

Paris, March 15th, 2018

Truffle Capital's newly created start-up HoliStick Medical licenses technology from Harvard University and collaborators

Paris-based HoliStick Medical, a portfolio company started by Truffle Capital new *BioMedTech fund*, gets access to a radically innovative medical device which could fundamentally transform the way doctors correct holes in the heart or other organ defects.

Paris, March 15th, 2018 - Truffle Capital, an independent venture capital firm focused on creating and financing start-ups with disruptive technologies in life sciences and information technology, has announced the signature of an exclusive License Agreement between Harvard University and Truffle Capital's newly created start-up company HoliStick Medical SAS, based in Paris. Under the agreement developed with Harvard's Office of Technology Development, HoliStick Medical gains access to a medical technology co-owned by Harvard, MIT, Boston Children's Hospital, and Brigham & Women's Hospital. Truffle Capital funds HoliStick Medical with its new BioMedTech fund, which recently announced a first closing at \$102 million and may reach \$240 million in 2018.

With this License Agreement, HoliStick Medical obtains worldwide, exclusive rights to commercially develop a specialized catheter device that can repair holes in the heart, or tissue defects in other organs, using deployable soft structures. Designed to work with sticky and flexible materials such as patches, the device incorporates mechanisms to delicately close a hole without requiring the use of sutures or rigid devices. Critically, the device offers a non-invasive approach to tissue repair, facilitating clinicians' access to difficult-to-reach organs. It corresponds to a major medical need since there is a strong clinical rationale to improve current devices and procedures. HoliStick intends to develop and market novel medical devices based on this technology in Europe, the United States, and Asia.

The technology was co-developed in the Harvard laboratory of Pr. Conor Walsh, Ph. D., the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Core Faculty Member at Harvard's Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering, along with collaborators at Boston Children's Hospital, MIT, and Brigham & Women's Hospital. The lead scientist was Pr. Ellen Roche, Ph.D., who was a doctoral student at Harvard. (She is now an Assistant Professor in MIT's Department of Mechanical Engineering and Institute for Medical Engineering and Science.)

Philippe Pouletty, MD, co-founder and CEO of Truffle Capital, Antoine Pau and Alain Chevallier, partners at Truffle Capital, said, *“Sourcing disruptive technologies from the best universities worldwide to form start-ups in France will continue to support Truffle’s success in BioMedTech, and Harvard truly understands how to enable startup creation. Saving or improving patient lives with medical devices that allow clinicians to better perform minimally invasive interventional medicine while providing strong returns to our investors and partners is an exciting and rewarding venture. HoliStick Medical could radically transform medical care of cardiac and other tissue defects”*.

Find out more: www.truffle.com - Twitter: [trufflecapital](https://twitter.com/trufflecapital)

About Truffle Capital

Founded in 2001 and based in Paris, Truffle Capital is an independent venture capital company focused on setting up and financing start-up companies with disruptive technologies, from inception to commercial stage, in life sciences and IT that have the potential to become market leaders. Chaired by Patrick Kron alongside Truffle founders and CEOs Philippe Pouletty, MD and Bernard-Louis Roques, Truffle Capital manages assets of \$1.1 billion (€920 million). Since its inception, Truffle Capital has funded over 80 companies, mostly in life sciences and IT. Truffle Capital has been very active in medical devices, for example with Vexim, Carmat, Symetis, Kardiozis, Kephalioland other companies.

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