

Eurocor Steps Up Research Activities International clinical trials enter critical phase

**Bonn, Germany
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Bonn-based company Eurocor GmbH today announced, that the three clinical trials initiated for FREEWAY™, the latest second-generation percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTA) balloon technology designed for the treatment of critical limb ischaemia associated with peripheral arterial disease (PAD) have now entered into their critical phase.

Under the aegis of Prof. Dr. Karl-Ludwig Schulte, consultant at the Königin Elisabeth hospital in Berlin, the first trial is being conducted at a total of 20 clinics worldwide and involves 280 participants. The aim of the trial is to chart the relative degrees of treatment-based success achieved using the Paclitaxel-coated FREEWAY™ balloon in comparison to an uncoated balloon.

Paclitaxel is capable of preventing the proliferation of certain cells that are responsible for arterial restenosis. The FREEWAY™ balloon which is coated with Paclitaxel is expected to facilitate a more positive long-term result. This trial is currently in its final preparatory Phase and is soon to go live.

The second trial – led by Prof. Dr. Josef Tacke, consultant at Passau's Klinikum medical facility – aims to monitor how treatment with Freeway affects the rate of restenosis following stent implantation in 200 probands, some of whom are patients. The stented area will be treated either using Freeway or an uncoated balloon, with relative efficacy compared after six months.

The third trial conducted by Prof. Dr. Johannes Lammer is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of medication-coated balloons compared to uncoated balloon in the treatment of in-stent restenosis. The trial enrolled a total of 75 patients at the General Hospital in Vienna and was initiated in Autumn 2010.

“The success of Eurocor rests on intensive scientific research involving our products. For that reason, international trials of this kind are important as they enable us to continue providing our customers with the superior technical standard devices,” said Dr. Rembert Pogge von Strandmann, Director Clinical Research & Communication at Eurocor.

The company presented its latest developments in the field of second generation PTA balloon technology – Freeway 014™ and Freeway035™ – to a German audience for the very first time at the Leipzig Interventional Course (LINC) as recently as the end of January 2011. The two products were already launched in London in November 2010.