ev3 Inc. (Plymouth, MN) has announced the US commercial availability of the Protégé EverFlex Self-Expanding Stent System for use in the palliative treatment of malignant neoplasms in the biliary tree. In addition, the Protégé EverFlex Self-Expanding Stent System has received CE Mark for general use in the peripheral vasculature, including the common and external iliac, subclavian, and superficial femoral arteries.

The Protégé EverFlex Self-Expanding Stent System employs the latest nitinol self-expanding stent technology to provide previously undemonstrated durability. In ev3’s rigorous simulated fatigue testing, the Protégé EverFlex survived significantly longer than any competitive stent tested. Available on a .035-inch-compatible delivery platform, this device also remains the longest self-expanding nitinol stent available worldwide, supplied in lengths up to 150 mm. All sizes of the Protégé EverFlex are compatible with a 6-F introducer sheath, the company says.

“The long Protégé EverFlex is a welcome addition to my armamentarium. It is the only 6-F compatible device that is available in lengths up to 150 mm. The availability of these long stents obviates the need to overlap multiple stents, cutting procedural time, and possibly reducing the risk of stent fracture,” commented vascular surgeon Mark Mewissen, MD, of St. Luke’s Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Datascope Corporation (Montvale, NJ) has released the On-Site vascular closure device, which is designed for precise and effective percutaneous arterial closure without leaving intra-arterial components behind that can potentially cause trauma, the company says.

The On-Site precision closure device is a single-operator, over-the-wire technology that delivers an extravascular collagen sponge plug at the femoral arterial puncture site. According to the company, advanced Micropore sponge collagen provides a mechanical barrier within the tissue tract while enhancing the body’s natural healing process. A temporary intra-arterial retractable disc is used to locate the arteriotomy, provide temporary hemostasis, and to ensure precise collagen placement. On-Site’s deployment system quickly secures collagen precisely above the arteriotomy to achieve hemostasis. On-Site is compatible with standard length 5-F and 6-F procedural sheaths, the company says.
Boston Scientific Corporation (Natick, MA) announced the US launch of its ZIPwire Hydrophilic Guide Wire, which has received FDA clearance. According to the company, the ZIPwire Hydrophilic Guide Wire features a design that enhances the ability to steer, handle, and track the device. The ZIPwire’s coating supports smooth exchanges with other devices and is designed to support crossing of difficult lesions. A flexible and refined tip is designed to allow physicians to maneuver through the often-tortuous anatomy of blood vessels and facilitate smooth catheter advancement and precise positioning. A robust nitinol core provides the wire’s resistance to kinking and effectively transmits rotation along the length of the device (torque transmission), also improving maneuverability. The ZIPwire is available in stiff and standard versions and in various lengths, diameters, and tip shapes, the company says.

Cook Incorporated (Bloomington, IN) has launched the Zenith Iliac Plug (ZIP) with the H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System and a longer-length Zenith Flex AAA Endovascular Graft Main Body Extension. According to the company, the Zenith Iliac Plug is used to occlude an iliac artery and consists of two self-expanding stainless steel Z-stents and full-thickness woven polyester graft material. The ZIP incorporates a unique proximal tip designed for over-the-wire delivery. The graft is preloaded onto the H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System utilizing a single trigger-wire release mechanism for controlled delivery. The iliac plug is available with 14-F and 16-F introduction system diameters, graft diameters ranging from 14 mm to 24 mm, and a standard length of 30 mm. The main body extension is now available in a two-stent or three-stent configuration. The main body extensions are preloaded onto the 18-F or 20-F H&L-B One-Shot Introduction System utilizing a single trigger-wire release mechanism for controlled delivery, the company says.