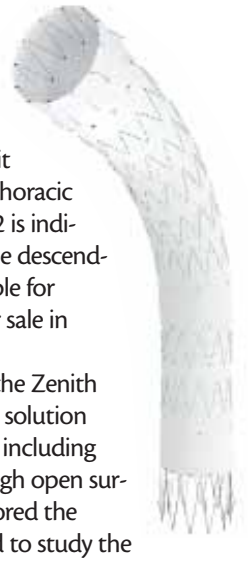
KEY FEATURES

- Atraumatic tip enables safe access to target lesions
- Supportive wire design for efficient tracking and positioning through tortuous vasculature
- Varying lengths and tip configurations to meet a variety of clinical needs

St. Jude Medical, Inc. (St. Paul, MN) recently launched the TigerWire Steerable Guidewire in the US. The newest member of the St. Jude Medical GuideRight family of steerable guidewires, the TigerWire Steerable Guidewire is designed to enhance physicians' ability to steer through challenging peripheral arteries. The TigerWire Guidewire's tip is designed with enhanced flexibility to aid in navigation through the vessels. Its supportive design provides distinct zones of flexibility that make it easier for physicians to track and position the guidewire through challenging anatomy, the company says.

"The TigerWire Steerable Guidewire has been engineered for improved steerability," said Frank Callaghan, President of the St. Jude Medical Cardiovascular Division. "It gives physicians a tool that can ease access to difficult-to-reach vessels when performing complex diagnostic and interventional procedures."

Zenith TX2 TAA Endovascular Graft



COMPANY	Cook Medical
PHONE	(800) 468-1379
WEB	www.cookmedical.com

KEY FEATURES

- Controlled deployment with trigger-wire release mechanisms
- Circumferential proximal and distal fixation
- H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System with Flexor sheath
- Modular design
- Stainless steel Z-stents and woven polyester construction

Cook Medical (Bloomington, IN) announced that it has received FDA approval for the Zenith TX2 TAA (thoracic aortic aneurysm) Endovascular Graft. The Zenith TX2 is indicated to treat patients with aneurysms or ulcers of the descending thoracic aorta having vascular morphology suitable for endovascular repair. The device has been available for sale in Australia since 2003 and in Europe since 2005.

According to the company, with FDA approval of the Zenith TX2, US physicians can now provide an endovascular solution from Cook for the interventional treatment of TAAs, including patients who may not be eligible for treatment through open surgery. To show the benefits of the device, Cook sponsored the STARZ-TX2 clinical trial, a multinational trial designed to study the safety and effectiveness of the Cook Zenith TX2. The trial results indicated that the thoracic endovascular aortic repair procedure, using Cook Medical's Zenith TX2, is a safe and effective alternative to open surgical repair for the treatment of TAAs in patients with suitable anatomy.

AngioSculpt PTA Scoring Balloon Catheter

COMPANY	AngioScore, Inc.
PHONE	(877) 264-4692
WEB	www.angioscore.com

KEY FEATURES

- Flexible, safe nitinol scoring element
- Precise and predictable luminal enlargement
- Low crossing profile
- Semicompliant balloon with nitinol-enhanced deflation/rewrap

AngioScore, Inc. (Fremont, CA) has expanded indications of the AngioSculpt Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA) Scoring Balloon Catheter to include dilatation of lesions in the iliac, femoral, iliofemoral, and popliteal arteries, as well as the treatment of obstructive lesions of native or synthetic arteriovenous dialysis fistulae; it is not for use in the coronary or neurovasculature.

According to the company, the AngioSculpt PTA Scoring Balloon Catheter represents the next generation in angioplasty balloon catheters by providing the versatility and effectiveness of a new technology together with the simplicity and deliverability of traditional high-performance balloon catheters. The innovative nitinol elements enable unique circumferential scoring of plaque, leading to precise and predictable luminal enlargement across a wide range of lesion types while avoiding "geographic miss" through its unique antislippage properties. ■