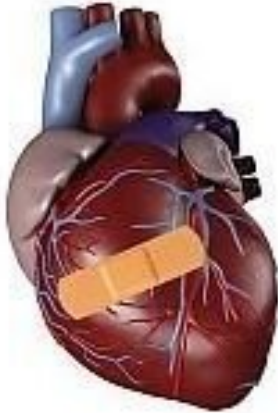


St Jude launches 3-D heart vessel imager

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Singapore: St Jude Medical, a global medical device company, launched Ilumien Optis System, a next-generation technology designed to help physicians make personalized stenting decisions based on each patient's unique anatomy and disease state.

The new system is the only combined Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR) and intravascular Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) imaging technology platform. Together, FFR and OCT offer physicians a physiological and anatomical view of the coronary vessels to help diagnose and treat coronary artery disease. The system provides enhancements to the present Ilumien System, including a first-of-its-kind stent planning software tool.

The PressureWire Aeris Wireless FFR Measurement System collects detailed analyses of blood flow blockages in the coronary vessels to help determine which specific blockages are causing the patient's blood flow to be ineffective. The FFR pressure guidewire is directed through the coronary arteries and across the narrowed vessel, taking measurements as the guidewire is pulled back through the narrowed part of the artery.

The OCT technology uses the Dragonfly JP Imaging Catheter to capture near-infrared light imaging and measure important vessel characteristics otherwise invisible or difficult to assess with older intracoronary imaging tools. New high resolution setting and real-time, three-dimensional (3-D) reconstruction with the Ilumien Optis provide a 360-degree panoramic view of the vessel, which makes it easier for physicians to visualize the anatomy they are treating.

The FFR and OCT measurements captured by the Ilumien Optis system allow physicians to more easily differentiate plaque build-up and determine if the narrowed arteries are causing ischemia, or a restriction in blood flow, ultimately assisting in stent placement.

Three-dimensional representation enables better visualization in preparation for stenting and evaluation of the stent's position once placed. These advanced functionalities have previously only been available off-line. Three-dimensional vessel reconstruction offers a better picture, and real-time analysis streamlines workflow, potentially helping physicians diagnose

their patients more quickly.

"We are very pleased to offer the Ilumien Optis system in Japan, which is a world leader in imaging technology utilization," said Mr William Phillips, president of St. Jude Medical, Japan. "The new system is the latest in PCI optimization technology, and helps physicians understand the needs of each patient, ultimately resulting in better medical decision making and overall cost-effective treatment."