

Press Release

Dr. Alexander Massmann of Saarland University Medical Center, Germany, received the Werner-Porstmann Prize for preclinical study of MaRVis MR guidewires

June 4th, 2018 – The Werner-Porstmann Prize of the German Society for Radiology and the German Society for Interventional Radiology and Minimally Invasive Therapy recognizes the best scientific publication in interventional radiology having been published in the past two years. This prize has been donated by Boston Scientific. Dr. Alexander Massmann of the Saarland University Medical Center, Germany, has been awarded this prize during the 99th Annual Meeting of the German Roentgen Society 2018 for his publication in "Radiology" dealing with a preclinical study in a phantom vessel model and a comprehensive pig animal study on the novel MaRVis MR guidewire portfolio.

Dr. Alexander Massmann, Prof. Arno Bücken and Prof. Günther Schneider, Saarland University Medical Center (Germany), have published a scientific paper (Radiology, 2017; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1148/radiol.2017152742>) describing comprehensive comparative testing of the MaRVis MR guidewires to gold-standard commercial metal-based guidewires in a phantom vessel model and an animal study using nine pigs. 1,296 cannulations and 27 stent placements in a variety of radiological interventional endovascular procedures in the animal trial demonstrated excellent visualization of the MR guidewires combined with good handling properties. The authors concluded that handling of the MaRVis guidewires in MRI – guided interventions is comparable to that of the commercial reference products in conventional X-ray-based angiography.

Dr. Massmann, an experienced and highly skilled interventional radiologist, at the 99th Annual Meeting of the German Roentgen Society 2018 has been awarded the Werner-Porstmann prize for his publication. This prize honours the best scientific publication in the field of interventional radiology having been published in the past two years. It is granted jointly by the German Society for Radiology and the German Society for Interventional Radiology and Minimally Invasive Therapy and donated by Boston Scientific. With awarding this prize to Dr. Massmann these radiological expert societies also value the need and relevance of novel MR safe and MR visible guidewires as the key enabling tools to introduce endovascular MRI-guided interventions in clinical routine, and, thereby, the medical importance of such MRI-guided interventions as a highly relevant field of medical innovation in radiology.

MRI-guided interventions provide numerous advantages compared to current X-ray-based fluoroscopy or computed tomography (CT) - guidance. These include optimal visualization of soft tissue (e.g. blood vessels, organs, tumours) and continuous real-time imaging of the soft tissue in the body, and, thereby, an excellent operative control over the entire duration of the intervention. Furthermore, complete absence of ionizing radiation exposure is a strong health benefit for patients and physicians.

The publication by Dr. Massmann et al. demonstrates the usefulness of the unique MaRVIS MR guidewire portfolio providing for the first time the required common types of guidewires, i.e. standard and stiff 0.035" and micro 0.014" variants. The authors concluded that handling of the MaRVIS guidewires in MRI – guided interventions is comparable to that of the commercial reference products in conventional X-ray-based angiography.

Dr. Klaus Düring, CEO of MaRVIS Interventional, stated: «This prize having been awarded to Dr. Alexander Massmann makes us very happy as it emphasizes two essential aspects in this field. The group of Dr. Massmann, Prof. Buecker and Prof. Schneider is one of those with longest-standing medical and technical expertise in MRI-guided radiological interventions. And the emerging field of MRI-guided interventions attracts more and more attention by the radiological community, due to their strong envisaged benefits for patients, physicians and the healthcare system. We at MaRVIS are delighted to essentially contribute to this innovative field with our strong patent-protected portfolio of MR safe guidewires ready for introduction into clinical application.»

About MaRVIS Interventional GmbH

MaRVIS Interventional GmbH is a German medical device company dedicated to development, regulatory approval and marketing of MR safe and MR visible interventional devices. It has developed a patent-protected comprehensive platform technology integrating optimal mechanical properties with sharp and precise visualization of the devices in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). The first focus of MaRVIS is on MR safe and visible guidewires, which has been realized in the world's first full portfolio of 0.035" standard and stiff guidewires and 0.014" and 0.018" micro guidewires. The MaRVIS guidewires offer excellent mechanical handling and MR visibility and have been successfully tested in numerous model and animal trials in European and U.S. centers in various medical fields of application. The first product line MaRVIS Amber Wire has been CE marked in spring 2018. This first-in-class platform technology provides high flexibility and is a powerful basis for the design of a broad spectrum of diverse interventional devices.

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