

Fact Sheet

- Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) is a common and life-threatening disease. There are an estimated 900,000 to 1 million VTE events in the United States each year. VTE is the third leading cause of cardiovascular mortality. In fact, hospitalization and nursing home residence together account for almost 60% of incident VTE events occurring in the community. In hospitalized patients, the fatality rate is 12%, rising to 21% in the elderly. The Joint Commission and the Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ) continue to mandate VTE prevention and safety measures¹.
- AngioVac Cannula and Circuit is a minimally invasive procedure designed to facilitate the removal of fresh, soft thrombi or emboli.
- Patients are typically under general anesthesia and are given blood thinner during a procedure utilizing an AngioVac Cannula and Circuit. The procedure can be performed percutaneously or open. In either procedure there are two access points required—an incision is made for the AngioVac Cannula and an incision is made for the Reinfusion Cannula. The access points may include any combination of the femoral vein and/or internal jugular vein.
- An extracorporeal bypass circuit is created outside the body consisting of an outflow line, a centrifugal pump, a filter and an inflow line. Once the AngioVac Cannula and the Reinfusion Cannula are inserted into the veins the centrifugal pump is activated. This creates a one-way flow that provides suction at the tip of the AngioVac Cannula. The AngioVac Cannula has a balloon activated tip. This unique tip enhances venous flow, prevents clogging of the cannula and facilitates the removal of fresh, soft thrombi or emboli from the venous system into the filter. At the same time, the circuit reinfuses the filtered blood back into the body to minimize blood loss and without causing hemodynamic instability.
- Alternative therapies include anticoagulants, catheter directed thrombolysis, mechanical thrombectomy, pharmacomechanical thrombectomy, or open surgical embolectomy.
- The AngioVac System has been used for hundreds of procedures in a growing number of hospitals nationwide since 2013.** In the United States, the AngioVac cannula and circuit are indicated for use during extracorporeal bypass for up to six hours. In addition, the cannula is indicated for the removal of fresh, soft thrombi and emboli.
- The technology was developed by a group of physicians who founded Vortex Medical. Vortex Medical was issued a 510k clearance in September 2009 and a full market release in July 2011. AngioDynamics, a leading provider of innovative medical devices for the minimally-invasive treatment of cancer and peripheral vascular disease, acquired Vortex Medical in October 2012, and now makes AngioVac products widely available.

****NOTE: Please contact AngioDynamics for the current number of institutions and number of procedures completed to date.**

¹ Heit J A, Cohen A T, Anderson Jr. F A. American Society of Hematology. 2005; 106.