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Australian Securities Exchange
Announcement

THE US ‘NATIONAL LYMPHEDEMA NETWORK’ (NLN) POSTS IMPORTANT NEW POSITION PAPER AROUND CLINICAL GUIDELINES

"Screening and Measurements for Early Detection of Breast Cancer Related Lymphedema"


This NLN posting of medical guidelines is another key milestone for the Company around clinical guidelines in support of prospective care models for patients at risk of lymphoedema. These NLN guidelines should assist in building coverage by health insurance companies for the testing of breast cancer patients.

The position paper specifically refers to surgeons and oncologists to adopt a prospective care model for breast cancer patients, working closely with therapists. To obtain an objective measure, “Pre-treatment baseline measurement of arms is essential, as this serves as the baseline data to which subsequent measurements can be compared. Regular measurements following treatment are indicated for the remainder of the patient’s life. Surgeons and medical oncologists who treat breast cancer and follow breast cancer patients/survivors should conduct these measurements at every patient visit. Such measurements should also be conducted in cases where primary care physicians or advanced practice nurses provide follow up care in lieu of the treating surgeons or oncologists.”

The communication sent out from the NLN went on to say, “The urgency in writing this paper for breast cancer related lymphedema is due to evidence indicating that early detection of latent breast cancer related lymphedema offers an opportunity to identify and treat lymphedema more successfully at an earlier stage. The National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) has adopted the NLN guidelines for early detection of breast cancer related lymphedema. This NLN Position Paper allows the guidelines to be available to all patients, providers, and advocacy groups regardless of where breast cancer treatment is received”.

ASX CODE: IPD
ImpediMed applauds the National Lymphedema Network for its continued efforts to advance community awareness and improve the quality of care for patients who are at risk of developing lymphoedema.

The NLN’s medical guideline press release is relevant to the Company and our shareholders due to their independent recognition of L-Dex® testing (BIS) and its role in aiding in the clinical assessment of unilateral lymphoedema of the arm in female breast cancer patients. ImpediMed’s L-Dex® U400 device is built on a bioimpedance spectroscopy (BIS) platform that was developed out of the collaborative efforts of the University of Queensland’s Dr. Leigh Ward and the Queensland University of Technology’s Dr Bruce Cornish. BIS has regulatory marketing clearance on three continents and access to a CPT code in the US market, which can be used by medical providers in billing for the procedure.

The Position Paper states that, “Bioelectrical spectroscopy (BIS) or infrared perometry are suggested as alternative or adjunct methods to circumferential measurement”.

Circumferential measurement is a reference to the use of a tape measure, or water displacement, which provides a measure of total arm volume. The Paper goes on to say that, “A BIS reading outside normal limits for equipment being used (e.g., L-Dex reading >10) warrant immediate referral for further evaluation by a professional trained in lymphedema assessment and management”.

The link to the NLN Position Paper, “Screening and Measurement for Early Detection of Breast Cancer Related Lymphedema” can be found at:

www.lymphnet.org/pdfDocs/nlnBCLE.pdf

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