

## Media Release

Zug, 28 October 2014

### **HBM Healthcare Investments takes USD 8 million stake in Vascular Dynamics**

Vascular Dynamics, a privately held company based in Mountain View, California, today announced the closing of a USD 17 million financing round. HBM Healthcare Investments led the financing with a total investment of USD 8 million. After completion of the financing, HBM Healthcare Investments will own around 16% of the company. Dr. Thomas Thaler will join the Board of Vascular Dynamics.

The proceeds from the financing allow the continuation of a pivotal clinical study for MobiusHD™, an implant for the treatment of patients with high blood pressure (hypertension), which do not respond to appropriate medication any longer. Dr. Thomas Thaler, Investment Advisor of HBM Partners comments: *“MobiusHD™ is an interesting innovation for the treatment of patients with resistant hypertension. The study results of the nine patients treated with the implant until today show very good results and validate the clinical approach.”*

Hypertension affects more than 74 million patients in the United States alone, causing annual health costs of more than USD 60 billion. It is estimated that hypertension is the cause of one in eight deaths worldwide. About a quarter of all patients affected are unable to adequately regulate their hypertension with medications and lifestyle modifications.

HBM Healthcare Investments makes its investment in two tranches. The first tranche of USD 4 million was paid at the closing of the financing. The second tranche of USD 4 million will be paid after availability of 90-day data in 20 patients, demonstrating the safety of the MobiusHD™ implant.

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#### **About Vascular Dynamics**

Vascular Dynamics seeks to provide safe, minimally invasive solutions for the treatment of refractive or resistant hypertension. Resistant hypertension is high blood pressure that does not

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respond to standard medical treatments anymore. The company has developed a nitinol implant delivered by catheter to the carotid sinus that is designed to increase the signals generated by the surrounding arterial baroreceptors. Baroreceptors are a type of mechanoreceptor that detect the pressure of blood flowing through them, and send messages to the central nervous system to increase or decrease total peripheral resistance and cardiac output. Vascular Dynamics was one of the nine companies chosen in 2012 by the FDA to participate in the Early Feasibility Study IDE Pilot Program. The company was founded in 2008 by Rainbow Medical, a healthcare accelerator developing the technologies invented by Israeli inventor Yossi Gross.

### Information on HBM Healthcare Investments Ltd

HBM Healthcare Investments invests in the healthcare sector. The Company holds and manages an international portfolio of some 25 promising companies in the human medicine, biotechnology, medical technology and diagnostics sectors, and related areas. Many of these companies have their lead products at an advanced stage of development or already available on the market. The portfolio companies are closely tracked and actively guided in their strategic direction. This is what makes HBM Healthcare Investments an interesting alternative to investments in big pharma and biotechnology companies. HBM Healthcare Investments has an international shareholder base and is listed on SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker: HBMN).

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