

PRESS RELEASE

"Trigger Delay"

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Weinmann's VENTI*logic* LS: Optimized Ventilation for Patients with Obstructive Respiratory Diseases

Berlin – Patients with obstructive respiratory disorders like COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) frequently suffer from the phenomenon of over-inflation in the airways. Because the obstruction makes it difficult for patients to exhale, the expiration phase is much longer than that of a healthy subject or of patients with other ailments. For mechanically ventilated COPD patients, this phenomenon translates into faulty signaling; as a result, the trigger for inspiration may be activated prematurely. In response to this problem, the medical technology company Weinmann is striking off in a new direction with its home mechanical ventilator VENTI*logic* LS. Its newly developed "Trigger Delay" optimizes ventilation for these patients.

"With the 'Trigger Delay' patients with obstructive respiratory diseases can be ventilated much better," said Florian Krickl, team leader in home mechanical ventilation and oxygen medicine at Weinmann. In explaining the new development, he added, "Obstructions and secretion build-up in these patients induce very fine vibrations in the airways during the exhalation phase. The resulting pressure fluctuations can cause the ventilator to switch prematurely to inspiration. Such faulty triggering has been prevented in the past by setting the inspiration trigger to a less sensitive level." That, in turn, demands much more from the already weakened patient and compromises the effectiveness of the therapy.

Simple solution eases patient's work of breathing

A simple but very effective solution, which has been implemented for the first time in VENTI*logic* LS, is the "Trigger Delay". For a few seconds the trigger for inspiration is blocked so that the patient can exhale completely before the next inspiration phase is initiated. The delay permits a very sensitive trigger setting that lets the patient breathe easily with less effort. Errors in inspiration detection are prevented. Inspiration and expiration are synchronized better and so compliance is greatly improved. "This solution is ideal for the treating physician in the Intensive Care Unit, for example," said Krickl. "It's very easy to set the 'Trigger Delay' on the device and, by doing so, to optimize patient ventilation."

Rounds out portfolio

With the new home ventilator VENTI*logic* LS, recently introduced at the European Respiratory Society (ERS) annual congress in Berlin, Weinmann rounds out its home ventilation portfolio. Now Weinmann home mechanical ventilation devices are available for the full spectrum of use – from intermittent self-ventilation to life-sustaining continuous ventilation 24 hours per day.

More information at: www.weinmann.de

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Background: Weinmann

Weinmann Geräte für Medizin GmbH + Co. KG concentrates on its product lines Homecare, Emergency and Diagnostics. In these areas the Hamburg-based family business offers diagnostic, therapeutic and also life-saving devices and system solutions of the highest quality. Today it is in the hands of the Griefahn and Feldhahn families and its headquarters have been located in Hamburg-Stellingen since 1977.

Today the company has about 500 employees. With more than 100 patent families and 90 trademarks, Weinmann is among the leading providers of medical devices for home care, diagnostics and emergency medicine in Germany. Sales in 2007 were 65.5 million Euros. Weinmann does business in more than 50 countries and operates branch offices in France, Switzerland, Thailand, China, Russia, Australia and New Zealand.

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