

For Immediate Release

For More Information:

Rochelle Ellis
Front Line Strategic Consulting, Inc.
650-525-1500 x.156
rochelle@frontlinesmc.com

DRUG-ELUTING STENTS MARKET TO TRIPLE BY 2008

Cardiologists Demonstrate a Strong Preference for Drug-Eluting Stents

October 28, 2003, San Mateo, Calif. — With heart disease as the leading killer in the U.S., there is great demand for drug-eluting stents (DESs) as their use reduces repeat surgical procedures and improves patient quality of life. In a recently concluded study entitled *Drug-Eluting Stents: Physician Perspectives and Opportunity Analysis of a High Growth Market*, analysts from Front Line Strategic Consulting, Inc. have determined that there will be strong competition in this cardiovascular segment as several players are poised to enter the U.S. market by 2008.

According to Front Line's research and analysis, the worldwide DES market will be \$2.1B in 2003 and \$6.3B in 2008, driven by an increasing patient population and broader applications for DESs. Additionally, the U.S. will hold over 70% of this medical device segment by 2008 due to increased reimbursement rates by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and private third-party payers. The total market size in the EU will be relatively small, hindered by pricing limits and lower reimbursement rates overseas. Cordis Corporation will continue to be a top player in 2008, but will lose substantial market share to emerging DES players, including Boston Scientific Corporation, Medtronic, Inc., and Guidant Corporation.

“We are very excited about this medical device segment. For some patients, such as those with blockages in multiple vessels, drug-eluting stents offer a highly attractive alternative to bypass surgery. We gained a phenomenal amount of information from physicians and surgeons during our survey; they have very definite opinions about drug-eluting stents and their applications in various medical situations. The report captures

their perspectives and offers strategic recommendations to address unmet needs,” says Rochelle Ellis, analyst, Strategic Market Reports division for Front Line.

About Front Line

Headquartered in San Mateo, Calif., Front Line is a leader in strategic consulting and market analysis for the Life Sciences industries, offering strategic business intelligence through exclusive consulting engagements and comprehensive strategic market reports of key therapeutic and technology areas. Front Line was founded in 1992 and specializes in combining diligent research methodology with intelligent strategic planning for their pharmaceutical and biotechnology customers. www.frontlinesmc.com

###