

Healionics raises \$4.5M to fund first-in-human trial of STARgraft vascular graft



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Healionics Corporation →
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SEATTLE, Sept. 24, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Healionics Corporation, a private medical device company, announced today the completion of a \$4.5M convertible note financing round.

The financing supports the first human study, currently underway, of the company's innovative *STARgraft* vascular graft. In preclinical studies, *STARgraft* demonstrated improved ability to maintain blood flow compared to on-market vascular grafts, thereby offering the potential to reduce cost and morbidity while improving quality of life among dialysis patients.

"We welcome the participation of a number of well-known angel and venture investors in this financing round and would also like to thank our existing investors for their continued support," said Mike Connolly, Chief Executive Officer of Healionics. "The start of clinical trials is a significant milestone for the company, as we work toward our goal of regulatory approval and commercial launch of *STARgraft*."

About Vascular Grafts

More than 500,000 people in the United States suffer from kidney failure and require frequent dialysis to filter waste from their blood. Current methods of creating and maintaining regular bloodstream access for dialysis are unreliable and account for a significant portion of the \$50 billion spent each year on U.S. kidney failure patients. A vascular graft (synthetic blood vessel) is often implanted to create an access site with sufficient flow rate for dialysis, but these grafts tend to occlude quickly, require repeated expensive interventions, and often become infected.

About Healionics Corporation

Healionics is addressing the critical need for improved means of dialysis access in patients with kidney failure. Its *STARgraft* vascular graft is designed to resist the problems of occlusion and infection suffered by current devices. The company also has an exciting product pipeline based on its platform *STAR*® biomaterial, which has a unique ability to prevent both scarring and infection in a variety of other implantable device applications. www.healionics.com

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