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Access Scientific, Teleflex Medical Sign Supply Agreement for The PICC WAND

SAN DIEGO -- Access Scientific, Inc., makers of The WAND[®] Safety Introducer for the Accelerated Seldinger Technique, today announced a newly formed relationship with Teleflex Medical, makers of Arrow[®] products for vascular access and infusion therapy.

Under this three-year agreement between the medical device companies, following Access Scientific's receipt of FDA clearance for The PICC WAND, Teleflex will begin distribution of Access Scientific's PICC WAND Safety Introducer with a peelable sheath for peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs).

Access Scientific and Teleflex Medical also announced several other initiatives, including creation of the Accelerated Seldinger Technique Certificate Program for nurses, as well as educational programs to be offered at next week's annual meeting of the Association for Vascular Access (AVA).

"This agreement with one of the world's leaders in vascular access marks a major step in the development of Access Scientific's WAND technology and the Accelerated Seldinger Technique," said Steve Bierman, M.D., CEO of Access Scientific. "We are proud to partner with Teleflex, which has consistently demonstrated its commitment to a higher standard of clinical care in vascular access.

"Teleflex and Arrow are known for their ability to rapidly introduce innovative products and to educate practitioners on the technologies' clinical advantages," Dr. Bierman said. "Our partnership with Teleflex will speed the rapid adoption of The PICC WAND as the new standard of care for faster, safer over-wire vascular access."

Ernest Waaser, president of Teleflex Medical, said "We are excited about our partnership with Access Scientific to educate clinicians on the benefits of Accelerated Seldinger Technique and their innovative WAND technology. Today's clinicians are seeking better solutions that provide easier and safer ways of obtaining venous access for their patients, and we are proud to be leading the way."

Other initiatives announced by Access Scientific and Teleflex Medical are:

- A talk by Nancy Moureau, BSN, CRNI, on “Issues and Risks Associated with Ultrasound Guided Modified Seldinger Technique for PICC Placement.” Moureau’s talk will be at the AVA conference in Las Vegas, from 2 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 16 in room Royale 4 of the Riviera Hotel, where the conference will be held.
- A workshop sponsored by Teleflex Medical on “Ultrasound Guided Accelerated Seldinger Technique,” to be presented at the AVA annual meeting by Gail Sansivero, RN, MS, ANP.
- Creation of the “Accelerated Seldinger Technique Certificate Program.” Under the program, both companies will offer continuing-education credits and a certificate to nurses who are trained to perform the Accelerated Seldinger Technique with The WAND.

The original Seldinger technique was developed in 1953 to reduce complications associated with the introduction of catheters and other medical devices into blood vessels and hollow organs. Because there have been few significant improvements to the technique since it was invented, what is now known as the Modified Seldinger Technique (MST) still carries serious risks for patients and clinicians.

The WAND is designed to reduce these risks, which include accidental needlesticks, bleeding, contamination, embolism, and loss of cannulation.

Access Scientific’s management team, including Dr. Bierman, previously served as the core management team of Venetec International. Venetec, which was subsequently acquired by C. R. Bard, created and marketed the industry-leading StatLock[®] line of catheter stabilization devices.

About Access Scientific

Access Scientific, a privately held medical device company, is dedicated to providing a safer standard of over-wire vascular access through its proprietary WAND technology. Designed to provide the fastest, safest, simplest over-wire catheter insertion, The WAND enables clinicians to perform the Accelerated Seldinger Technique. The total market opportunity for the company’s products is estimated to be more than \$2.5 billion annually.

For further information on the company, go to www.The-Wand.com, email Access Scientific at pcook@the-wand.com, or call 858-259-8333.

The PICC WAND Peelable Safety Introducer is currently in development phase and has not yet received FDA 510(k) clearance. No claims to efficacy or product superiority are hereby made. Rather, the language being presented is simply suggestive of possible future features and benefits.