Palmaz Blue Biliary Stent

COMPANY	Cordis Corporation, a Johnson & Johnson company
PHONE	(908) 412-3150
WEB	www.cordis.com

KEY FEATURES

- Constructed with L605, a cobalt alloy with tungsten
- Closed-cell design with tapered radial arcs and optimized struts
- Double Omega hinges that optimize fatigue life, maximize radial strength, and minimize foreshortening
- Available in .018-inch over-the-wire system, in 4-mm to 7-mm diameters, and 12-mm, 15-mm, 18-mm, and 24-mm lengths

Cordis Corporation (a Johnson & Johnson company, Miami, FL) has launched the Palmaz Blue Transhepatic Biliary Cobalt Chromium Stent. According to the company, the Palmaz Blue is a balloon-expandable stent featuring L605, a cobalt alloy enhanced with tungsten, for stronger construction that uses less metal. The design provides increased strength, radiopacity, low profiles, and superior flexibility and deliverability.

Other features of the Palmaz Blue include a closed-cell design, tapered radial arcs, and optimized struts. The double Omega hinges are designed to optimize fatigue life, maximize radial strength, and minimize foreshortening, the company says. The product is available in a .018-inch over-the-wire system, in 4-mm to 7-mm expansion diameters, and 12-mm, 15-mm, 18-mm, and 24-mm lengths.

"Palmaz Blue is an important advance in balloon-expandable stents and the Palmaz Stent legacy," said Craig M. Walker, MD, of the Cardiovascular Institute of the South. "This new stent has a lower profile and increased radiopacity, both meaningful improvements for physicians and patients."

Avanta and Vanguard Dx

COMPANY	Medrad Avanta and Vanguard Dx
PHONE	(412) 767-2400
WEB	www.medrad.com

KEY FEATURES

- The Avanta system enables controlled delivery of contrast for most cardiovascular injection needs
- The Avanta system enhances safety, precision, and efficiency
- Vanguard Dx's radial contrast dispersion reduces catheter whipping, enhances tip stability
- Vanguard Dx is available in 4-F and 5-F sizes and in 15 common shapes

Medrad, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA) received 510(k) clearance to market the Medrad Avanta Fluid Management Injection System and the Vanguard Dx Angiographic Catheter, which can work together as a fluid management system for cardiovascular imaging procedures, the company says.

According to the company, the Medrad Avanta is designed to improve patient and operator safety while facilitating precise clinical outcomes and cost efficiencies. The injector offers controlled delivery of contrast at low flow rates and low pressures in variable mode to enable injections of small vessels, such as the coronary arteries. For larger vessels and peripheral imaging needs, the injector can generate high flow rates and high-pressure injections in fixed mode; additionally, saline can be administered at a fixed rate, the company says.

The Vanguard Dx's RadiantFlow tip produces a cloud of contrast in order to enhance mixing and distribution. The radial dispersion of contrast has the potential to reduce catheter whipping and enhance tip stability during injections. The company notes that the Vanguard Dx catheter is available in 4-F and 5-F sizes and in the 15 most common shapes.

Fathom Steerable Guidewire

COMPANY	Boston Scientific Corporation
PHONE	(800) 225-3238
WEB	www.bostonscientific.com

KEY FEATURES

- Turn-for-turn torque control enhances responsiveness and maneuverability
- Diamond-cut alternating pattern of microscopic channels is designed to provide independent support and flexibility
- Hydrophilic coating on distal segment and PTFE coating on proximal segment facilitate guidewire placement and catheter tracking
- Platinum/tungsten alloy coil tip at distal tip helps achieve accurate placement

Boston Scientific Corporation (Natick, MA) has introduced the Fathom Steerable Guidewire for peripheral interventions. According to the company, the Fathom Guidewire combines a nitinol hypotube distal segment with advanced microfabrication technology, creating a design that revolutionizes access of the most tortuous vasculature. The Fathom Guidewire has a nitinol hypotube distal segment, designed to transmit turn-for-turn torque to enhance responsiveness and maneuverability. The company says that advanced microfabrication technology allows the hypotube to be diamond-cut with an alternating pattern of microscopic channels. Variations in the channel profiles are designed to provide independent support and flexibility. The Fathom Guidewire has a lubricated hydrophilic coating on the distal segment and PTFE coating on the stainless steel segment, facilitating guidewire placement and catheter tracking. A platinum/tungsten alloy coil tip is located at the distal tip to help achieve accurate placement. The Fathom Guidewire is designed to address a variety of clinical practice situations, and is available in distinct profile configurations for challenging procedures, the company says.

Lifestent Turbo Biliary Stent System

COMPANY	Edwards Lifesciences
PHONE	(800) 424-3278
WEB	www.edwards.com

KEY FEATURES

- Triple helix design for excellent flexibility without compromising radial strength
- Negligible foreshortening facilitates accurate placement
- Extremely low profile for easy access
- Enhanced struts contribute to good visibility and improved radial strength

Edwards Lifesciences (Irvine, CA) has received 510(k) clearance for the LifeStent Turbo biliary stent system. According to the company, the LifeStent Turbo utilizes a modified triple helix design to provide exceptional conformability and improved radial strength. The Turbo's features also include negligible foreshortening to facilitate accurate placement, a low profile for easy access, and enhanced struts for good visibility, the company says. ■