

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **New Hope for People with Diabetes: Study demonstrates first clinically proven therapy to help patients with all of the devastating complications of DPN.**

**TAMPA, FL— March 27, 2002—** Anodyne<sup>®</sup> Therapy Systems (Medassist Group) today announced the publication of the first clinical study to demonstrate restoration of sensation in the feet of diabetic patients with peripheral neuropathy. This landmark study, conducted in Aurora, Colorado, appears in the March 2002 issue of the *Journal of the American Podiatric Medical Association* and is the first to offer hope to patients for what was thought to be a progressive and irreversible disease.

Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy (DPN) is nerve damage associated with diabetes, the symptoms of which include numbness and/or pain in the feet, legs and hands. Complications of this devastating condition are reported to cost the U.S. healthcare system in excess of 13 billion dollars annually and include wounds that don't heal for months or years, lower extremity amputations, reduced mobility and increased risk of falls.

While drugs are sometimes effective for the pain associated with DPN, no drug or medical device had previously been shown to increase sensation once it has been diminished or lost due to DPN. The reported study showed that, through the use of the Anodyne Therapy System, clinically significant improvements in sensation could be measured in 49 of 49 patients after only 12 30-minute treatments ( $P < .0001$ ).

"Our company's mission is to reduce the human suffering associated with this once irreversible condition. We are very excited to have a peer-reviewed journal publish this important study, which provides healthcare professionals with new information that may help their patients prevent some of the devastating complications of DPN," said Craig Turtzo, President and CEO of Anodyne Therapy Systems.

The Anodyne Therapy System is a patented, FDA-cleared, non-invasive device that uses near-infrared light emitting diodes to safely increase local circulation and reduce pain. Use in thousands of patients since 1994, has demonstrated that the Anodyne Therapy System increases microcirculation in patients with DPN, who often have severe vascular impairment. The results of this improved circulation have been published in several medical journals and include improved sensation and nerve conduction, pain reduction and faster healing of diabetic ulcers.

This is the first clinically proven therapy to help patients with all of the devastating complications of DPN. In 2002, Anodyne Therapy was granted its own Medicare HCPCS Reimbursement Code for convenient home use. Medicare as well as more than 100 private insurance companies have already paid claims for the Anodyne Therapy System. In addition to home use, Anodyne Therapy treatments are also available in outpatient facilities, hospitals, wound care centers, nursing homes and physician offices. For more information, visit [www.medassistgp.com](http://www.medassistgp.com).

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