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CathRx Appoints Manta as Distributor in Italy

CathRx Ltd (ASX:CXD) announced today that Manta Medical Division has been appointed as the exclusive distribution partner for the CathRx's modular cardiac electrophysiology catheters in Italy.

Manta has been operating in the Italian health care market for over 15 years and specialises in cardiology products for cardiac catheter laboratories. Manta currently focus on the distribution of equipment such as portable X-ray systems, surgical tables and electrophysiology measurement systems. The CathRx modular cardiac electrophysiology catheters are a complementary product line.

Mr. Enrico Silvano, Managing Director of Manta, commented: "Manta is please to be able to distribute the novel CathRx catheter products in Italy. CathRx's catheter range is a natural extension to the electrophysiology equipment that we currently distribute. The CathRx catheters also give us the opportunity to leverage our extensive network of Italian clinician relationships. "

"CathRx is excited to be partnering with Manta in the expanding Italian cardiac catheter market. Manta's existing relationships with a large group of clinicians will enable our entry into this important market when the regulatory process is completed", said CathRx CEO Neil Anderson.

CathRx remains confident that European regulatory and registration process will be completed in the second half of 2006.

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About CathRx

CathRx is developing catheters for the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias which are irregular heart pumping rhythms caused by problems with the conductive pathways of the heart. These arrhythmias are diagnosed and in some cases cured by cardiac catheters creating therapeutic lesions on the wall of the heart designed to restore the conductive pathway to its normal rhythm.

CathRx has developed a novel way of manufacturing these catheters. It plans to introduce its products first to the least complex clinical procedures in the right side of the heart and then progressively to the address the more difficult clinical procedures on the left side of the heart such as Atrial Fibrillation.

The goal in all cases is to provide the clinician with customised tools that are better suited to creating the required sensing and lesions for a specific patient in the least time possible.

At the same time these catheters can provide cost efficiencies for hospitals when compared to current methods of treatment.

CathRx's first catheters are already in clinical trials in patients and, subject to regulatory approval, are expected to be on sale in 2006.

CathRx believes the current and future market potential for its products exceeds \$2 billion.