

## Expert panel publishes guidance for central aortic pressure waveform analysis in patient care

AtCor Medical Holdings Limited (ASX:ACG), the developer and marketer of the SphygmoCor<sup>®</sup> system which measures central aortic blood pressures and arterial stiffness non-invasively, today announced that a panel of US medical experts has issued guidance for doctors on the use of central aortic blood pressure waveform analysis in patient care. The article, *"Clinical Use of Pulse Wave Analysis: Proceedings from a Symposium Sponsored by North American Artery"* published in the Journal of Clinical Hypertension, includes examples showing how central aortic pressure waveform analysis and metrics can supplement brachial pressure readings in the clinic.

The panel, convened by the North American Artery Society, concluded that analysis of the central pressure waveform provides a valuable complement to brachial blood pressure measurement. Patients' blood pressure measured using brachial pressure and central aortic pressures may be different, and interpretation of the central waveform and data may improve drug selection and dosing. The recommendations focused on three key areas where pulse wave analysis can make a difference in patient care. These were:

- Deciding whether to initiate, intensify or change therapy in younger patients;
- Deciding which anti-hypertensive medication to prescribe and when to add additional medications; and
- Deciding whether drug therapy or lifestyle changes that have reduced brachial pressure have equally reduced central blood pressure.

The paper included case studies with practical examples demonstrating how doctors can manage hypertension patients, guided by the central aortic pressure waveform and its associated metrics.

"Better management of hypertension could make a great difference in reducing heart attacks, strokes, and kidney disease," said Raymond Townsend MD, Professor of Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and president of the North American Artery Association. "The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that over 53% of people in the US with high blood pressure have uncontrolled hypertension and that 45% of patients taking medicine still have uncontrolled hypertension<sup>1</sup>."

"We firmly support the timely guidance provided by North American Artery," said Duncan Ross, AtCor Medical CEO. "With the new US CPT 1 code for non invasive central aortic wave form analysis to take effect from 1 January, this guidance will help further educate doctors on applying the technology. It fills a gap by providing examples of decision-making using central aortic pressures, offering the panel's interpretation on how to manage hypertension patients effectively in the clinic."

The panel included physicians from The Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, New York, New York University School of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College, Tulane University School of Medicine, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai NY, Baystate Medical Center and Tufts University, the James J. Peters VA Medical Center Bronx NY. The Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale AZ and St. Clair Specialty Physicians, Detroit Michigan.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, *Vital Signs: Awareness and Treatment of Uncontrolled Hypertension Among Adults — United States, 2003–2010*

## **About North American Artery**

NAA is a professional society dedicated to the encouragement, support, and understanding of vascular structure and function and its application to clinical medicine, research, and pharmaceutical and medical device development. For more information visit their website at [naartery.org](http://naartery.org).

## **About AtCor Medical**

AtCor Medical develops and markets products for the early detection of cardiovascular risk and management of cardiovascular disease. Its technology allows researchers and clinicians to measure central aortic blood pressure non-invasively. The company's SphygmoCor® system visibly identifies the effects of reflected blood pressure in the central aortic pressure wave, effects which cannot be detected with standard blood pressure monitoring. More than 3,800 SphygmoCor® systems are currently in use worldwide at major medical institutions, research institutions and in various clinical trials with leading pharmaceutical companies. The company's technology has been featured in over 900 peer-reviewed studies published in leading medical journals and thousands of citations. AtCor has operations in Australia, the United States, and Europe. For further information, please visit our web site at [www.atcormedical.com](http://www.atcormedical.com).

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