The FDA recently cleared the Reliant Stent Graft Balloon Catheter from Medtronic, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN). The Reliant is a multipurpose catheter used for temporary occlusion of large vessels and the expansion of vascular prostheses. The Reliant Stent Graft Balloon Catheter may also be used during thoracic aortic aneurysm repair, giving physicians more flexibility during endovascular aneurysm repair procedures. Its clinical uses include sealing endoleaks by expanding the stent graft, removing creases from the graft material, and temporarily occluding blood flow in large vessels during endovascular aneurysm repair procedures.

According to the company, the Reliant Stent Graft Balloon Catheter offers a working range of 10 mm to 46 mm. The balloon is made of a latex-free, polyurethane material, has a usable catheter length of 100 cm, offers a low-profile 8-F shaft, and is compatible with a minimum 12-F introducer sheath.

Cordis Endovascular (a division of Cordis Corporation, a Johnson & Johnson company, Miami, FL) announced the US availability of the Tempo Aqua, a hydrophilic-coated catheter designed to provide physicians with better handling during complex, difficult-to-maneuver catheterization procedures.

According to the company, the Tempo Aqua catheter has a unique, three-layer tip construction in which the radiopaque tungsten tip material is embedded between two nylon layers, a design that helps minimize the potential for clotting and biocompatibility problems while maintaining the integrity and strength of the tip. The Tempo Aqua catheter can be used in selective catheterization, carotid angiography, and chronic total occlusion cases, and in emerging procedures such as uterine fibroid embolization and subintimal angioplasty.

“Tempo Aqua provides superior trackability and lesion-crossing characteristics which facilitate treatment of difficult arterial lesions,” said vascular surgeon Stephen J. Motew, M.D. “The Tempo Aqua catheter has allowed treatment of complex total arterial occlusions due to its hydrophilic and torqueability qualities.”
W. L. Gore & Associates (Flagstaff, AZ) has received FDA approval to market the Gore Viabahn Endoprosthesis for use in the superficial femoral artery (SFA). The device was previously available in the US for use in the treatment of tracheobronchial strictures.

According to the company, the Gore Viabahn device is constructed with a durable, reinforced, biocompatible, expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) liner attached to the external nitinol stent structure. The self-expanding ePTFE/nitinol device is designed to allow relining of luminal surfaces in tortuous arterial anatomy. The device's flexibility enables it to better traverse the tortuous area of the SFA and conform more closely to the complex anatomy of the artery. The engineering of the Gore Viabahn device gives it the strength and durability to withstand the relentless forces and challenges of the SFA, the company says. The Gore Viabahn device is available in 6 mm, 7 mm, and 8 mm diameters. The Gore Sim-Pull Deployment System allows rapid, accurate deployment of the Gore Viabahn Endoprosthesis without device lengthening or shortening.

IDev Technologies, Inc. (Houston, TX) has launched the Texan Longhorn foreign body retrieval device in the US and European markets.

According to the company, the Texan Longhorn is a longer, lower-profile version of IDev's previously cleared Texan foreign body device. The Texan Longhorn is a 120-cm, 6-F system, with .018-inch guidewire compatibility allowing the interventionist to use the device in distal peripheral applications while maintaining access throughout the entire procedure. The device is intended for use as a tool to retrieve and manipulate foreign bodies from distal peripheral vessels of the cardiovascular system. Under the CE Mark, the Texan Longhorn also allows for retrieval and manipulation of foreign bodies in the hollow viscus.