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The Cardiovascular Care Group Leading the Way with New Innovative TCAR Procedure to Treat Carotid Artery Disease

New Minimally Invasive Procedure Prevents Stroke

WESTFIELD, NJ – 10/23/2020 – The Cardiovascular Care Group, in 2017, was the first group in New Jersey to treat carotid artery disease using a new procedure called **TransCarotid Artery Revascularization** (TCAR). The Group continues to be the leader in this novel treatment to prevent strokes having recently performed its **100th procedure**—the most in the state of New Jersey and all of New York City. TCAR is a clinically proven, minimally invasive and safe approach for high-risk patients who require carotid artery treatment.

Carotid artery disease is a form of atherosclerosis, or a buildup of plaque, in the main arteries in the neck that supply oxygen-rich blood to the brain. If left untreated, carotid artery disease can lead to stroke; it is estimated to be the source of stroke in up to one-third of individuals, with 427,000 new diagnoses of the disease made every year in the U.S. alone.

“TCAR is an important new option in the fight against stroke, and is particularly suited for the large portion of patients we see who are at higher risk of complications from carotid surgery due to age, anatomy, or other medical conditions,” said Dr. Scott Sundick of The Cardiovascular Care Group, one of the two board-certified vascular surgeons who first performed the procedure in New Jersey. Dr. Clifford Sales, managing partner of TCVCG, notes “TCAR provides a much improved alternative to carotid artery stenting that has, historically, been approached from the groin. The complication rate is significantly lower and patients are discharged within 24 hours of the procedure.”

TCAR is unique in that blood flow is temporarily reversed during the procedure so that any small bits of plaque that could potentially break off are diverted away from the brain and removed from the body, preventing a stroke from happening. A stent is then placed inside the artery to enlarge the artery, minimizing the risk of a future stroke.

Prior to TCAR, the main treatment option for severe carotid artery disease was an open surgical procedure called carotid endarterectomy (CEA). CEA removes plaque from inside the carotid artery restoring normal blood flow to the brain, but the incision leaves a visible scar the length of the neck.

The TCAR procedure was developed by Sunnyvale, California-based Silk Road Medical, Inc. and includes the ENROUTE® Transcarotid Neuroprotection (NPS) and Stent System – the first devices designed and FDA-approved specifically for TCAR. Over 10,000 TCAR procedures have been performed worldwide through clinical trial and commercial use. TCAR has been studied extensively, and the clinical data have been excellent. For more information about Carotid Artery Disease and various treatment options, visit <https://tcvcg.com/treatments/causes-and-care-for-carotid-artery-disease/>.

About The Cardiovascular Care Group

The Cardiovascular Care Group is New Jersey's largest and most experienced Vascular Surgery group dedicated solely to the diagnosis and management of diseases of the arteries and veins. Since their inception in 1963, the Group has remained committed to providing quality care using the newest technologies to deliver the best outcomes for patients. The board-certified physicians are highly trained in all techniques for management of vascular disease, including carotid artery disease, aortic aneurysms, peripheral artery disease, varicose and spider veins, and dialysis creation and maintenance. For more information, visit <https://tcvcg.com/> or call 973-759-9000.

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