CryoLife Product Holds Great Promise for Dialysis Patients

June 9, 1999
Business Editors/Health and Medical Writers

ATLANTA--(BW HealthWire)--June 9 , 1999--CryoLife, Inc. (NYSE:CRY), the leader in the development and commercialization of living human tissue implantable devices and a manufacturer and distributor of stentless heart valves and surgical adhesives, today announced that the Company's cryopreserved femoral veins are reported to significantly reduce infection rates at access sites for dialysis patients.

In a presentation at the Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society in Washington, D.C., on June 5, 1999, it was reported that by utilizing CryoLife's cryopreserved femoral veins for difficult hemodialysis access, infection rates were virtually nonexistent and the graft using the cryopreserved femoral vein remained open and viable for prolonged periods.

Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) require hemodialysis, which is the use of an artificial kidney to remove toxins and fluids from the blood. The artificial kidney requires a graft or access point in each patient which is the linkage between the patient and the dialysis machine. These access sites are prone to infection and such sites often become inaccessible because previous multiple graft attempts to open a portal for connecting the patient and the dialysis machine have resulted in failure.

Steven G. Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer of CryoLife, said, "The cryopreserved femoral vein technology presented to the Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society represents precisely the kind of contribution our company is seeking to make in the healthcare marketplace. The surgical implementation of a graft for hemodialysis is the most commonly performed surgical procedure among the dialysis population, representing approximately 200,000 procedures a year. Our cryopreserved femoral veins have the potential to improve the quality of life for the dialysis population, which expands approximately 7% to 8% every year."

Founded in 1984, CryoLife, Inc. is the leader in the development and commercialization of implantable living human tissues for use in cardiovascular, vascular, and orthopaedic surgeries throughout the United States and Canada. The Company's BioGlue(R) surgical adhesive, CE marked in the European Union for use in vascular and pulmonary sealing and repair, is distributed throughout Europe. The Company also manufactures CryoLife-O'Brien(R) and CryoLife-Ross(TM) stentless porcine heart valves which are distributed within the European Community.

Statements made in this press release which look forward in time involve risks and uncertainties and are "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such risks and uncertainties include the possibility that use of the Company's cryopreserved femoral veins to establish access for hemodialysis will not be as successful as the Company believes, changes in economic cycles, competition from other companies, changes in laws and governmental regulations applicable to the Company and other risk factors detailed in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the Company's Prospectus dated March 30, 1998, contained in its Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-46545).

Editor's Note: CryoLife Customer Service may be accessed by telephone: 1-800-438-8285 (U.S. and Canada) 1-770-419-3355 (International) 1-770-590-3753 (International fax) E-mail: customerservice@cryolife.com

For additional information about the Company, visit CryoLife's web site: http://www.cryolife.com

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KEYWORD: GEORGIA
INDUSTRY KEYWORD: MEDICINE BIOTECHNOLOGY