



ASX/media release

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**US National Institute of Health funded trial concludes:  
Central pulse pressures a better predictor of cardiovascular risk  
and disease**

AtCor Medical Holdings Limited (ASX:ACG), the developer and marketer of the SphygmoCor® system which measures central blood pressures non-invasively, today announced that results from the US National Institute of Health's funded Strong Heart Study, now published online, have concluded central blood pressures are a better predictor of future cardiovascular outcomes than traditional brachial (cuff) blood pressure. The same report will appear in the American Heart Association journal *Hypertension* July 2007 edition.

New clinical data involving 3,520 patients participating in the trial demonstrated the importance of using central pressures to identify cardiovascular risk at an earlier stage. Central pulse pressure measured using SphygmoCor was found to be more strongly predictive of cardiovascular events than was brachial pulse pressure in subjects with and without pre-existing atherosclerosis. When central and brachial pulse pressures were taken into account in a multi-variate risk model, brachial pressures ceased to be statistically significant.

"This is the most compelling evidence to support use of SphygmoCor since the release of the CAFE study results in 2006," said Duncan Ross, CEO of AtCor Medical. "CAFE clearly showed that the respective effects of different drug regimens at the heart could not be detected by traditional cuff pressure measurement. This new independent study is clear: central blood pressures are a better clinical tool for predicting cardiovascular outcomes."

"AtCor's SphygmoCor is the only US FDA-cleared non-invasive way to measure central pressures. The Strong Heart Study results strengthen the case for the expanded adoption of SphygmoCor in drug trials and post-market surveillance, and unambiguously support SphygmoCor's use to identify more accurately patients' cardiovascular risk in clinical practice," said Mr Ross.

The study concluded "Non-invasively determined central aortic pulse pressure and arterial stiffness are more strongly related to vascular hypertrophy and extent of carotid atherosclerosis than is brachial pressure. Furthermore, central pulse pressure better predicts outcome than does brachial pressure."

The *Hypertension* article can be downloaded from: <http://hyper.ahajournals.org>

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