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PRESS RELEASE: Nervive awarded \$3.1 million NIH grant to develop the VitalFlow™ stimulator, a noninvasive emergency treatment for ischemic stroke.

Nervive, Inc. has been awarded a \$3.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to advance clinical testing of its medical device, the VitalFlow™ stimulator, as an emergency treatment for stroke. The three-year grant has been awarded through the CREATE Devices program that provides a collaborative partnership with the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).

“The CREATE Devices program is designed to help researchers translate innovative therapeutic devices for treating neurological disorders through preclinical and early clinical studies in pursuit of future FDA market approval,” said Nick Langhals, Ph.D., Program Director at NINDS. “We are glad to see this project advance development and evaluation of a treatment for patients with ischemic stroke.”

Globally, stroke is the most common cause of disability and the second most common cause of death. More than 16 million people suffer a stroke each year, of which 5 million prove fatal. In the US alone, nearly 800,000 cases of stroke occur each year, costing approximately \$37 billion in healthcare expenditures. The number and burden of stroke cases is expected to increase into the foreseeable future.

The VitalFlow is a novel platform technology that stimulates the facial nerve using non-invasive pulsed magnetic energy, resulting in increased blood flow to the brain. The VitalFlow is expected to improve the effectiveness of existing emergency stroke treatments, increasing the delivery of tPA and other clot-busting drugs to the site of arterial obstruction and facilitating the navigation of clot-retrieval catheters through the dilated arteries of the brain. Additionally, the VitalFlow is expected to function as a stand-alone treatment for the large number of stroke patients who cannot receive existing emergency stroke treatments. Prior to stroke treatment, a version of the VitalFlow is being prepared for market entry in 2018 as a treatment for cerebral artery vasospasm (a stroke-like condition) that occurs in intensive care units. Subsequent versions of the VitalFlow will be used to treat stroke in the emergency department and ambulance.

The proposed CREATE Devices project is an Early Feasibility Clinical Study in ischemic stroke patients that will provide initial clinical data on the safety, tolerability, and effectiveness of the VitalFlow as an emergency treatment for ischemic stroke. The data from this study will justify larger, definitive clinical studies of the VitalFlow, leading toward regulatory approval as an emergency treatment for stroke.

About Nervive, Inc. (www.nervive.com)

Nervive, Inc. is headquartered in Akron, Ohio and is the recipient of one of the first investments of the Akron BioInvestments Fund. To date, Nervive has benefitted from

more than \$8 M in funding, the majority of which being non-dilutive. Founded in 2013, Nervive has accomplished key clinical milestones, completing a healthy subject and First-in-Man clinical study in partnership with NeuroSpring, the CI3M laboratory, and the National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery of Mexico. In addition, Nervive and its regulatory partner Matrix Medical Devices have accomplished key initial regulatory milestones, including multiple FDA pre-submission meetings and establishing Humanitarian Use Designation as a therapy for vasospasm.

About CI3M (www.ci3m.mx)

The CI3M laboratory is a designated National Laboratory of the Mexican federal government that focuses on preclinical and clinical development of medical devices. Affiliated with the Department of Biomedical Engineering of the Metropolitan University of Mexico City, the CI3M laboratory has initiated and supported numerous medical devices that have reached market.

About Matrix Medical Devices (www.matrixmedicaldevices.com)

Matrix Medical Devices was founded in 2013 to help provide medical device product development expertise to accelerate its client's product development cycle while streamlining post-market surveillance activities. Matrix Medical offers both strategic and tactical support and currently serves as the in-house regulatory staff for numerous medical products companies.

About NeuroSpring (www.neurospring.org)

NeuroSpring is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that supports neuroscience research. Founded in 2005 as a public charity, NeuroSpring has supported development of the VitalFlow stimulator from preclinical to early clinical testing.

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