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## **SCRIPPS LA JOLLA FIRST IN U.S. TO USE ZOLL'S FDA-APPROVED SUPERSATURATED OXYGEN THERAPY ON PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM WIDOWMAKER HEART ATTACKS**

First and Only Treatment to Reduce Heart Muscle Damage Following Angioplasty and Stenting

**January 14, 2020 – Chelmsford, Mass.** — ZOLL® Medical Corporation, an Asahi Kasei Group Company that manufactures medical devices and related software solutions, announced today that Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, in San Diego, Calif., treated its first “widowmaker” heart attack patient with SuperSaturated Oxygen (SSO<sub>2</sub>) Therapy. This is the first-of-a-kind FDA-approved device proven through randomized clinical trials to reduce heart muscle damage.<sup>1</sup>

SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy delivers hyperbaric levels of oxygen directly to the damaged heart muscle immediately after successful revascularization via angioplasty and stenting of the blocked coronary artery. It is indicated for patients who suffer the most serious kind of heart attack, left anterior descending ST-elevation myocardial infarction (LAD STEMI) — also known as a “widowmaker” due to the high mortality rate — and are treated within six hours of symptom onset. SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy is the first and only FDA-approved device beyond percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) to reduce muscle damage in heart attack patients.<sup>2</sup>

“These most serious heart attacks often cause such severe damage to the heart that even if the patient survives, they remain at high risk for developing heart failure in the future,” said Richard Schatz, MD, Research Director Cardiovascular Interventions, Scripps Clinic. “The use of hyperbaric oxygen is well known to improve the body’s ability to heal, and similar clinical data in the heart have demonstrated the ability of SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy to reduce tissue damage and thus reduce future complications.<sup>1</sup>”

A heart attack is typically caused when the flow of blood and oxygen to the heart is blocked or reduced. For many patients, even after blood flow is quickly restored with angioplasty and stenting, irreversible damage to the heart muscle may occur. SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy delivers localized superoxygenated blood, with the goal of improving microvascular blood flow and reducing damage to the heart muscle.

Although angioplasty and stenting have been the standard of care in treating heart attacks for 25 years, many patients do not achieve maximum clinical benefit and suffer from reduced heart function. More than 30% percent of severe heart attack patients develop heart failure,<sup>3</sup> and of those, 50% will die within five years.<sup>3</sup> SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy has been shown in randomized prospective clinical trials to safely reduce infarct size in widowmaker heart attack patients. Decades of research on heart attack patients has demonstrated that infarct size reduction is correlated with reduced mortality and heart failure, and better left ventricular function.<sup>4</sup>

SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy was developed by Irvine, California-based TherOx, Inc., a subsidiary of ZOLL Medical Corporation. Additional information about SSO<sub>2</sub> Therapy is available at <https://www.therox.com/sso2-therapy/>.

### **About ZOLL Medical Corporation**

ZOLL Medical Corporation, an Asahi Kasei Group Company, develops and markets medical devices and software solutions that help advance emergency care and save lives, while increasing clinical and operational efficiencies. With products for defibrillation and monitoring, circulation and CPR feedback, data management, therapeutic temperature management, and ventilation, ZOLL provides a comprehensive set of technologies that help clinicians, EMS and fire professionals, as well as lay rescuers treat victims needing resuscitation and acute critical care. For more information, visit [www.zoll.com](http://www.zoll.com).

### **About Asahi Kasei**

The Asahi Kasei Group is a diversified group of companies led by holding company Asahi Kasei Corporation, with operations in the material, homes, and health care business sectors. Its health care operations include devices and systems for acute critical care, dialysis, therapeutic apheresis, transfusion, and manufacture of biotherapeutics, as well as pharmaceuticals and diagnostic reagents. With more than 30,000 employees around the world, the Asahi Kasei Group serves customers in more than 100 countries. For more information, visit [www.asahi-kasei.co.jp/asahi/en/](http://www.asahi-kasei.co.jp/asahi/en/)

<sup>1</sup>Stone GW, et al. *Circ Cardiovasc Intervent* 2009;2:5:366–375.

<sup>2</sup>Martin JL. *Cardiac Interventions Today*. 2019;13:4:28–30.

<sup>3</sup>Heart Failure Fact Sheet|Data & Statistics|DHDSP|CDC

<sup>4</sup>Stone, G.W. et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2016;67(14):1674–83.