



NEWS RELEASE

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**BOCA RATON REGIONAL HOSPITAL UTILIZING FIRST DRUG-ELUTING
STENT FOR TREATMENT OF PERIPHERAL ARTERY DISEASE**

Hospital First in Palm Beach County to Offer Device

BOCA RATON, Fla. – September 11, 2013 – Officials at Boca Raton Regional Hospital today announced that vascular surgeons at the institution are now employing the first FDA-approved drug-eluting stent in the treatment of patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD) in the superficial femoral artery. Boca Regional is the first hospital in Palm Beach County to utilize the device.

“With this device, we will begin to undergo a revolution in the management of peripheral artery disease that mirrors the advances realized when drug-eluting stents were introduced in treating coronary artery disease,” said W. Anthony Lee, MD, Director of the Endovascular Program at Boca Regional’s Christine E. Lynn Heart & Vascular Institute. “We believe this approach will fast become the standard of care for patients with PAD.”

The Cook[®] Medical Zilver[®] PTX[®] Drug-Eluting Peripheral Stent is a combination therapy device that restores patency (blood flow) and delivers a targeted cell growth-limiting drug proven to reduce arterial restenosis (post-procedural blockages). Clinical trial data reveal that eight out of ten patients treated with the device had open arteries one year after the procedure as compared to only three out of ten that underwent conventional angioplasty.

Moreover, patients who received bare metal stents required more than twice as many re-interventions to reopen the artery as patients who received Zilver PTX.

“Research shows that the device is far more efficient and effective as compared to traditional modalities,” said Dr. Lee.

PAD is a chronic, progressive circulatory disease, in which plaque builds up in the arteries that feed blood to the head, organs and limbs. PAD typically affects arteries in the legs and is linked to smoking, hypertension and diabetes. It is one of the fastest

growing diseases in the country, affecting 8 to 12 million Americans each year. Yet, approximately only one quarter of these individuals will demonstrate any symptoms. The “silent” nature of the disease can result in a large number of patients being diagnosed only when their condition has progressed to a severe stage.

Much like a cardiac catheterization, a vascular surgeon will gain access to the affected artery through the groin and utilize a catheter to reach the narrowing. The stent is deployed and expanded. The drug, paclitaxel, which coats the stent, is then taken up by the cells of the arterial wall to prevent the narrowing of the artery over time.

“The use of drug-eluting stents in the treatment of PAD at Boca Regional will give our patients a distinct advantage,” commented Dr. Lee. “It represents another significant advance in the capabilities we provide at the Heart & Vascular Institute for individuals with cardiovascular disease.”

About Boca Raton Regional Hospital – Advancing the boundaries of medicine.

Born out of compelling community need in 1967, Boca Raton Regional Hospital is an advanced, tertiary medical center (www.brrh.com) with 400 beds and more than 800 primary and specialty physicians on staff. The Hospital is a recognized leader in oncology, cardiovascular disease and surgery, minimally invasive surgery, orthopedics, women’s health and emergency medicine, all of which offer state-of-the-art diagnostic and imaging capabilities. The Hospital is a designated Comprehensive Stroke Center by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA).

Boca Raton Regional Hospital is the recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™ for the ninth year in a row and was named one of America’s 50 Best Hospitals in 2011, 2012 and 2013, both by Healthgrades®. Boca Raton Regional Hospital was also recognized for the third consecutive year in U.S. News & World Report’s 2013-2014 Best Hospitals listing as a top-ranked hospital in the South Florida metropolitan area.

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