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Studies Published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B Validates Retina Implant AG's Clinical Trial Results

Data Highlights Unprecedented Visual Results as UK Physicians Look Forward to the First UK Implantation of the Microchip in January 2011

REUTLINGEN, GERMANY (November 3, 2010)—[Retina Implant, AG](#), a leading developer of subretinal implants for the visually impaired, today announced the publication of a peer-reviewed study in *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* discussing the technical and clinical results obtained during their first human clinical trial. The studies authored by industry-leading physicians, including lead author Professor Eberhart Zrenner, M.D., director and chairman, Institute for Ophthalmic Research at University Eye Hospital Tuebingen, Germany appears in today's online edition of the journal and comes just weeks before the first UK clinical trial starts. Professor Robert Maclaren, Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Oxford and a consultant retinal surgeon at the Oxford Eye Hospital and Mr. Tim Jackson, a consultant retinal surgeon at King's College Hospital in London will implant the first UK patients in January 2011.

The study titled "Subretinal electronic chips allow blind patients to read letters and combine them to words" details the visual results achieved during Retina Implant's first clinical trial. Patients involved in this trial were able to recognize foreign objects and read letters to form words. This study concludes that the implantation of Retina Implant's microchip was successful in restoring useful vision in patients previously blind due to retinitis pigmentosa.

"The publication of our research in the Royal Society's flagship biological research journal solidifies the work our team has done to restore useful vision to retinitis pigmentosa patients," said Professor Eberhart Zrenner, M.D., director and chairman, Institute for Ophthalmologic Research at University Eye Hospital Tuebingen, Germany. "The results of our first clinical trial surpassed our expectations and reaffirmed that the subretinal placement of the microchip yielded optimal clinical results. With the success achieved during our first clinical trial, we've begun work in our second clinical trial and we hope to learn even more."

Retina Implant's first clinical trial began in Germany and involved subretinally implanting 11 patients suffering from retinitis pigmentosa, one of the most common forms of inherited retinal degenerations affecting approximately 200,000 people in the world. The 4 x 4 cm array with 1500 electrodes was implanted below the retina, specifically in the macular region.

“The recent work by Professor Zrenner and his team in successfully testing this electronic retinal implant in blind people is without doubt a significant advance in this technology,” said Professor Robert Maclaren, Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Oxford and a consultant retinal surgeon at the Oxford Eye Hospital. “The visual results they were able to achieve were, up until now, thought to be in the realms of science fiction. There are still however many questions as scientists we look forward to answering and I’m especially looking forward to joining their work and performing the first-ever subretinal implant in the U.K. in January of next year.”

To view these studies online visit at no cost to you please visit:

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/lookup/doi/10.1098/rspb.2010.1747>.

About Retina Implant AG

Retina Implant AG is the leading developer of subretinal implants for partially sighted and blind patients. After extensive research with German university hospitals which began with a large grant from the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education in 1996, Retina Implant AG was founded by Dr. Eberhart Zrenner and his colleagues in 2003 with private investors with the goal of developing the first fully-functioning electronic retinal prosthesis to restore useful vision to the blind. Retina Implant began implanting in human patients in 2005 and has implanted 11 patients to date, with plans to begin a second clinical trial in the coming year. To learn more visit <http://www.retina-implant.de/>.

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