

**PRESS RELEASE**

## New method for boosting skin elasticity and revitalising the dermis in cellulite, wrinkles and scars

**Tägerwilen (CH), June 2008.** – Following substantial success in the US and Southern Europe, Acoustic Wave Treatment is increasingly being used in the fight against cellulite and connective tissue weakness in German medical surgeries as well. The so-called "Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy" was developed by the Swiss company Storz Medical AG for the treatment of kidney stones and for use in orthopaedics. For more than ten years, symptoms such as tennis elbow, heel spurs, calcific tendonitis in the shoulder or trigger points have been treated very successfully with this therapy. "A positive side effect of shockwave treatment is the lasting smoothness of the skin at the treatment site. Acoustic Wave Treatment (AWT) for cosmetic applications was specially developed on the basis of previous observations and experiences, so that now gentle acoustic waves stimulate the body regions affected by cellulite and tighten connective tissue permanently – without needles, injections or side effects," reports Manfred Schulz from Storz Medical, a long-standing expert in the area of Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy.

Since then, various clinical studies have confirmed the visible success of this treatment with conditions such as cellulite, stretch marks, scars and wrinkles, including a pilot study by the renowned Rosenpark clinic for aesthetic-surgical dermatology in Darmstadt, which achieved, in its own words, "astounding results" using Acoustic Wave Treatment in the treatment of cellulite. Because of their oestrogens, women suffer far more frequently than men from connective tissue disorders. This treatment offers hope to hundreds of thousands of women of help in the fight against unattractive dimples on their legs, buttocks and upper arms.

### **Gentle and clinically tested: the method**

In AWT, a special double-membrane applicator is used to direct extracorporeally generated shock waves into the body regions affected by cellulite, from whence they spread out over the surface of the body. This occurs with no damage to the skin and is almost painless. An ultrasonic gel is applied to the skin before treatment to prevent energy loss during the acoustic wave transmission. Depending on the range of application, the

treatment area is 'scanned' horizontally and vertically with the applicator and treated with approximately 3200 - 4000 pulses per session. This ensures that the tissue is stimulated evenly.

An initial study of 69 women with pronounced cellulite (stage 2-3 as measured using the pinch test) and age-related connective tissue weakness was carried out between December 2005 and autumn 2006. The aim of the study was to find out whether and how AWT treatment mobilizes the metabolism activity in the subcutaneous fatty tissue which strengthens tissue structure, significantly improving both skin texture and structure while clearly and visibly reducing cellulite along with it. As part of the study, following an initial medical examination the selected women were treated with extracorporeal acoustic waves on the outer and inner thigh region and the gluteal area using a new therapy instrument, the Cellactor® SC1 (Storz Medical AG).

**Notable and exceptionally good: the results**

Skin elasticity measurements at the end of the treatment showed a 74 percent increase, which increased to 95 percent after three months and to 105 percent greater skin elasticity at the six-month follow-up. By comparison, according to Dr. Voss, dermatology specialist and head of Dermatest GmbH, treatments using chemical skin preparations (creams and lotions) produce improvements in skin properties of 12 to 25, maximum 30 (and in one isolated case 40) percent.

**Long lasting and size-reducing: the effect**

The study suggested that Acoustic Wave Treatment works by stimulating the microcirculation in fatty tissue and producing a marked improvement in disturbances of fat metabolism. Fibroblasts and fat protrusions in the lower dermis are dissolved by the acoustic waves and dislodged from the upper layer of skin. As a result, the upper layer of skin becomes smoother in appearance. At the same time, the tissue becomes firmer and the elasticity of the skin is measurably improved. In addition, blood circulation as well as lymph flow is boosted by the AWT treatment, which tightens skin and achieves a comprehensive reduction of the treated body region.

**Short and promising: in summary**

Acoustic Wave Treatment (AWT) is a non-invasive treatment for boosting skin elasticity, revitalising the dermis and improving skin structure in wrinkles and scars and requires relatively little time for both doctors and patients. It could therefore become established as a promising treatment with no side-effects and long-term efficacy in the field of body shaping and skin rejuvenation. No serious side effects have been observed, although long-term observations should continue to be carried out.

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**Attached illustrations:**

Device in use  
Diagram of increase in skin elasticity  
" 8 treatments, 42 patients "  
Derma Scan image before/after  
Before/after comparison, upper arm or buttocks

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