

### SMALL MOLECULE WNT ACTIVATORS

Wintherix has announced that WX04554—a potent, small-molecule activator of the Wnt pathway—has been designated as a lead drug for clinical development in bone healing and repair indications. Preclinical studies indicate that this class of small molecules potentially activates the Wnt pathway and causes bones to heal and become stronger by forcing stem cells to become bone-forming cells (osteoblasts).

Trauma is the second highest cost item to the US health care system at over \$55 billion per year; of which, almost half is used to treat broken bones. With 20% of osteoporotic hip fracture patients dying within a year, the ability to reverse bone thinning and heal at-risk patients would be a significant advancement in health care.

For more information, contact Wintherix, LLC, 10225 Barnes Canyon Rd, Suite A104, San Diego, CA 92121; phone (858) 552-9313; [www.wintherix.com](http://www.wintherix.com).

### ENDOSCOPIC GASTROC RELEASE SYSTEM

Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation has announced the launch of the Integra™ Endoscopic Gastroc Release (EGR) System in the United States. Integra's EGR System is a disposable device with a unique articulating blade that allows selective cutting of soft tissues. It is intended for use in the surgical treatment of posterior heel cord, or equinus, contracture.

Surgical treatment involves recession of selected tissues of the calf muscle. Traditionally performed as an open procedure, the recession of the gastrocnemius aponeurosis can be performed endoscopically through a small incision. This is a minimally invasive, less traumatic procedure that produces a smaller and less apparent scar.

Gastrocnemius recession is being used increasingly as a component in the surgical treatment of posterior tibial tendon dysfunction, diabetic forefoot ulcers, symptomatic acquired flatfoot, and hallux valgus.

The EGR System will be sold by Integra's Extremity Reconstruction sales organization, which focuses on lower extremity fixation, upper extremity fixation, tendon protection, peripheral nerve repair/protection, and wound repair.

For more information, contact Integra LifeSciences, 311 Enterprise Dr, Plainsboro, NJ 08536; phone (800) 654-2873; fax (609) 275-5363; [www.integralife.com](http://www.integralife.com).

### REAL-TIME TEMPERA- TURE MEASUREMENTS

ArthroCare Corp.'s Sports Medicine division announced the introduction of its complete Ambient® ArthroWand® Collection—a portfolio of radiofrequency devices designed to provide orthopedic surgeons with accurate, real-time temperature monitoring of the circulating fluid within the arthroscopic operative environment.

The Ambient Collection, now including the Ambient Super MultiVac® 50, the Ambient Super TurboVac® 90, the Ambient CoVac® 50, and the Ambient CoVac 70, are



the first and only radiofrequency devices on the market designed to monitor the temperature of the circulating fluid in real-time. When paired together with ArthroCare's Quantum™ 2 Controller System, the Ambient thermocouple technology allows surgeons to view current temperature measurements of the saline fluid in the shoulder and knee.

The Ambient wand's adjustable alarm set-point allows the surgeon to set the alarm at the temperature he or she feels is appropriate. A visual and audible alarm provides direct feedback to the surgeon if the temperature reading reaches the user-selected alarm set-point. The alarm feature acts as a reminder, encouraging the surgeon to check if adjustments should be made to flow or suction throughout the duration of the procedure. The Quantum 2 System Controller continually displays the real-time, operative environment temperature of the circulating fluid as measured by the Ambient wand.

For more information, contact ArthroCare Corporation, 7500 Rialto Blvd, Building Two, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78735; phone (800) 797-6520; fax (888) 994-2782; [www.arthrocare.com](http://www.arthrocare.com).

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