

Q&A with Dan Rose, CEO of LimFlow SA bringing to market their Percutaneous System to Arterialize Deep Veins of the Foot and Lessen the Risk of Lower Limb Amputation



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Interview conducted by:
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CEOCFO: Mr. Rose, what is the focus at LimFlow SA today?

Mr. Rose: LimFlow is a medical device startup company, focused on solving a major unmet need in the space of critical limb ischemia (CLI), which is a complication of peripheral artery disease. We are focused on stopping the epidemic of lower limb amputation that is occurring in Europe, the US and across the world.

CEOCFO: What is limb ischemia?

Mr. Rose: When a part of the body does not have blood flow anymore it is called ischemia. Many people are familiar with arterial sclerosis or the clogging of arteries in the heart, which is the effect of high cholesterol and the buildup of plaque in the arteries which stops blood flow from getting to the muscle of the heart. The same disease progression can occur in arteries that supply other parts of your body with blood. We are focusing on is the supply of blood to the lower leg and the feet. Patients with critical limb ischemia often experience severe pain as well as developing chronic wounds on their feet. Without sufficient blood flow, these wounds typically do not heal and ultimately may develop severe infection, leading to sepsis and death if amputation is not performed. This occurs to a massive number of people. There are over one hundred and twenty thousand people in the United States every year that have a lower limb ischemia amputation. That is a decent-sized city full of people.

CEOCFO: What is the current treatment to prevent this or to handle it when it happens? What is the LimFlow idea?

Mr. Rose: The current treatment is one two things. It is either what we call a surgical bypass procedure, which is where you put a graft in to take blood from above where the artery is blocked to below where the artery is blocked or to use balloon angioplasty, which is using percutaneous techniques to put a wire and then a small balloon down into the artery, which then can push the calcium or plaque to the side and open up blood flow to the foot. Those are the traditional techniques. However, our patients are ones how have failed or are ineligible for those therapies because of the advanced nature of their disease. We call it the “no option” population. LimFlow’s solution to that is to really look at the vasculature in a different, inventive way. The best analogy is being blocked in traffic on the highway and looking across the median and seeing that the other side is empty. Why not just drive across the median and get home the “wrong” way? Unlike on the highway, in most cases there are veins for every artery so we can utilize this alternative path without compromising the overall vascular system. We all know that arteries provide red blood to different parts of the body and that veins return blood to the heart after the oxygen has been delivered to the tissue. And just like you have a “tree” of arteries throughout