



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Avedro Initiates Keraflex® KXL Clinical Trials for Treating Keratoconus
Initial results demonstrate significant corneal flattening, improved visual outcomes

Waltham, MA, December 16, 2009 – During the 5th International Congress of Corneal Cross Linking for Keratoconus in Leipzig, Germany on December 5th, Avedro presented encouraging early clinical results for treating keratoconus, a progressive disease of the cornea of the eye. The procedure, known as Keraflex® KXL, is non-incisional and reshapes the cornea without removing any tissue.

Keratoconus, or KC, is a cone-shaped protrusion and distortion of the cornea that typically begins in the teenage years or 20's and afflicts millions of people around the world, severely affecting their vision. KC is a progressive condition which can lead to cornea transplantation in some patients.

Initial treatment results from the first group of Keraflex KXL patients, treated by Prof. Ömer Faruk Yilmaz, MD of Beyoglu Eye Research and Training Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey, were presented in Leipzig by Prof. John Marshall, PhD, FRCPath, FRCOphthal (Hon), Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology King's College London; and Dr. Peter Hersh, Professor of Ophthalmology UMDNJ – New Jersey Medical School and Director, Cornea and Laser Eye Institute – CLEI Center for Keratoconus in New Jersey.

In their presentations, Drs. Marshall and Hersh reported significant corneal flattening and improved corneal smoothness and regularity in all keratoconus subjects.

Dr. Hersh remarked, "Keraflex KXL is a promising new technology to decrease the protruding cone of keratoconus and make the irregular cornea smoother. Our early experience shows improvements in the keratoconic cornea that we have not seen with past technologies. This should help improve vision in patients with keratoconus, a cornea problem that is difficult to correct, as well as improve contact lens wear and vision with glasses. We hope that Keraflex can help avoid cornea transplants in many patients who otherwise might have no other alternative."

Dr. Marshall added, "I am extremely excited by Avedro's technology. It has particularly important consequences for the treatment of keratoconus whereby not only can it flatten the cornea, it also has the potential for correcting associated refractive errors without any biomechanical weakening and most unexpectedly, it strengthens the cornea and should prevent or delay any further corneal distortion."

Commenting on the presentations, David Muller, PhD, President and CEO of Avedro said, “It was clear that the discerning conference attendees universally welcomed the new data and were equally excited about the promise of the technology for their keratoconus patients who are currently faced with limited refractive treatment options. While Keraflex KXL has been under clinical study for the correction of myopia since the beginning of the year, the data presented in Leipzig is from a separate keratoconus study that began in November. The visually debilitating nature of keratoconus and the lack of refractive correction alternatives for keratoconus patients have prompted the company to accelerate its efforts to make Keraflex KXL commercially available for treating keratoconus patients in Europe as soon as the company receives its CE Mark.”

About Avedro, Inc.

Avedro, a privately held medical device company based in Waltham, MA, is developing the science of *Thermo-biomechanics* for therapeutic medical applications. Keraflex® KXL, a non-invasive, incision-less refractive correction procedure is the first technology that Avedro has developed from its Thermo-biomechanics platform. Keraflex KXL is currently under clinical investigation in Europe for treating myopia and keratoconus. Because it is non-incisional and preserves the biomechanical integrity of the cornea, Keraflex KXL is anticipated to substantially broaden the surgical vision correction market by appealing to people with low to moderate myopia who have never considered LASIK or who have opted out of LASIK. The expanded keratoconus clinical trials open a new and substantial business opportunity for the company. For more information on Avedro, visit www.avedro.com.

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