



University of Washington and Healionics Team Up to Win Life Sciences Discovery Fund (LSDF) Award

Seattle, WA (April 16, 2012) — The University of Washington (UW) won a \$149,824 grant award in this year's Washington State Life Sciences Discovery Fund (LSDF) competition. A team led by UW Division of Dermatology's Dr. Philip Fleckman will collaborate with Healionics to test the ability of the newest generation of STARcuff™ to resist bacterial infections at the exit site of percutaneous devices.

This project extends work accomplished with a previous LSDF award that established a mouse bacterial challenge model for testing STAR Biomaterial. The new award will apply the same methods to evaluate the granular "STARsprinkles™" form of STAR Biomaterial currently being tested in large-animal preclinical trials.

"The study will give us insight into exit site infection resistance of STARsprinkles very soon after implant. This latest form of STAR material in granular form has potential to speed up the healing of the skin at the exit site. This is important for development of STARcuff, a porous cuff intended to reduce catheter infections," says President and COO Dr. Max Maginness.

A 25% reduction in catheter-related infections would improve Quality of Life for patients and save more than \$20 million annually in treatment costs in Washington state alone. Nationwide, savings to Medicare/Medicaid could exceed \$1B of the \$30B annual cost of ESRD treatment.

More information about the Life Sciences Discovery Fund can be found at <http://www.lsdfa.org/profiles/fleckman2>

About Healionics Corporation

Healionics is a biomaterials technology company whose flagship STAR® Biomaterial aims to solve the historic "device-to-tissue" interface problem of long-term medical implants. Better healing and functioning implants are key to improving patient well-being while reducing the ballooning \$50 billion per year in global healthcare costs attributed to implant failures. STAR Biomaterial has shown promising results in reducing fibrosis, enhancing biointegration, and resisting infection, addressing several common causes for failure of long-term implants. www.healionics.com

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