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Two Top Heart Surgeons Join EndoValve, Inc., Scientific Advisory Board

Renowned cardiac surgeons Dr. Tirone David of University of Toronto and Dr. A. Marc Gillinov of Cleveland Clinic deepen expertise of company developing the first minimally invasive mitral-valve-replacement system

PRINCETON, N.J., Sept. 23, 2009 – EndoValve, Inc., a cardiovascular device company developing the first valve-replacement system to treat mitral regurgitation, has added two top heart surgeons to its scientific advisory board (SAB), bringing the number of board members to seven.

“Both Dr. A. Marc Gillinov and Dr. Tirone David bring great surgical depth to our SAB,” said Dr. Howard Herrmann, chair of the EndoValve Scientific Advisory Board, noting that Dr. Gillinov is a prominent cardiac surgeon at the Cleveland Clinic Heart and Vascular Institute, and that Dr. David is the distinguished chief of cardiac surgery at Toronto General Hospital and professor of surgery at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Gillinov, explained Dr. Herrmann, is a recognized expert who has been instrumental in the development of new, less invasive treatment approaches for mitral valve disease and atrial fibrillation. Dr. David, who in 2004-2005 was president of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, has developed numerous operative procedures to treat patients with heart valve disease, complications of myocardial infarction, and thoracic aneurysms, Dr. Herrmann added.

Dr. Herrmann, who led the team that invented the underlying technology of the valve-replacement system under development, will be presenting “EndoValve: Rationale, Device Description, and Progress” at TCT2009 in San Francisco on Friday September 25.

Working in concert with established R&D outsourcing partners, EndoValve has successfully completed development of a functional proof-of-concept prototype, said EndoValve CEO Robert Wilkins. Surgically implanted valve prototypes have repeatedly successfully supported live animals in short-term evaluations without significant hemodynamic disturbance, he said, adding that a prototype delivery system has been developed.

Final design work, optimizing the proven initial design, is well advanced, he said, and is planned to lead to a phase I clinical trial (“first in man,” or FIM, study) in late 2010, with chronic animal and human implants scheduled for 2011.

(more)

After FDA approval of this system, a percutaneous follow-on product is planned, leveraging the same valve design but with a necessarily more complex delivery system.

“Dr. Gillinov,” noted Dr. Wilkins, “is well known for his pioneering contributions to the scientific development of percutaneous approaches to heart valve disease.

“To have both Dr. Gillinov and Dr. David join us at this time is testament to Endovalve’s viability as a therapeutic option.”

For more information about Endovalve, please visit www.endovalve.com

Caution: Investigational device. Limited by federal (U.S.) law to investigational use.

A complete list of the **Endovalve Scientific Advisory Board** members follows:

Dr. Howard Herrmann, Chairman

Director, Interventional Cardiology and Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory/Hospital of
the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center
Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Dr. Nicolas Chronos

Chief Medical and Scientific Officer
American Cardiovascular Research Institute
Saint Joseph’s Research Institute, Saint Joseph’s Hospital Atlanta

Dr. Tirone David

Professor of Surgery, University of Toronto
Chief of Cardiac Surgery, Toronto General Hospital
Holder of Melanie Munk Chair, Peter Munk Cardiac Centre

Dr. A. Marc Gillinov

Cardiac Surgeon, Cleveland Clinic Heart and Vascular Institute
Holder of Judith Dion Pyle Chair in Heart Valve Research at the Cleveland Clinic

Dr. Joseph Gorman

Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Dr. Robert Gorman

Director and Associate Professor of Surgery, Cardiac Surgical Research Laboratory/
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Ajit Yoganathan, Ph.D.

Regents’ Professor
Associate Chair for Research
The Wallace H. Coulter Distinguished Faculty Chair in Biomedical Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University