

InspireMD, Inc.
Form 10-K
February 16, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT
OF 1934**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE
ACT OF 1934**

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER: 001-35731

InspireMD, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware **26-2123838**
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

4 Menorat Hamaor St.
Tel Aviv, Israel **6744832**
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(888) 776-6804**

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value	NYSE MKT

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: none

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.
Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Edgar Filing: InspireMD, Inc. - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. []

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer []

Accelerated filer []

Non-accelerated filer []

Smaller reporting company [X]

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes [] No [X]

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2016, based on the price at which the common equity was last sold on the NYSE MKT on such date, was \$2,901,719. For purposes of this computation only, all officers, directors and 10% or greater stockholders of the registrant are deemed to be affiliates.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at February 15, 2017
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value	1,472,606

Documents incorporated by reference:

None

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>PART I</u>	3
Item 1. <u>Business.</u>	3
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors.</u>	23
Item 1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments.</u>	43
Item 2. <u>Properties.</u>	43
Item 3. <u>Legal Proceedings.</u>	43
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures.</u>	44
<u>PART II</u>	44
Item 5. <u>Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.</u>	44
Item 6. <u>Selected Financial Data.</u>	45
Item 7. <u>Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.</u>	45
Item 7A. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.</u>	53
Item 8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.</u>	53
Item 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.</u>	53
Item 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures.</u>	54
Item 9B. <u>Other Information.</u>	54
<u>PART III</u>	54
Item 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.</u>	54
Item 11. <u>Executive Compensation.</u>	59
Item 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.</u>	73
Item 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.</u>	76
Item 14. <u>Principal Accounting Fees and Services.</u>	77
<u>PART IV</u>	
Item 15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.</u>	78

PART I

In this Annual Report on Form 10-K, unless the context requires otherwise, the terms “we,” “our,” “us,” or “the Company” refer to InspireMD, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its subsidiaries, including InspireMD Ltd., taken as a whole.

Item 1. Business.

Overview

We are a medical device company focusing on the development and commercialization of our proprietary MicroNet™ stent platform technology for the treatment of complex vascular and coronary disease. A stent is an expandable “scaffold-like” device, usually constructed of a metallic material, that is inserted into an artery to expand the inside passage and improve blood flow. Our MicroNet, a micron mesh sleeve, is wrapped over a stent to provide embolic protection in stenting procedures.

Our CGuard™ carotid embolic prevention system (“CGuard EPS”) combines MicroNet and a self-expandable nitinol stent in a single device for use in carotid artery applications. Our CGuard EPS received CE mark approval in the European Union in March 2013, and we launched its release on a limited basis in October 2014. In January 2015, a new version of CGuard, with a rapid exchange delivery system, received CE mark approval in Europe and in September 2015, we announced the full market launch of CGuard EPS in Europe. Subsequently, we launched CGuard EPS in Argentina and Colombia, and have received regulatory approval to commercialize CGuard EPS in Russia. If we receive sufficient proceeds from future financings, we plan to develop CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter (5 French gauge), which we intend to submit for CE mark approval within three calendar quarters of receiving such proceeds. We cannot give any assurance that we will receive sufficient (or any) proceeds from any such financings or the timing of such financings, if ever. In addition, such additional financings may be costly or difficult to complete.

Our MGuard™ Prime™ Embolic Protection System (“MGuard Prime EPS”) is marketed for use in patients with acute coronary syndromes, notably acute myocardial infarction (heart attack) and saphenous vein graft coronary interventions (bypass surgery). MGuard Prime EPS combines MicroNet with a bare-metal cobalt-chromium based stent and, together with our first generation MGuard stent combining MicroNet with a bare-metal stainless steel stent, unless otherwise indicated, we refer to both kinds of bare-metal stents as our MGuard coronary products. We market and sell MGuard Prime EPS for the treatment of coronary disease in the European Union. MGuard Prime EPS received CE mark approval in the European Union in October 2010 for improving luminal diameter and providing embolic protection. However, as a result of a shift in industry preferences away from bare-metal stents in favor of drug-eluting (drug-coated) stents, in 2014 we decided to curtail further development of this product in order to focus

on the development of a drug-eluting stent product, MGuard DES™. Due to limited resources, though, our efforts have been limited to testing drug-eluting stents manufactured by potential partners for compatibility with MicroNet and seeking to incorporate MicroNet onto a drug-eluting stent manufactured by a potential partner.

We are also developing a neurovascular flow diverter (“NGuard”), which is an endovascular device that directs blood flow away from cerebral aneurysms in order to ultimately seal the aneurysms. Our flow diverter would utilize an open cell, highly flexible metal scaffold to which MicroNet would be attached. We have completed initial pre-clinical testing of this product in both simulated bench models and standard in vivo pre-clinical models. However, as we plan to focus our resources on the further expansion of our sales and marketing activities for CGuard EPS and MGuard Prime EPS and, provided that we have sufficient resources, the development of CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter (5 French gauge) and its submission for CE mark approval, we do not intend to resume further development of NGuard until at least the third quarter of 2018.

We also intend to develop a pipeline of other products and additional applications by leveraging our MicroNet technology to new applications to improve peripheral vascular and neurovascular procedures, such as the treatment of the superficial femoral artery disease, vascular disease below the knee and neurovascular stenting to open diseased vessels in the brain.

Presently, none of our products may be sold or marketed in the United States.

During the first quarter of 2015, we implemented a cost reduction/focused spending plan. The plan had four components: (i) reducing headcount; (ii) limiting the focus of clinical and development expenses to only carotid and neurovascular products; (iii) limiting sales and marketing expenses to those related to the CGuard™ EPS stent launch; and (iv) reducing all other expenses (including conferences, travel, promotional expenses, executive cash salaries, director cash fees, rent, etc.). In addition, we decided to alter our commercial strategy by using third party distributors to drive future sales, as opposed to direct sales to hospitals and clinics, which had previously been our focus. However, we have decided to shift our commercial strategy to focus on sales of our products through local distribution partners and our own internal sales initiatives. We have begun to participate in international trade shows and industry conferences in an attempt to gain market exposure and brand recognition.

Effective as of 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on October 7, 2016, we amended our certificate of incorporation in order to effectuate a 1-for-25 reverse stock split of our outstanding shares of common stock. All share and related option and warrant information presented in this Annual Report on Form 10-K have been retroactively adjusted to reflect the reduced number of shares outstanding which resulted from this action.

We were organized in the State of Delaware on February 29, 2008.

We make available, free of charge, our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to these reports on our website at www.inspiremd.com as soon as reasonably practicable after those reports and other information is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Business Segment and Geographic Areas

Prior to October 2014, all revenue was derived from sales of MGuard Prime EPS. For the twelve months ended December 31, 2016, 39% of our revenue was derived from sales of this product, with the remaining 61% of our revenue derived from sales of CGuard EPS. For financial information about our one operating and reportable segment and geographic areas, refer to “Part II—Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Part II—Financial Statements and Supplementary Data—Note 13 - Entity Wide Disclosures.”

Our Industry

Carotid

Carotid arteries are located on each side of the neck and provide the primary blood supply to the brain. Carotid artery disease, also called carotid artery stenosis, is a type of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) that is one of the major risk factors for ischemic stroke. In carotid artery disease, plaque accumulates in the artery walls, narrowing the artery and disrupting the blood supply to the brain. This disruption in blood supply, together with plaque debris breaking off the artery walls and traveling to the brain, are the primary causes of stroke. According to the World Heart Federation (<http://www.world-heart-federation.org/cardiovascular-health/stroke/>, last visited on Mar. 11, 2016), every year, 15 million people worldwide suffer a stroke, and nearly six million die and another five million are left permanently disabled. According to the same source, stroke is the second leading cause of disability, after dementia.

The potential global market value of carotid stents is approximately \$500 million, approximately \$300 million of which consists of the U.S. market and approximately \$200 million of which consists of the rest of the world (*source: JMP Securities 2014 and Cowen 2014*). Carotid artery stenting is a minimally invasive treatment option for carotid artery disease and an alternative to carotid endarterectomy, where a surgeon accesses the blocked carotid artery through an incision in the neck, and then surgically removes the plaque. Endovascular techniques using stents and carotid embolic prevention system protect against plaque and debris traveling downstream, blocking off the vessel and disrupting blood flow. We believe that the use of a stent with an embolic protection system should increase the number of patients being treated since it would avoid the need for complex surgery.

Coronary

Physicians and patients may select from among a variety of treatments to address coronary artery disease, including pharmaceutical therapy, balloon angioplasty, stenting with bare metal or drug-eluting stents, and coronary artery bypass graft procedures, with the selection often depending upon the stage of the disease.

The global market value of coronary products is estimated at \$5.9 billion, of which \$4.2 billion is for stable angina and \$1.7 billion is for acute myocardial infarctions according to Health Research International (June 2011). According to the 2014 MEDTECH OUTLOOK produced in December 2013 by BMO Capital Markets (“MEDTECH OUTLOOK”), revenues from the global coronary stent market are predicted to slightly decline, although in volume of stents the market is predicted to continue to grow. We believe the growth in volume is due to the appeal for less invasive percutaneous coronary intervention (“PCI”) procedures and advances in technology coupled with the increase in the elderly population, obesity rates and advances in technology.

Neurovascular

The neurovascular market focuses on catheter-delivered products used to treat strokes that already happened or unruptured brain aneurysms that could lead to strokes. In the latter case, coils are wound into blood vessel bulges to block blood flow entering the aneurysms to prevent the aneurysms from rupturing. Endovascular treatment of arterial aneurysm has evolved substantially over the past two decades, transitioning from an investigational therapy into routine clinical practice and ultimately emerging as the treatment of choice for many lesions (*source: Medtech Ventures 2009, Aneurysm Flow Modulating Device Market*). We believe that the market for aneurysm flow modulating devices is still in the embryonic stage with windows of opportunities for early entrance.

The current global market for the aneurysm flow modulating devices is estimated at \$550 million, and the current market value of the flow diversion market segment is estimated to be \$125 million. The neurovascular market includes over-the-wire, flow-guided microcatheters, guiding catheters, coil and liquid embolics, neurovascular stents and flow diversion stents. According to iData Research, the market is expected to be driven by the conversion from surgical procedures to endovascular techniques in the treatment of aneurysms and arteriovenous malformations.

Peripheral

Peripheral vascular diseases (“PVD”) are caused by the formation of atherosclerotic plaques in arteries, which carry blood to organs, limbs and head. It is also known as peripheral artery occlusive disease or peripheral artery disease. It comprises diseases pertaining to both peripheral veins and peripheral arteries, affecting the peripheral and cardiac circulation in the body. PVD includes diseases outside of the heart and brain, but most times refers to the leg and foot.

The global market value of PVDs is estimated at \$1.7 billion (*source: Global Data 2011*). The overall peripheral vascular devices market consists of nine different product segments: peripheral vascular stents, chronic total occlusion devices, peripheral transluminal angioplasty balloon catheters, atherectomy devices, percutaneous transluminal angioplasty guidewires, aortic stents, embolic protection devices, synthetic surgical grafts and inferior vena cava filters (*source: Grand View Research 2014*). Treatment modalities and methods have considerably improved during the last several years, and this trend is expected to continue (*source: Global Data 2011*). Stents and balloons hold the majority of the share in the peripheral vascular devices market. Peripheral stents are more often used in combination with balloon angioplasty to open the veins, so that blood can flow through the blocked veins in the body.

The growing prevalence of PVD is expected to cause increased demand for treatment options. The expansion of the elderly population is contributing to increasing incidence rates of PVD. The percentage of the global population above the age of 50 is expected to reach 17% by 2030. As the risk of developing PVD increases with age, a growing elderly population translates into a growing incidence of PVD (*source: Global Data 2011*). The growing global geriatric population base also triggers increasing demand for minimally invasive endovascular procedures on account of their shorter recovery time, lesser scarring and lesser chances of post-surgery infections. In addition, a growing prevalence of disease causing lifestyle factors and eating habits such as high consumption of alcohol and tobacco products is expected to boost peripheral vascular devices market demand by triggering the incidence rates of cardiac arrest, blood clotting and other vascular diseases (*source: Grand View Research 2014*).

Our Products

Below is a summary of our current products and products under development, and their intended applications.

MicroNet

MicroNet is our proprietary circular knitted mesh which wraps around a stent to protect patients from plaque debris flowing downstream upon deployment. MicroNet is made of a single fiber from a biocompatible polymer widely used in medical implantations. The size, or aperture, of the current MicroNet ‘pore’ is only 150-180 microns in order to maximize protection against the potentially dangerous plaque and thrombus.

CGuard – Carotid Applications

Our CGuard EPS combines our MicroNet mesh and a self-expandable nitinol stent (a stent that expands without balloon dilation pressure or need of an inflation balloon) in a single device for use in carotid artery applications. MicroNet is placed over and attached to an open cell nitinol metal stent platform which is designed to trap debris and emboli that can dislodge from the diseased carotid artery and potentially travel to the brain and cause a stroke. This danger is one of the greatest limitations of carotid artery stenting with conventional carotid stents and stenting methods. The CGuard EPS technology is a highly flexible stent system that conforms to the carotid anatomy.

We believe that our CGuard EPS design provides advantages over existing therapies in treating carotid artery stenosis, such as conventional carotid stenting and surgical endarterectomy, given the superior embolic protection characteristics provided by the MicroNet. We believe the MicroNet will provide acute embolic protection at the time

of the procedure, but more importantly, we believe that CGuard EPS will provide post-procedure protection against embolic dislodgement, which can occur up to 48 hours post-procedure. It is in this post-procedure time frame that embolization is the source of post-procedural strokes in the brain. Schofer, et al. (“Late cerebral embolization after emboli-protected carotid artery stenting assessed by sequential diffusion-weighted magnetic resonance imaging,” *Journal of American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular Interventions*, Volume 1, 2008) have shown that the majority of the incidents of embolic showers associated with carotid stenting occur post-procedure.

Our CGuard EPS with over-the-wire delivery system received CE mark approval in the European Union in March 2013. In October 2014, we initiated a limited market release of CGuard EPS with over-the-wire delivery system for use in carotid artery applications in Germany, Poland and Italy.

In September 2014, we reported the results of the CGuard CARENET trial at the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (“TCT”) conference in Washington D.C. In the CARENET trial, the CGuard EPS system demonstrated better results over historical data using conventional commercially available carotid stents. In the third quarter of 2015 the results of the CGuard CARENET trial were published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. In November 2015, positive twelve month follow-up data from the CGuard CARENET trial was presented at the 42nd Annual Symposium on Vascular and Endovascular Issues, documenting the benefits of the CGuard MicroNet technology as well as the patency benefits (maintaining the artery open) of the internal and external carotid arteries at twelve months.

In the first quarter of 2015, we introduced CGuard RX, the new rapid exchange delivery system for CGuard EPS. The rapid exchange delivery system has a guidewire that passes through the delivery system, running through the guiding catheter. It has one port, and thus, can be operated by one operator, while an over-the-wire-delivery system has two lumens and ports and requires two operators to perform the procedure. Our rapid exchange delivery system received CE mark approval in January 2015. We launched our CGuard EPS in Europe with the rapid exchange delivery system in multiple medical specialties that perform carotid artery stenting. These customers include interventional cardiologists, vascular surgeons, interventional neuroradiologists and interventional radiologists.

In September 2015, we announced full market launch of CGuard EPS in Europe. Subsequently, we launched CGuard EPS in Argentina and Colombia, and have received regulatory approval to commercialize CGuard EPS in Russia in November 2016. We plan to launch CGuard EPS in Russia in the first half of 2017.

We intend to conduct a clinical trial in the United States and prepared a draft clinical protocol synopsis that could support a pivotal clinical trial for a premarket approval application submission for approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. A pre-Investigational Device Exemption meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is expected to take place during the first quarter of 2017, by which we plan to seek the consent from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to the roadmap proposed.

If we receive sufficient proceeds from future financings, we plan to develop CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter (5 French gauge), which we intend to submit for CE mark approval within three calendar quarters of receiving such proceeds. We cannot give any assurance that we will receive sufficient (or any) proceeds from any such financings or the timing of such financings, if ever. In addition, such additional financings may be costly or difficult to complete. Based on the level of interest in this product that we have observed in our clinical trials, we believe that CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter will enable us to meet the market demand for minimally invasive devices, which, we believe, may have broader and easier usage, and for a lower profile system used in procedures in which predilation could be problematic. We also believe that CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter will enable us to have a competitive advantage in penetrating the Asia Pacific market, since its population is generally smaller than in Western countries. In addition, we believe that CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter will enable us to offer CGuard EPS for use in transradial catheterization, which, we believe, is gaining favor among interventionalists.

MGuard Products– Coronary Applications

Bare-Metal Stent MGuard Product. Our MGuard Prime EPS coronary product is comprised of MicroNet wrapped around a cobalt-chromium based bare-metal stent. In comparison to a conventional bare-metal stent, we believe our MGuard Prime EPS coronary product with MicroNet mesh provides protection from dangerous embolic showers in patients experiencing ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction, the most severe form of a heart attack, referred to

as STEMI. Standard stents were not engineered for heart attack patients. Rather, they were designed for treating stable angina patients whose occlusion is different from that of an occlusion in a heart attack patient. In acute heart attack patients, the plaque or thrombus is unstable and often breaks up as the stent is implanted causing downstream blockages in a significant portion of heart attack patients. Our MGuard Prime EPS is integrated with a precisely engineered micro net mesh that is designed to prevent the unstable arterial plaque and thrombus that caused the heart attack blockage from breaking off.

During the fourth quarter of 2014, due to a shift in industry preferences away from bare-metal stents in favor of drug-eluting (drug-coated) stents, we decided to curtail developing and promoting our bare-metal stent platform and instead focus on the development of a drug-eluting stent product. Although we have curtailed development and promotion of MGuard Prime EPS, our distributors and sales staff generally cover all of our current products in the market, including MGuard Prime EPS.

Drug-Eluting Stent MicroNet Product Candidate. During 2015, we completed the second phase of development work for our MGuard DES, pursuant to which we incorporated our MicroNet with a drug-eluting stent manufactured by a prospective partner. We believe that a drug-eluting stent with MicroNet has the potential to improve certain performance metrics over the MGuard Prime EPS and attract a broader portion of the cardiologists in the worldwide stent market who are more accustomed to using drug-eluting stents. However, due to our limited resources we have tabled further development of MGuard DES at this time.

NGuard — Neurovascular Applications

We are developing a neurovascular flow diverter, which we refer to as NGuard, which is an endovascular device that diverts blood flow away from cerebral aneurysms and ultimately seals the aneurysms. Flow diversion is a growing market segment within the neurovascular medical device field. Current commercial flow diverters are highly flexible dense metal mesh tubes that go across most types of cerebral aneurysms and divert the blood flow away from the aneurysm with the desired end result of sealing the aneurysm. The challenges with the current flow diverters are that they (i) are difficult to place given the high metal content in the device, which makes it more difficult to move the device through the delivery system due to resistance from the metal, and to subsequently accurately place it, (ii) need to be accurately placed to avoid crossing and blocking other cerebral vessels, which could cause additional damage by cutting off blood flow to sections of the brain, (iii) require chronic use of anti-thrombotic medications due to the amount of metal in the cerebral vasculature, which could cause thrombotic complications, and (iv) do not allow a physician to re-access the aneurysm if the aneurysm does not seal, in which event the aneurysm may need to be treated with another therapy such as aneurysm coils, due to the tight metal mesh that will not allow other devices to pass through the flow diverter.

Our flow diverter prototype will include our MicroNet that has been employed in CGuard EPS and MGuard Prime EPS. MicroNet has already demonstrated the ability to effectively seal aneurysms in both human coronary arteries using the MGuard Prime EPS and aneurysms in the carotid arteries using CGuard EPS in human clinical situations without the need for additional devices or procedures (coils or a second stent) (*source: Journal of Medical Case Reports <http://www.jmedicalcasereports.com/content/4/1/238>*). For our flow diverter, we plan to utilize an open cell, highly flexible metal scaffold to which MicroNet would be attached. We believe our flow diverter could be more accurately delivered due to a lower metal content scaffold than current commercial flow diverters; lower metal content in our flow diverter may reduce the need for long-term anticoagulation; the open cell metal scaffold combined with the MicroNet may allow passage of other devices through the MicroNet mesh without compromising the MicroNet, thus allowing a physician to reaccess the aneurysm, if needed; and our flow diverter should be capable of being delivered through a state-of-the-art microcatheter for accurate placement without constant repositioning. We have tested early flow diverter prototypes in initial pre-clinical testing in both simulated aneurysm bench models using various MicroNet configurations with varying aperture sizes, as well as in standard in vivo pre-clinical models, in which we observed aneurysm sealing and also wide open side branch vessels across which the device was placed. However, as we plan to focus our resources on the further expansion of our sales and marketing activities for CGuard EPS and MGuard Prime EPS and, provided that we have sufficient resources, the development of CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter (5 French gauge) and its submission for CE mark approval, we do not intend to resume further development of NGuard until at least the third quarter of 2018.

PVGuard — Peripheral Vascular Applications

We intend to develop our MicroNet mesh sleeve and a self-expandable stent for use in peripheral vascular applications, to which we refer to as PVGuard. PVDs are usually characterized by the accumulation of plaque in

arteries in the legs. This accumulation can lead to the need for amputation or even death, when untreated. PVD is treated either by trying to clear the artery of the blockage, or by implanting a stent in the affected area to push the blockage out of the way of normal blood flow.

As in carotid procedures, peripheral procedures are characterized by the necessity of controlling embolic showers both during and post-procedure. Controlling embolic showers is so important in these indications that physicians often use fully covered stents, at the risk of blocking branching vessels, to ensure that emboli do not fall into the bloodstream and move to the brain. We believe that our MicroNet design will provide substantial advantages over existing therapies in treating peripheral artery stenosis.

However, as we plan to focus our resources on the further expansion of our sales and marketing activities for CGuard EPS and MGuard Prime EPS and, provided that we have sufficient resources, the development of CGuard EPS with a smaller delivery catheter (5 French gauge) and its submission for CE mark approval, we do not intend to pursue the development of PVGuard in the near future.

Completed Clinical Trials for CGuard EPS

CARENET

The CARENET trial was the first multi-center study of CGuard EPS following the receipt of CE mark of this device in March 2013. The CARENET trial was designed to evaluate feasibility and safety of CGuard EPS in treatment of carotid lesions in consecutive patients suitable for coronary artery stenting (“CAS”) in a multi-operator, real-life setting. The acute, 30 day, magnetic resonance imaging (“MRI”), ultrasound and six month clinical event results were presented at the LINC conference in Leipzig, Germany in February, 2015. In the third quarter of 2015, the results of the CGuard CARENET trial were published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. In November 2015, positive twelve month follow-up data from the CGuard CARENET trial was presented at the 42nd Annual Symposium on Vascular and Endovascular Issues, documenting the benefits of the CGuard MicroNet technology as well as the patency benefits (maintaining the artery open) of the internal and external carotid arteries at twelve months.

MACCE (myocardial infarction (“MI”), stroke or death) was 0.0% at 30 days. At six months, there was one case of death, which was not stent or procedure-related, and MACCE was increased to 3.6%. At twelve months there were three cases of death, which were not stent or procedure-related, and MACCE was 11.1%.

	30 days (n=30)	6 months (n=28)	12 months (n=27)		
MACCE (MI, stroke, death)	(0) 0.0 %	(1) 3.6 %	(3) 11.1 %		
MI	(0) 0.0 %	(0) 0.0 %	(0) 0.0 %		
stroke	(0) 0.0 %	(0) 0.0 %	(0) 0.0 %		
death	(0) 0.0 %	(1) 3.6 %	(3) 11.1 %		

In addition, 30 day and 6 month follow-up data from the CARENET study determined the following MACCE events as compared to MACCE events from studies using conventional carotid stents:

	30 days (14 trials, 5255 patients)⁽¹⁾	6 months (3 trials, 1053 patients)⁽²⁾		
MACCE (MI, stroke, death)	5.72	8.09	%	%

(1) Trials included in analysis: ARCHeR pooled, ARMOUR, BEACH, CABERNET, CREATE, EMPIRE, EPIC, MAVERiC 1+2, MAVERiC International, PRIAMUS, SAPPHIRE, SECURITY, PROFI, ICSS

(2) Values extrapolated from event curves (*source: The CARENET all-comer trial using the CGuard micronet-covered carotid embolic prevention stent, presented by Dr. Piotr Musialek at the LINC 2015 conference*)

CAS carries the risk of cerebral embolization during and following the procedure, leading to life-threatening complications, mainly cerebral ischemic events. Diffusion-weighted magnetic resonance imaging (DW-MRI) is a sensitive tool used to identify cerebral emboli during CAS by measuring “lesions” within the brain which are areas that are ischemic and do not receive oxygenated blood due to cerebral emboli. In the CARENET trial, 37.0% of patients treated with CGuard EPS had new ischemic lesions at 48 hours after the procedure, with an average volume of 0.039 cm³. Of these lesions, there was only one that remained at 30 days following the procedure and all others had resolved. Complete details appear in the following table. Where there is a second number shown below after a \pm , it indicates the rate of error.

	48 hours n=27		30 days n=26	
Subjects with new Acute Ischemic Lesions (“AIL”)	10		1	
Incidence of new lesions	37.0	%	4.0	%
Total number new AIL	83		1	
Avg. number new AIL per patient	3.19 ± 10.33		0.04 ± 0.20	
Average lesion volume (cm ³)	0.039 ± 0.08		0.08 ± 0.00	
Maximum lesion volume (cm ³)	0.445		0.116	
Permanent AIL at 30 days	—		1	

The healing process of the tissue and in-stent restenosis can be measured by a non-invasive form of ultrasound called duplex ultrasound. This type of ultrasound measures the velocity of the blood that flows within the carotid arteries, which increases exponentially as the lumen of the internal carotid artery narrows and the percent stenosis increases. One of the measurements is called PSV (peak systolic volume) and is known to be highly correlated to the degree of in-stent restenosis; PSV values higher than 300 cm/sec are indicative o