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HeartStitch, Inc. Appoints Renowned Cardiac Surgeon to its Clinical Advisory Board

*Dr. Yuriy Pya, Chief of Cardiac Surgery at the National Cardiac Research Center—
Kazakhstan's Top Cardiac Hospital—Joins HeartStitch® Clinical Advisory Board*

Fountain Valley, California—Wednesday, March 16, 2016— HeartStitch® today announced the appointment of Dr. Yuriy Pya to its Clinical Advisory Board. Dr. Pya is the CEO and Chief of Surgery of the National Cardiac Research Center in Astana Kazakhstan, specializing Cardiac Surgery including minimally invasive structural heart procedures, coronary bypass, and heart lung transplants.

Prof. Anthony Nobles, CEO of HeartStitch® commented, “I have been working with Dr. Pya for a year and a half in Astana and I am very honored to have a surgeon of his caliber and knowledge as an advisor. Dr. Pya has extensive knowledge in modern cardiac surgery, and we see the future very similarly with respect to the need for continued innovation. He has been contributing to our design work for the past year and has become an invaluable asset. Like us he is driven to advance cardiac surgery and cardiac interventions, which is what HeartStitch® was founded on.”

Ben Brosch, President of HeartStitch® commented, “Dr. Pya is a important addition to our Clinical Advisory Board. He has already been an asset to us and his recent participation in our clinical testing of our HeartStitch® TA has brought new insight to the product team. As we grow our presence world wide and in particular throughout Central Asia, his insight will be invaluable. We are pleased to have him on board.”

Dr. Pya stated, “It is an honor for me to be invited to join the HeartStitch® Clinical Advisory Board, and I am more than happy to confirm my acceptance as a member of the Board. I look forward to working in cooperation with you and Dr. Michael Mullen, Dr. Billy Cohn, Dr. John Crew, and Dr. Jan-Peter Warnke towards achieving our shared goals.”

In addition to his work at the National Cardiac Research Center, Dr. Pya founded and chairs the National Congress of Cardiac Surgeons held annually in Astana, Kazakhstan. Dr. Pya also is a co-chair of the International Congress on Structural Heart Interventions held in Astana.

With the appointment of Dr. Pya to HeartStitch's group of senior advisors, the company's Clinical Advisory Board now includes: Dr. John Crew, Medical Director of Vascular Research at the San



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Francisco Heart and Vascular Institute; Dr. William Cohn, Texas Heart Institute, Houston Texas; Prof. Dr. Jan-Peter Warnke, Chief of Neurosurgery, Paracelsus Klinik, Zwickau Germany; and Dr. Carlos E. Ruiz, Director of the Structural and Congenital Heart Disease program of the Department of Interventional Cardiology at Lenox Hill Hospital of New York.

About HeartStitch®

HeartStitch Inc. was founded by Prof. Anthony Nobles with the intent of leveraging its technologies in the structural heart marketplace. HeartStitch® is focused on innovative suture-based systems for remotely providing suture repair of structural heart defects and other vascular structures.

The HeartStitch® TA and HeartStitch® MR are FDA cleared for vascular suturing in the United States. The NobleStitch™ EL is FDA cleared for vascular suturing in the United States and CE Marked for cardio-vascular suturing and PFO closure in the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan, respectively.

HeartStitch® manufactures and markets the NobleStitch™ EL under exclusive license.

HeartStitch® is a registered trademark of HeartStitch, Inc.

HeartStitch® TA for cardiac suturing and transapical access and closure

Covered by or for use under U.S. and international patents including one or more of U.S. Patent Nos. 5860990, 6117144, 6245079, 6551331, 6562052, 6733509, 7004952, 7090686, 7803167, 8197497, 8348962, 8469975, 8496676, and 8709020.

HeartStitch® MR for suturing an anatomical valve

Covered by or for use under U.S. and international patents including one or more of U.S. Patent Nos. 5860990, 6117144, 6245079, 6551331, 6562052, 6733509, 7004952, 7090686, 7803167, 8197497, 8348962, 8469975, 8496676, 8709020, and 8771296.

NobleStitch™ EL for PFO closure

Covered by or for use under U.S. and international patents including one or more of U.S. Patent Nos. 5860990, 6117144, 6245079, 6551331, 6562052, 6733509, 7004952, 7090686, 7803167, 8197497, 8197510, 8246636, 8348962, 8372089, 8469975, 8496676, 8709020, and 9131938.



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For more on **HeartStitch**® visit www.HeartStitch.com

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