

Press Release 05/10

July, 6th 2010

Football meets lung support: Novalung GmbH expands its business into South Africa

The world's first pumpless lung assist device, the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®], now exclusively available in South Africa through Tau Medical Supplies.

Novalung GmbH, the German manufacturer of the world's leading therapeutic system for extrapulmonary lung support, has signed an exclusive agreement with Tau Medical Supplies for the distribution of the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] lung support system in South Africa.

Dr. Georg Matheis, CEO of Novalung GmbH, noted: "We have seen the increasing need for application of the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] in South Africa to support patients with acute and chronic lung failure. We are very pleased that we could appoint Tau Medical as exclusive distributor." The iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] supports the lung by removing carbon dioxide directly from the blood, thus reducing the work load for the patient's own lung and permitting adequate ventilation irrespective of lung function.

Tau Medical was chosen by Novalung due to their experience with innovative medical procedures and their reputation for excellence in customer support. "The iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] is a perfect addition to our current range of products" said Alan Sussman, CEO of Tau Medical. "As the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] enables an innovative therapy approach, a clinical team with 24/7 availability is essential for a successful introduction. Tau Medical Supplies provides expertise, training and education that meet the above criteria."

Immediately after signing the distributor contract a group of physicians from South Africa was trained at the Novalung Academy in Germany. Shortly thereafter the first patients suffering from chronic obstructive lung disease (COPD) and recuperating after lung transplantation were able to benefit from this innovative technology. One patient who had been hospitalized at the renowned Glynnwood Hospital due to an exacerbation of her chronic lung disease was treated with the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] because she couldn't be weaned off the mechanical ventilator. The attending physician Dr. Gerry Carpatos stated: "The patient had an excellent response, with good carbon dioxide removal so that the patient could be woken up." The cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr Steve Davies, affirmed: "After a few hours we saw a significant improvement. The patient was communicating, talking to her family and able to have supper." In another patient with severe COPD, Dr. Carpatos stated: "After three unsuccessful weaning attempts the iLA Membrane Ventilator was applied, and it was then possible to wean and extubate the patient, who is now convalescing at home. This patient would have undoubtedly succumbed to ventilator associated pneumonia. There is no doubt that the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] has therefore been a life saving device in this instance."

Press Release 05/10

July, 6th 2010

You can download high-resolution pictures as well as the literature compendium on www.novalung.com or it will be sent on request via email.

Please send us a copy of your imprint.

Contact:

Franziska Preißing
Head of Marketing
franziska.preissing@novalung.com
Novalung GmbH
Egerten 3
D-74388 Talheim
Tel.: +49 7133 90 11 130
Fax: +49 7133 90 11 230
www.novalung.com

Press Release 05/10

July, 6th 2010

Background information

iLA Membrane Ventilator[®]

The iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] is the world's first pumpless artificial lung assist device designed specifically to breathe outside the patient's body. The iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] supports the lung by removing carbon dioxide effectively and is therefore perfused by the human heart like a natural organ relieving the patient's lung as its gas exchange capacity is supported and the breathing work reduced. The patient's natural lung is given „Time to Heal“[®].

The iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] is connected non-surgically to a femoral (groin) artery and vein using two specially designed NovaPort[®] vascular access devices. The artificial lung itself measures only 14x14 cm. Inside, a hollow fibre membrane takes over the function of the pulmonary alveoli and thus supports or in some cases even replaces common mechanical ventilation. So-called “protective” ventilation strategies can now be pursued more aggressively;

In the scientific literature the iLA Membrane Ventilator[®] is also known as “pecla” (pumpless extracorporeal lung assist) or „AVCO2R“ (arterio-venous CO2 removal).

Novalung GmbH - Driver of a paradigm shift

Novalung's mission is to develop, produce and market innovative solutions for lung failure, including the world's first pumpless artificial lung assist device designed to breathe outside the patient's body. Founded in 2003, the German company operates on a highly international level focusing on the objective to replace damaging invasive mechanical ventilation.

Tau Medical Supplies

The South African company Tau Medical Supplies was founded ten years ago and due to its breathtaking growth has already been well established as a competitive and respected provider of medical products with a focus on critical care. Suppliers to Tau Medical are world leaders in their respective field and the products reflect the innovative use of leading-edge technology. Tau Medical has strategic partnerships with numerous renowned global medical device manufacturers.