International Leaders in Electrophysiology Discuss Improving Atrial Fibrillation Treatment Using Novel Endoscopically Guided Laser Ablation Catheter

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MARLBOROUGH, Mass., April 28, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- CardioFocus, Inc., developer of the Endoscopic Ablation System for the transcatheter treatment of Atrial Fibrillation (AF), convened international leaders in electrophysiology to discuss the advantages of direct optical visualization to guide catheter ablation for the treatment of paroxysmal AF. The event followed the first day of the German Society for Cardiology Annual Meeting in Mannheim, Germany.

The symposium, "Does Optical Visualization Help to Improve the Durability of Pulmonary Vein Isolation?," was co-chaired by renowned electrophysiologists Prof. Karl-Heinz Kuck, MD, of Krankenhaus St. Georg, Hamburg, Germany, and Petr Neuzil, MD, of Na Homolce Hospital, Prague, Czech Republic. The clinical experience of three leading centers was presented examining the use of the CardioFocus Endoscopic Ablation System, a unique compliant balloon ablation catheter able to deliver, visually guided laser energy to achieve durable pulmonary vein isolation (PVI) after only a single clinical procedure.

"It is broad industry consensus that permanent control of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation requires that the pulmonary veins must be permanently isolated. However, conventional point-to-point ablation done without optical visualization offers only limited efficacy and requires multiple procedures," remarked Stephen Sagon, President and CEO of CardioFocus, Inc. "We are pleased that our Endoscopic Ablation System technology is being recognized by international leaders in the field as a solution that meets significant clinical needs. The HeartLight catheter from CardioFocus offers electrophysiologists unique endocardial visualization to provide better outcomes from a single procedure."

The German Symposium highlighted promising independent results from St. Georg (Hamburg) presented by Andreas Metzner, MD, and from the Institute for Clinical & Experimental Medicine (Prague) presented by Pr
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